

Sharing Our Wealth

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Be content with what God has given you and share his blessings with others.

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Memory Verse: But godliness with contentment is great gain. - 1 Timothy 6:6

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids, today we're going to talk about something really important called Contentment and Generosity. Have you ever heard of a man named Paul? Well, Paul was a very wise man who wrote letters to help people understand how to live better lives. One of these letters was to a young friend named Timothy.

Paul told Timothy something very special. He said that we should be happy with what we have because God gives us everything we need. Think about it: when we were born, we didn't have toys or clothes; we came into the world with nothing. And when we leave this world, we can't take any of our stuff with us. So, it's important to be content with what we have right now.

Paul also said that wanting to be super rich can make people do bad things. They might lie, cheat, or hurt others to get more money. And even if they get lots of money, they won't be happy because they've lost their way and made their hearts sad. Paul wanted Timothy to teach everyone that being rich in money isn't as important as being rich in kindness and sharing.

Now, let's talk more about Contentment and Generosity. Contentment is when you feel happy and thankful for what you have, even if it's not a lot. It's like when you have a small toy, but you love it so much and have fun with it. You don't need a huge pile of toys to be happy because you're content with what you have.

Generosity is when you share what you have with others. It could be sharing your toys, your time, or even a smile. When you're generous, you help make other people happy, and that's a superpower! Being generous makes you feel good inside, too.

Imagine if you had a big, juicy apple and your friend didn't have any food. If you cut the apple in half and shared it, you'd both have something to eat, and you'd feel happy because you helped your friend. That's Generosity in action.

Contentment and Generosity go hand in hand. When we're content, we're happy with what we have, and it's easier for us to share with others. And when we share, we spread happiness and love around us, making the world a better place.

Paul's advice to Timothy wasn't just for them; it's for us too. He wants us to know that chasing after lots of money won't make us truly happy. What makes us happy is loving what we have and sharing it with others.

Now, I don't know how much the Tooth Fairy leaves under your pillow, but I do know that God will take care of us if we trust Him. And if God gives us more than we need, we shouldn't brag about it. Instead, we should share it and help others.

Let's think about ways we can show Contentment and Generosity. Maybe you have toys you don't play with anymore. You could give some to kids who don't have many toys. Or, if you have a big snack, you could share it with a friend who forgot theirs.

Remember, it's not about how much stuff we have; it's about how much love we share. Every time we choose to be content and generous, we're showing the world what it means to live a good and happy life, just like Paul taught Timothy.

Let's say a little prayer together: "Dear God, thank you for everything you give us. Help us to be happy with what we have and to share with others. Teach us to be content and generous every day. Amen."

So, kids, let's try to be like Paul and Timothy. Let's be happy with what we have and always look for ways to share with others. Contentment and Generosity can make our lives and the world around us so much better. Let's spread happiness and love wherever we go!

Bible Memory Verse

But godliness with contentment is great gain. - 1 Timothy 6:6

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- Write '1 Timothy 6:6' on the top of each heart with a marker.

Do This:

1. Give each child a heart-shaped paper and markers or crayons. Ask them to think about things they are thankful for that God has given them.
2. Have them draw or write these things inside the heart. They can use stickers to decorate if available.
3. Once everyone is done, gather the children in a circle and let them share their heart with the group, explaining what they drew or wrote and why they are thankful for it. This helps reinforce the concept of contentment and sharing God's blessings.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A large jar filled with various candies
- Small bags or containers for each child
- Printed verses from 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- Coloring sheets with scenes depicting sharing and contentment
- Crayons or colored pencils

Get Ready:

- Fill the large jar with candies before class.
- Print out the verses from 1 Timothy 6:6-10 on individual sheets of paper.
- Prepare a coloring station with coloring sheets and crayons or colored pencils.

