

OFFERING LESSON 1: "Giving is Good"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
Galatians 6:9

PROPS NEEDED:

Play money, offering bucket or bag, and a large shipping envelope with a mailing label

HOW TO PREPARE:

Before class begins, have some of the play money and an offering bucket at the front of the classroom. Fill a large shipping envelope with the rest of the play money. Seal it shut, and place a mailing label on it. Have a worker write the name of the child you select to help you on the label. First write, "To: (name)" and "From: God." Finally, have the worker hold the envelope until you cue him to bring it up to you while you are teaching.

LESSON:

1. How many of you like to do good things? Sure you do! Some people grow tired of doing good things. The Bible tells us in Galatians 6:9 not to become tired of doing good things. (Read the scripture to the class.)
2. Giving to God is a good thing for every believer to do. (Select a child to come up and help you. Give the child a large bundle of play money. Have the child put the money in the offering bucket, one piece at a time, while you continue talking.)
3. God has a time for everything. His timing is different than ours. Many times we want to see instant results or else we will give up.
4. This verse encourages us that we will reap a harvest, if we don't give up. (Encourage your helper to keep giving and not to give up.)
5. We must always give because it is a good thing to do. God cannot bless us if we give up. (Cue your worker to run up to the front of the classroom with the envelope, shouting, "I've got a special delivery." Have the child open it up and see that God has supplied a harvest.)
6. Kids, remember that you should never get tired of doing good things. God's Word is true. You will reap a harvest, if you don't give up.
7. This verse is not just about giving your tithes and offerings. There are many other good things you can give, such as: spending time with a friend, or giving your seat to someone who does not have one, or even just smiling at someone who is always mean to you. Do not give up. Keep giving good things.
8. Place your offering in your hands and let's pray over it. (Pray and have the ushers pass the offering buckets.)

OFFERING LESSON 2: “Giving is a Sure Thing”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.” Luke 6:38

PROPS NEEDED:

Three lunch sacks, a magic marker, a penny, a \$1 bill, and a candy bar

HOW TO PREPARE:

Use the marker to number the lunch sacks, “1,” “2,” and “3.” Place the dollar in sack #1, the penny in sack #2, and the candy bar in sack #3. (Before you place the candy bar in the sack, take a bite out of it and leave the wrapper open.) Have the three sacks with you when you go to the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. Today, boys and girls, it’s time to play, “Let’s Make a Choice.” I need two contestants who must be able to make a good choice. There is something different in each of these three bags. Whatever you find, you are allowed to keep—but I have to warn you, there is only one good prize.
2. All right, here are your choices: Is the good prize in sack #1, #2, or #3? (Once both children have chosen, open all three bags and show everyone what was chosen and what was not.)
3. Let’s give our contestants a really big hand. You know, there was no sure way for any of them to know where the dollar was. It was a gamble, right? Some people think that giving to God is also a game of chance, but they could not be more wrong. It is a sure thing. Everybody say, “sure thing.”
4. Luke 6:38 says, “Give and it will be given to you.” There is no chance or guess work. It is a sure thing to give to God. Give and it will—not maybe, not might—it will be given to you.
5. Place your tithes and offerings in your hands and let’s pray over them right now.

OFFERING LESSON 3: "Giving Has Its Benefits"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." Psalm 103:2

PROPS NEEDED:

One bite---sized and one giant---sized candy bar of the same brand, one 20---ounce bottle and one three---liter bottle soft drink of the same brand

HOW TO PREPARE:

Pour the contents out of the 20---ounce bottle until there is only one---third of the drink remaining. Place the bite---sized candy bar and the small bottle of soft drink on a table in the back or on the side of the classroom. While the children are listening to you speak, have a worker sneak in and put the three---liter bottle and giant---sized candy bar in the place of the smaller ones.

