



## **THEME**

Generosity 2

## **BIBLE STORY**

Rich Young Ruler

## **OBJECTIVE**

Kids will learn to give from what they already have.

## **SUPPLIES FOR LARGE GROUP TIME**

- 3 hats (one for Jesus, ruler, and the crowd)
- play money from a board game
- pictures of items to buy (included)
- pictures of charities (included)\*

*\*Each ministry may want to change these pictures to include local charities or non-profits.*

## **SUPPLIES FOR SMALL GROUP TIME**

- Pen or marker for each group
- 3 labeled papers for each group (Time, Talent and Treasure papers included)

## **SUPPLIES FOR GAME SUGGESTION**

- 2 to 4 hula hoops, laundry baskets, or something else to gather shoes

# LARGE GROUP

## OPENING: Rules and Musts

### ACTIVITY: SPEND OR GIVE?

*\*PRIOR to the game, talk with one student who will receive the smallest amount of money. Discuss with him ahead of time that he should not buy any items, but give away all of the money to charities and/or ministries.*

**DO:** Lay out or hang up the printed items of toys, clothes, and ministries. Explain each picture. Choose one person from each small group. Pass out varying amounts of play money to the contestants. Tell the players they can choose some things to buy or choose to give some of their money away. Let each contestant “spend” his or her money one-at-a-time so the audience can observe his/her choices.

*\*AFTER the game: **ASK** kids about their choices, why they chose to buy certain things and how much they gave away.*

### INTRODUCTION:

Today’s value is generosity. To be generous means to be ready to give. And what’s interesting to me today is that the student who was given the least money in our activity actually ended up giving the most money away. It seems to me like generosity isn’t really about having A LOT of money so it can be given. But it’s really more about our attitude toward giving. And there’s a story in the Bible of a young man who had a rough time giving his riches away. He did not want to give what he had.

### BIBLE STORY: Rich Young Ruler - One Man Show (Luke 18:18-34)

**SAY:** Today’s story comes from the Bible, so we know that it is \_\_\_\_\_ [TRUE!]. This story is recorded in 3 different books of the Bible. And here’s what happened: One day, a young ruler <put on “ruler” hat> came to talk with Jesus <put on “Jesus” hat> and the people around <put on a “crowd” hat> were amazed at what Jesus said.

The young ruler <hat> asked, “What should I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus <hat> replied, “To answer your question, you know the commandments: You must not cheat on your wife. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not lie. Honor your father and mother.”

The young ruler <hat> said, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.”

When Jesus <hat> heard his answer, He said, “There is still one thing you haven’t done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven. Then come, follow Me.”

But when the ruler <hat> heard this, he became sad because he was very rich. He said, “I’m sad.”

When Jesus <hat> saw this, He said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!”

Those who heard this <hat> said, “Then who in the world can be saved?”

Jesus <hat> replied, “What is impossible for people is possible with God.”

### APPLICATION

**SAY:** The rich young ruler didn’t want to give up his possessions to help others. Even though he had kept all the other commands, Jesus knew that his heart was not generous. So we must be people who not only obey the commandments of the Bible, but also show the love of God through our generosity. You see, generosity is a picture of your heart — not of your wallet or bank account!

# SMALL GROUP

## REVIEW THE STORY

- a. Younger kids: What did Jesus ask the prince/ruler to do? How did he feel? And did he do what Jesus asked?
- b. Older kids: What did Jesus ask the prince/ruler to do? Why did this make him feel sad? What should he have done?

## APPLY TO OUR LIVES:

**SAY:** The Rich Young Ruler had a lot, but he wasn't generous with it. And though it may not seem like it, you're rich too! You have your time, talent, and treasure with which to be generous!

**SAY:** I have 3 pieces of paper here labeled "time, talent, and treasure." Time is how we spend the hours in our day, talent means the things that God has made you good at, and treasure is our money. We're going to go around the circle and each person will list one way that you could be generous with what you already have!

**DO:** Write down the ideas your group comes up with.

*<Here are some ideas to get started>*

Time - help a friend clean her room, stay after school to help your principal

Talent - sing at a nursing home, help a friend with homework that you're good at

Treasure - give money to a food pantry, sponsor a child in Africa

**SAY:** I want to ask each of you which one of these you can be generous to do in the next week. Let's not be like the rich, young ruler! Let's commit to being generous.

## Real-life APPLICATION QUESTIONS

#1 - How can you be generous if your family is running short on money this week?

#2 - For your birthday, you got \$25. How can you show generosity to someone with your treasure?

#3 - Although you like to leave and walk home as soon as DIVE is over, you notice that there is usually clean up to do. How can you be generous with your time?

#4 - You have a talent for rapping and/or dancing. How could you be generous to someone in need?

## THE GOSPEL

**SAY:** Jesus was generous with His time by loving people and spending time with them. He was generous with his talents by using His gifts to teach and heal those in need. Jesus was generous with His treasure by giving up everything (even Heaven!) to come to earth. And here, He gave up His whole life for those in need!

**PRAYER:** *Lord, I thank You for what You have given each of us. Please show us how we can be generous with our time, talents, and treasure, so that Your message will reach the world!*

# GAME TIME

## GIVE A SHOE. TAKE A SHOE.

### OBJECTIVE: Generosity

Kids will play a game where the objective is to help others have more, instead of trying to get the most for themselves.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Each team will need a hula hoop, box, or laundry basket of their own.  
We recommend 2-4 teams, depending on your group size.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Split the group into teams at different ends or corners of the room. This is their "base."
- Place each team's containers in the middle of the room.
- Instruct everyone to take off their shoes and place them in their team's designated container.
- Explain that the objective of this game is to fill up the other team's containers, being generous in giving away the shoes in your container.
- When you give the "go" signal, each group can send one person to move a pair of shoes from their container to another team's container. There cannot be more than one runner off his base at any given time. They must take turns running (relay style).
- When the time ends, have kids return to their groups and count how many shoes are in each container. The winner is the group with the most empty container at the end of the given time.

# TIME

# TALENT

# TREASURE



















**TELL HIM  
ABOUT  
JESUS**

 **Compassion**

**Sponsor a Child >**