Do this:

1. ****Introduction to Contentment****: Show the jar of candies to the children and explain that even though we might want all the candies for ourselves, being happy with what we have and sharing with others can make us even happier. Read the verse from 1 Timothy 6:6-10, focusing on the idea that "godliness with contentment is great gain."
2. ****Candy Sharing Activity****: Pass the jar around, allowing each child to take a handful of candies. Once everyone has their candies, challenge them to share with someone who has less or different types of candies than they do. Discuss how it feels to share and be content with what they have.
3. ****Coloring and Reflection****: Move to the coloring station. Hand out the coloring sheets and let the children choose their colors. As they color, ask them to think about times they've been happy with what they had and times they've shared something special with someone else. Encourage them to share their stories with the group, reinforcing the lesson of contentment and generosity.

Snack Activity: Blessings Mix

You'll Need:

- A big bowl
- Pretzel sticks
- Small marshmallows
- Chocolate chips
- Raisins
- Paper cups

Get Ready: Gather all your ingredients and make sure your hands are clean to prepare the snack.

Do this:

1. Talk about 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and how being content with what we have is important. Explain that each ingredient represents a blessing we should be thankful for. Pretzel sticks for shelter (our homes), marshmallows for love from family and friends, chocolate chips for the sweet moments in life, and raisins for the hard times that help us grow.
2. Let each child take turns adding an ingredient to the big bowl. As they add their ingredient, have them share one thing they are thankful for.
3. Once all ingredients are mixed, give each child a paper cup and let them fill it with the mix. Encourage them to make an extra cup to share with someone else, teaching them the joy of sharing God's blessings with others.

Game Activity: Blessings Hopscotch

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- Small stones or bean bags
- A list of simple blessings (e.g., family, friends, food, home, health)

Get Ready: Use the sidewalk chalk to draw a traditional hopscotch grid on the ground. Instead of numbers in each square, write a different blessing from the list.

Do this:

1. Each player chooses a stone or bean bag as their marker. Players take turns tossing their marker onto one of the hopscotch squares.

2. The player must hop through the grid, skipping the square their marker landed on, while saying, 'Thank you, God, for [blessing written on the square they are hopping to].' This helps them practice gratitude for what they have.
3. After reaching the end, the player picks up their marker on the way back, again expressing gratitude for the blessings. If a player steps on a line or misses their square, they pass the turn to the next player.
4. Once everyone has had a turn, gather the children and encourage them to think of one way they can share their blessings with others this week. This could be sharing toys, helping a friend, or being kind to a sibling.

Craft Activity: Blessings Box

You'll Need:

- A small cardboard or wooden box (like a shoebox)
- Colorful markers, crayons, or paint
- Stickers or decorative items (optional)
- Paper and pen

Get Ready: Gather all your materials and set up a comfortable crafting space. If using paint, cover the area with newspaper or a plastic sheet to avoid messes.

Do this:

1. Decorate the outside of your box with markers, crayons, or paint. You can write 'Blessings Box' on it and add decorations like hearts, stars, or stickers to make it colorful and personal.
2. On a piece of paper, write down things you are thankful for and blessings you have received. These can be toys, friends, family, or moments that made you happy. Fold the paper and put it inside the box.

3. Every week, add more blessings to your box. Whenever you feel sad or want to remember how much God loves you and has blessed you, open your box and read the blessings. Share this idea with friends or family so they can make their own Blessings Box and learn to be content and share God's blessings with others.

Prayer Activity: Thankful Hearts and Helping Hands

You'll Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Safety scissors

Get Ready: Cut the construction paper into heart shapes, one for each child.

Do this:

1. Start by reading 1 Timothy 6:6-10 together, focusing on being content and sharing with others. Explain that being happy with what we have and helping others is important to God.
2. Give each child a heart-shaped piece of construction paper and markers or crayons. Ask them to think about the things they are thankful for and draw or write them on one side of the heart.
3. On the other side of the heart, have them think of ways they can share their blessings with others. This could be sharing toys, helping a friend, or giving to those in need.
4. Once everyone is done, gather the hearts and string them up in the classroom as a reminder to be content and share God's blessings.