



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to give generously and use what we have to serve others.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn the importance of giving their money and resources to God.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 5:1-11, Ananias and Sapphira

MEMORY VERSE:

“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” - Philip-
pians 4:12-13

SUMMARY:

On this adventure, you might want to watch your wallet. For the bloodthirsty buccaneers on the Pirate Ride, it's all about greed. They love their booty of gold more than their own lives. When the Christian adventure began, people were selling their property and giving the money to the church. Ananias and Sapphira loved their stuff more than God, and they weren't willing to give their all. They lied about the money they were giving, and it ended up costing them everything.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Please help us to remember that all we have comes from you so that we may give generously.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



MEMORY VERSE

"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

- Philippians 4:12-13 (NIV)

"I know what it's like not to have what I need. I also know what it's like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. I can do everything by the power of Christ. He gives me strength."

- Philippians 4:12-13 (NirV)

LARGE GROUP:

Divide the room in half. Pick one side to start and have them all shout the first word, then the other side shouts the second word, and so on until they finish the verse.

SMALL GROUP:

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.



SKIT

THE PIRATE RIDE

ITEMS NEEDED:

Pirate costume
3 pillows
3 eye patches
Pirate flag
Crate
Fake money

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2M/2F

CHARACTERS:

Bert - A dad
Denise - Bert's wife
Krista - Bert's daughter
Captain Chunk - A pirate

Captain Chunk is at center with the crate. All the other props are in the crate except the fake money.

CHUNK: Arr, mateys, step right up and ride The Pirate! Best ride in the amusement park, folks! The Pirate is an authentic pirate experience. Ride The Pirate, best ride in the park!

Bert, Denise, and Krista enter. Krista is a bit woozy.

BERT: Are you okay, Krista?

KRISTA: I still feel a bit woozy.

DENISE: I told you she'd throw up.

SKIT

BERT: You want to take a break?

KRISTA: No, let's just find an easy ride.

CHUNK: If an easy ride is what you want, step up and ride The Pirate.

BERT: Hey look, a pirate ride! I didn't know they had a pirate ride.

CHUCK: Arrrr, it be new, so new that we gotta charge ya for it.

BERT: Really? How much?

CHUCK: Only a dollar per person, me hearties!

BERT: Well that's not bad.

Bert pays Chunk three bucks.

BERT: Come on, girls.

CHUNK: Just a minute, matey. You can't go on The Pirate like that?

KRISTA: I'm done throwing up, I promise!

CHUNK: You gotta look like pirates. I've got just the thing. (pulls out the eye patches) Here ya go, authentic pirate eye patches, a steal at two bucks each.

BERT: Two bucks, huh? Well, if you say so.

DENISE: Honey!

CHUNK: Arrr, it'll make the experience more authentic.

BERT: It's an authentic experience, honey.

Bert pays for the eye patches. He and the girls put them on.

CHUNK: Arrr, ya look good. Now you need your Jolly Roger!

BERT: My who?

Chunk pulls out the flag.

SKIT

CHUNK: The old skull and crossbones for your voyage, only ten dollars today.

BERT: Boy, this is an expensive ride.

CHUNK: Arrr, but well worth the expense.

Chunk gives Bert the flag. Bert pays.

CHUNK: Now you be almost ready. You need one more thing.

KRISTA: Some Pepto?

CHUNK: Seat cushions!

BERT: Seat cushions? That's not very piratey.

CHUNK: No, but unless you want a sore bum, you'll pay ten bucks a pop for the seat cushions.

BERT: Okay, might as well.

Bert pays. Chunk gives him the seat cushions.

CHUNK: Arr, now you be ready! Step right off that way, and enjoy the ride.

BERT: Come on, girls.

Bert, Denise, and Krista walk off stage left. Chunk runs off stage right. Bert and the girls walk back on a few seconds later.

BERT: Where is it? I don't see any ride!

KRISTA: I don't see any pirate either!

BERT: I can't believe this! I pay fifty bucks and I don't get to go on a ride?

DENISE: He made off with your fifty bucks. I think it was the pirate who took you for a ride.