LESSON:

1. There are many benefits and blessings for serving the Lord. Let's take a look at Psalm 103:2. Who can name a benefit that Jesus gives us for serving Him? (Have the children name benefits of serving the Lord, i.e., salvation, forgiveness, healing, etc.)
2. Giving to God has benefits, too. Who can name some benefits of being a giver?
There are many benefits listed in the Bible.
 - a) If you give, God will give back to you (Luke 6:38).
 - b) God will meet your needs according to His riches, not yours (Philippians 4:19).
 - c) When you give to others in need without a grudging heart, God promises He will bless your work and all that you put your hand to (Deuteronomy 15:10).
3. I Kings 17:10---16 tells a story about a woman who gave everything she had to Elijah the prophet. (Select a girl to come up to the front of the classroom to help you.)
 - a) Elijah was hungry and asked the woman for a piece of bread and something to drink. She only had a very little bit, but she gave him what she had. (Send the girl over to where you have placed the small candy bar and the partially---full, small bottle of soft drink. Have her bring it back to you. Then eat the entire candy bar and drink all of the soft drink. Have the worker replace the items with the three---liter bottle and the giant---sized candy bar as you eat the small one.)
 - b) She gave all that she had to the man of God. She was faithful to give the little she owned and guess what happened? God showed her that there are benefits to being a giver. (Send the girl back over to bring you what she finds.) She never ran out of food, because she gave God what she had. God's Word is full of benefits for being a giver.
4. Place your tithes and offerings in your hands and let's pray over them.

OFFERING LESSON 4: "What Kind of a Giver Are You?"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver." II Corinthians 9:7

PROPS NEEDED:

Three paper plates, a magic marker, a stapler, and three craft sticks

HOW TO PREPARE:

With the marker, draw a smiley face on one paper plate, a frown on another, and a straight face on the third plate. Staple a craft stick to each of the paper plates so that you can hold the plate in front of your face like a mask. Have the masks with you at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. Boys and girls, open your Bibles to II Corinthians 9:7. This verse tells us about three different types of givers. Let's look at this verse together. (Read the verse to the class.)
2. I need three kids to come and help me. (Select three helpers to come up on stage with you. Give each one a mask and tell them to hold it in front of their faces when you instruct them to.)
3. There are three kinds of givers that are mentioned in this verse.
 - a) The first kind of giver mentioned is the grudging giver. (Have the child with the frown mask hold it up to his face.) This is the kind of giver who gives, but he wishes he had not given. In fact, this kind of giver thinks about what he could do with the money instead of giving it. He is stingy! How many of you want to be like this kind of giver? Not me.
 - b) The second kind of giver is the necessity giver. (Have a child hold up the straight---face mask.) This kind of giver gives because he has to. He knows it is right, but he is not joyful or excited about giving. His giving is not from his heart, but from his head. This kind of giver is just getting by. Is there anyone this morning who wants to be like this kind of giver? Not me.
 - c) The last example of a giver is the kind of giver that God loves. It's the kind of giver that is blessed in all that he does. Can anyone guess what kind of giver I am talking about? That's right, a cheerful giver. (Have the last child hold up the smiley---faced plate.) The cheerful giver knows that giving to God will bring blessing into his life. He is glad to give and is excited to give in every way. Is there anybody who wants to be this kind of giver? I sure do! God loves a cheerful giver, so put on a big smile and get happy about giving today. It is an honor and a privilege to be able to give to God.
4. Let's purpose in our hearts to always be cheerful about giving. Let's pray over our offerings.

OFFERING LESSON 5: "Our Part is Simple"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38

PROPS NEEDED:

A large staff or stick, play money or offering envelopes made out in different amounts, an offering bucket, and a blindfold

HOW TO PREPARE:

Have all the props available at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. Today we are going to look at a verse you have heard used for offerings over and over again. It's Luke 6:38. Let's look at it together. (Read the verse.)
2. God never asks us to do anything that we cannot do.
 - a) We do not have to heal people. We just have to pray.
 - b) Moses did not have to part the Red Sea. He just had to raise his staff in obedience to what God had instructed him to do. (Hold up the staff or stick.)
 - c) In Luke 6:38, God is not asking us to do something hard, is He? No. What is He asking us to do? Give. That's right. I need some helpers to help me illustrate this. (Give money or envelopes to children of different ages and let them show the other kids that it is not hard to give.)
 - d) Our part is easy! (Have a blindfolded child give.) Giving is something anyone with a willing heart can do.
 - e) God's part seems hard for us, but it is not hard for Him.
3. God is asking us to do something simple. So if we will do it, He will do the hard part and work out the details to get His blessings to us.
4. Let's pray over our offerings right now.