BERT: You rotten pirate!

End.



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A bag of candy

Find out which kid in the group has the next birthday. Bring them up, and give them the bag of candy. Tell them the candy is all theirs, BUT if they want to share, they can. See what they do with it.

Today's Bible story was all about greed. People in the early church were giving their money to serve God and help others, but Ananias and Sapphira were greedy. They held back what God had given them, and then they lied about it. And they suffered for it.

God is the giver of all good things - our money, our families, our good health, our talents, you name it. And God wants us to give those things back to him. When we give to God, the church can multiply that gift to serve others. And when we give to others with our time or money, we're doing the work God gave us to do.

Adventures are not cheap, especially in amusement parks. Serving God may cost you as well, but remember, all that you have came from God already. He gave it to us to use wisely and use in service to him.



LARGE GROUP GAME

PIRATE BUCKETS

ITEMS NEEDED:

Eye patches
Bucket
3 Tennis balls

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose three players for this game.

Set the bucket on its side, five feet from the players. Players will get three chances to toss a ball into the bucket. Players must use an eye patch and toss their balls without the benefit of depth perception.

VARIATION:

Set the bucket level on the ground for younger kids.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Pirates are greedy and want to keep all their treasure to themselves. God wants us to give to him and give to others generously.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

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OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn the importance of giving their money and resources to God.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 5:1-11, Ananias and Sapphira

INTRO

One of the most legendary rides at Disneyland and Disney World is the Pirates of the Caribbean. Pirates of the Caribbean and the Haunted Mansion were two very special attractions originally created for Disneyland in California. These rides were so popular, they were re-created for Disney World in Orlando when it opened. They were two of the few attractions that did not tie in to characters or movies that Disney had already made. Since that time, the Pirates of the Caribbean has inspired four movies.

Pirates are fun in movies, fun in rides, and fun as costumes, but in real life, pirates were not the nicest people. Pirates were greedy and dangerous. They sought treasure, and what treasure they found, they kept for themselves. According to legend, many pirates buried their treasures just to keep people from stealing it from them.

Many people are just like pirates when it comes to money. We want to keep it all and use it all for ourselves. We don't like to share, and we're certainly not going to just give money away. But you know what? On the adventure God's called us to live, that's exactly what he wants us to do.

Today's story is one of the sadder ones in the New Testament. It's about a man and a woman who didn't believe what they did with their money mattered to God. They held out, and they suffered a terrible price for their greed.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

READ Acts 5:1-11

MAIN POINT

Why did God kill Ananias and Sapphira? Seems like a harsh penalty for not giving as much as they could, doesn't it? But Ananias and Sapphira made several mistakes in this story.

First, they forgot where their blessings came from. All good things come from God: our money, our food, our health, our homes, our families, even our talents. Our lives are even a gift from God, and God wants us to give back what he has given us.

Second, they lied. They lied and said they were giving everything when they were actually keeping part for themselves. It was the dishonesty more than anything that took their lives, but it was their greed that caused them to lie.

God has given us everything we have and hold dear. We need to be generous, and give as God gave to us.

DRIVE IT HOME

Some people question why God needs our money. If he made everything, why doesn't he just print money? Why does he need money at all?

God wants us to give to the church so that we, through the church, can serve others. Churches provide services to people in need. They minister to the sick and needy. When we give to our church, God multiplies our gift so he can change lives in our church and community.

God also wants us to give other things, like our time and our talents. He wants us to use these for him and for others. If you use your time and talents only for yourself, God's probably not going to strike you down like Ananias and Sapphira. But God is gracious and rewards those who use what they have to serve others. As Jesus said, "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do for me."

God wants us to be generous as he is generous. God gave us everything good we have. What's more, God gave us his Son so he could also give us eternal life. Don't hoard the good things God's given you like a greedy pirate. Give, and let God show you how giving can truly make life an adventure!

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Please help us to remember that all we have comes from you so we may give generously.

In Jesus' name, Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER

Who is cooler, pirates or ninjas?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Philippians 4:12-13

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Have the kids see who can do the best pirate impersonation as they say the memory verse.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Acts 5:1-11

Who were Ananias and Sapphira?

What were the people of the early church doing with their money?

What did Ananias and Sapphira do?

How did God punish Ananias and Sapphira?

How can we use our gifts and time to serve God?

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for all the blessings you have given us. Help us to be generous and to give as you gave to us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER

Who is cooler, pirates or ninjas?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Philippians 4:12-13

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Have the kids see who can do the best pirate impersonation as they say the memory verse.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Acts 5:1-11

What did Ananias and Sapphira do that angered God?

What should they have done instead?

What blessings has God given you?

How does God use the money we give in church?

How can using our talents to help others be a way of giving to God?

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for all the blessings you have given us. Help us to be generous and to give as you gave to us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

1. Ananias' wife was named
 - A. Jezebel
 - B. Miriam
 - C. Sapphira*
2. Ananias and Sapphira went to see which disciple?
 - A. John
 - B. Peter*
 - C. Andrew
3. God struck Ananias and Sapphira because they
 - A. lied*
 - B. were greedy
 - C. both A and B
4. God has given us
 - A. money
 - B. some artistic skills
 - C. all good things*
5. When we give to others, we are really giving to
 - A. God*
 - B. ourselves
 - C. nobody

MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: PIRATE RIDE



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Today we talked about pirates and how greedy they always were. God wants us to give generously and use what we have to serve others. Acts 5:1-11 – Ananias and Sapphira



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Look for little ways you and the kids can give to God or others this week, even if it's the penny jar at the fast food counter. Then DO IT!



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What did Ananias and Sapphira do that angered God?
- What should Ananias and Sapphira have done instead?
- What is one talent you have, and how can you use that talent for God?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

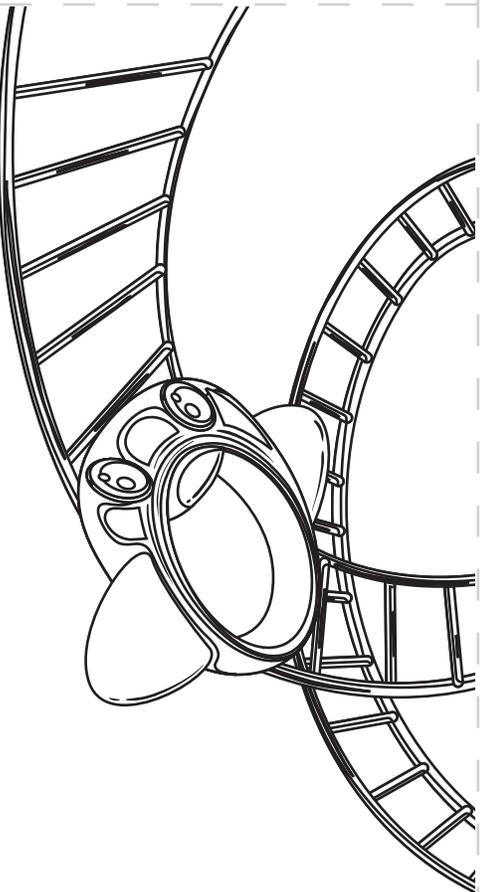
- *Philippians 4:12-13*



PARENT TIME:

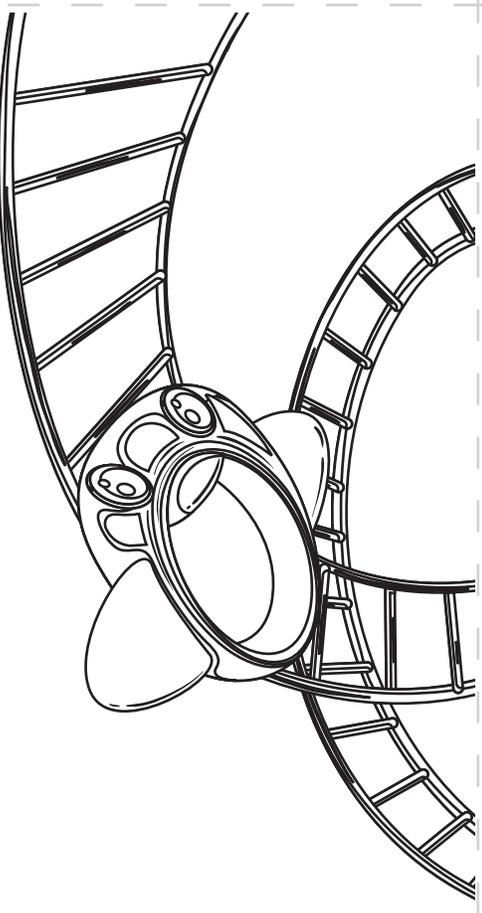
What you need to know:

This is a great week to talk to your kids about giving and start them in the giving habit. Set aside a place to save money for the offering, and don't forget to bring it!



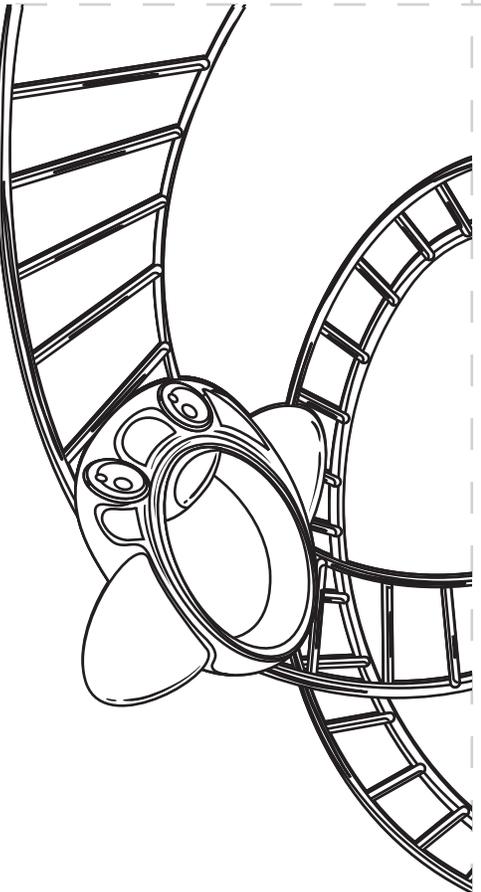
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- Philippians 4:12-13



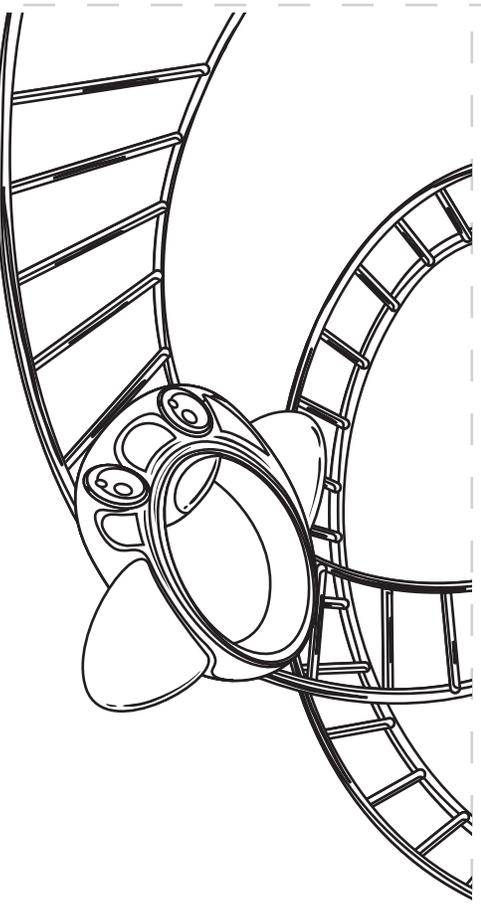
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CRAFT ACTIVITY

Give each of the kids a small bag of chocolate coins to share or hoard at home. Encourage all the kids to remember where the gift came from and share with their families!

Alternate: Have the kids decorate their own treasure chests using shoeboxes, tissue boxes, etc. Encourage them to fill the boxes with Scripture verses and/or candy.