OFFERING LESSON 6: “Choose to be a Giver”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? John 6:9

PROPS NEEDED:

Ten candy bars, one bag of candy bar miniatures, and two lunch bags

HOW TO PREPARE:

Place a candy bar in one of the lunch bags. Place all of the miniatures and the other candy bar in the other lunch bag. Have all props at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. In John chapter 6, we see a story that most of you have heard before. (Read John 6:3---7 aloud.)
2. The disciples had a need and did not have the money or the food to meet it on their own. Let’s look at verses 8 & 9. (Read John 6:8---9). A little boy’s lunch is not enough to feed 5,000 people.
3. The rest of the story is found in John 6:10---13. Everyone had plenty to eat and there were twelve baskets of bread pieces left over. I need someone to come up and help me demonstrate this. (Choose a boy to come up and help.)
 - a) The lunch belonged to the boy. He did not have to share any of it. (Give the boy the lunch bag with the one candy bar in it.)
 - b) He could have just given some of it and kept the rest for himself.
 - c) But, he gave it all. (Have the boy give you his candy bar. Take it out of the sack, and discard the bag.)
 - d) Not only did he get to eat as well, (Give away some of the candy bars from the other bag to children in the class. Give one to your helper, too.) but he was also included in the miracle. (Keep giving out candy bars to others.)
 - e) Plus, there were twelve basketfuls left over. (Give your helper another full---size candy bar plus all of the leftover miniatures.)
4. What you have might not seem like much. You may have your own plans for it. But if you will be a giver, God will bless you and meet your needs. He will cause you to have enough to bless others, and He will repay you more than you could ever imagine. Did this boy do the right thing by choosing to be a giver? Sure, he did.
5. Place your offering in your hand and let’s pray over it.

OFFERING LESSON 7: “Don’t Give God Your Leftovers”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the Lord: Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God: And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.” Nehemiah 10:35---37

PROPS NEEDED:

Two candy bars, leftovers from your refrigerator (the older the better), and a Bible

HOW TO PREPARE:

Unwrap one of the candy bars, take a bite out of it, and place it back in the package. Have all of your props at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. The book of Nehemiah contains a lot of instruction that was given to the Israelites about what kind of offerings and gifts they were to bring to the Lord.
2. God wants our firstfruits.
 - a) Would anybody here like to have a candy bar? (Choose someone from the class to come up to the front. Give them the candy bar you opened. Tell them to open it up and take a bite. Play up the fact that the candy bar was already opened and someone has already started eating it.)
 - b) Nobody wants a candy bar that already has a bite taken out of it. How many of you would rather have a fresh candy bar than a used one? (Hold up the unopened candy bar.) I would, too. (Give the new candy bar to your helper and have him sit down.)
 - c) There is a big difference between fresh food and leftovers. (Hold up your container of leftovers.)
 - d) When leftovers get old, we throw them away. (Open them up and play it up that they are really old and don’t smell very good.)
3. In the same way, we should give our best to God. Some people take their money and do whatever they want to with it. Then they look at what is left over and give that to God. Don’t give God your leftovers. Honor Him with your gifts off the top from the start. Put God first with your money and He will bless you.
4. Hold on to your offerings and let’s pray.

OFFERING LESSON 8: "God Rewards Us"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

PROPS NEEDED:

Ten \$1 bills, one \$5 bill, one \$10 bill, and an offering bucket

HOW TO PREPARE:

Have all props at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. Hebrews 11:6 says without faith it is impossible to please God. Faith means that we act on God's Word knowing that it is true without seeing the evidence with our eyes. It also tells us that God is a rewarder. He loves to bless us when we act in faith.
2. Giving is something we do by faith. When we give to God, we are obeying His Word. He says He is a rewarder and He will give back to us because we gave first. You may not see the return right away, but you know it is yours by faith.
3. I need someone to help me today. (Select a child from the class to come up to the front of the classroom.) I have a \$10 bill that I am going to pretend is your weekly allowance from your mom and dad. (Hand the child the \$10 bill.) When the offering bucket is passed, you must decide if you are going to act in faith and give God your tithe or keep all \$10 for yourself. What is the tithe on \$10? (Let your helper give you the answer.) That's right, \$1. I am going to break your \$10 bill so you can be a giver and act in faith. Remember, faith pleases God and He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. (Give your helper ten \$1 bills for his \$10 bill.) Some people who will not tithe decide that \$10 is better than \$9 and a promise from a book. But we give in faith, right? (Allow your helper to put \$1 in the bucket.)
4. Later on that week, you get a letter from your grandma and there is a \$5 bill in it. (Give the helper a \$5 bill.) Now, God has blessed you with \$14. That is a whole lot better than \$9, right? What are you going to do when the offering bucket is passed? Will you hold onto the \$14 that you can see or will you act in faith and give to God? (Let the child tell you that he is going to be a giver.) Now, what is the tithe on the \$5 you got from Grandma? (Let your helper answer.) But this time, you want to give an offering with your tithe, so you decide to give \$3. (Let your helper put in the \$3.) How much do you have now? Eleven dollars. You have given twice and still you have more than what you started with. Giving in faith really works.
5. The next day your neighbor asks you to come over and help him work in the yard. He pays you \$10. (Give your helper the \$10 bill.) You'll still have \$20 after you tithe again. Your income has doubled in one week. God is a rewarder of those who seek Him. When you give, give in faith, because God's Word is something you can always trust. (Thank your helper and let him keep the \$5 bill. Collect the other bills and let your helper go back to his seat.)
6. Let's pray over our tithes and offering

OFFERING LESSON 9: "Your Gift Counts"

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

"Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the Gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity." Philippians 4:15---16

PROPS NEEDED:

A plastic bucket and a large bag of candy

HOW TO PREPARE:

Open the bag of candy so you can easily pass it out to your helpers.

LESSON:

1. A lot of kids think that their gifts to God are not as important as some other person's gift. They wonder, "How can my little bit of money mean anything to the Lord?" Every gift to God is important and makes a difference in the kingdom of God.
2. I need some volunteers to help me illustrate what I am talking about. (Choose ten to twelve helpers to come to the front of the classroom. Then give each helper a generous handful of candy.)
3. God has blessed all of us with the ability to be givers. No matter how young you are or what the size of your gift is, your giving matters. Paul tells us that only one church helped his ministry when he left Macedonia. This church sent support over and over again. What would have happened if this church had not given to Paul? (Ask one of your helpers to give you an answer.) That's right; Paul would not have been able to get the Gospel out.
4. Today, it still costs money to get the Gospel out. I am going to let this empty bucket represent the cost or needs that are required to get the Gospel out into this world. It's a pretty big job, but when everyone does their part, it can be done. I am going to pass this bucket by each of my helpers and allow them to give as much as they want in order to meet the need. (Pass the bucket in front of your helpers, letting them give whatever they want. Have a special helper come behind you and distribute more candy to the children based on what they give. The more candy they put in the bucket, the more candy the special helper should give them in return.)
5. Look at how much these kids gave. This shows us how giving allows us to get the Gospel out and help meet the needs of others. (Begin to hand out some of the candy in the bucket to other children in the classroom.) What would have happened if these kids had not been willing to give? Others would not have been blessed, and they would not have been blessed as well. (Pass the offering bucket again.)
6. Look at how generous these kids are now. Because they are generous givers, their needs, as well as the needs of others, are being met.
7. Your gifts to God really do matter. They count. Let's take our offering in our hands and pray. (After the prayer, give each of your helpers some more candy for helping you with the lesson.)

OFFERING LESSON 10: “Blessings Come Through Obedience”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

PROPS NEEDED:

A letter (similar to one you would receive in the mail), poster board, a magic marker, a hole punch, and some yarn

HOW TO PREPARE:

Cut the poster board into two equal---sized squares. With the marker, write “ACTION/OBEDIENCE” on one of the cards, and write “BLESSING” on the other. Punch a hole in each card. Using yarn, tie them together side---by---side with the print facing forward on both cards. Have all props at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. Can anyone tell me what Philippians 4:19 says without looking it up in the Bible? (Call on a volunteer.) Good job.
2. This is a verse you’ve heard many times. This verse is from a letter Paul wrote to a particular group of people. (Hold up the letter.)
 - a) Letters are always addressed to someone.
 - b) Letters always have a purpose.
 - c) You cannot just take one statement from the letter and understand the purpose of that letter.
3. Let’s look at the verses that come before Philippians 4:19. We’ll see why Paul writes to these people that God will meet all of their needs. Starting with verse 15. “Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the Gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well---pleasing to God.”
4. This promise is tied to action. (Show cards tied together with yarn.)
 - a) Everyone wants to be blessed.
 - b) God’s blessings are tied to obedience. If you want His blessings, you must obey what His Word says.
 - c) The Philippian church was entitled to God’s blessings because of their action and obedience.
 - d) Blessings always follow action and obedience.
5. Place your tithes and offerings in your hands and let’s pray!

OFFERING LESSON 11: “Seed for the Sower”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth forever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness.)” II Corinthians 9:6---10

PROPS NEEDED:

One whole watermelon, a package of watermelon seeds, and a big knife to cut the watermelon

HOW TO PREPARE:

Have all props at the front of the classroom.

LESSON:

1. God has established laws in His Word which can bless us. One of these laws is the law of seedtime and harvest. This law tells us that if we plant seeds, we will reap a harvest according to what we plant. If I were to plant these watermelon seeds (Hold up watermelon seeds.), would I get an apple? No. What would I get?(Hold up the watermelon). That’s right, a watermelon. Whatever type of seed you plant is the type of harvest you will receive.
2. II Corinthians 9:6---10 tells us about how planting directly reflects the size of the harvest. If one farmer sows a few seeds and another farmer sows a lot of seed, who is going to reap the bigger harvest? (Have the children answer.) This is also true when you give in the offering. If you give sparingly, your return is little, but if you give generously, God will give back to you in the same way.
3. Not only will God bless your gift, but He will provide the sower seed to sow. What does this mean? When a farmer plants watermelon seed (Hold up package of seeds.), he receives watermelon. Not only can he eat the watermelon himself, but he can also sell it and bring in money. (Use the knife to cut the watermelon in half and eat some of it.) And God also has included inside the watermelon the ability to produce more seed for the farmer. (Show the kids the seeds inside of the melon.) This means more blessing for the farmer because God has provided seed for the sower. Now the farmer can keep getting blessed.
4. Boys and girls, this is not only true with fruit and plants. It is also true when you plant or sow your offerings into God’s kingdom. Not only will He bless your gift and bring you a return, He provides more seed for you to sow. This means that the giver will always be blessed.
5. Who wants to be a sower today? Take your seed in your hand and let’s pray.

OFFERING LESSON 12: “The Amount is Up to You”

SCRIPTURE TO STUDY:

“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.” Luke 6:38

PROPS NEEDED:

Three spoons or scoops from a kitchen (small, medium, and large), and a bucket filled with individually wrapped candy

HOW TO PREPARE:

Have all props at the front of the classroom. Whenever you use the different sized scoops, scoop out a measurement of candy to demonstrate the amount.

LESSON:

1. Open up your Bibles to Luke 6:38. I need someone to read this verse for me.
1. (Choose a child to read this scripture out loud.)
2. We’ve talked about this verse before, right? Today, I want us to focus on the last part of the verse that says, with the same measure you use, it will be measured to you. We all know that if we choose to be givers, God will give back to us. But many Christians do not realize that we control the amount of blessing that is given back.
3. I need someone to come up and help me. (Select another child to come up to the front of the class.) I have a bucket of candy and I am going to give you some of this for helping me. (Show the class and the helper the candy.) Imagine with me that this candy is money. Remember what Luke 6:38 says? With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you. So, if you take this small scoop to measure your giving to God, according to this verse, He will use the same size scoop to measure your return blessings.
4. What happens when you use a bigger scoop to measure your giving? (Hold up the medium size scoop.) That’s right! He will use the same size scoop for your return. How many of you want God to use this size scoop when He blesses you?
5. (Hold up the large scoop.) Do you want God to use this size scoop to bless you? Sure, you do. What must we do so God will use this size of measurement for us? We must be big---scoop givers. (Give your helper a big scoop of candy and then allow him to return to his seat.)
6. Remember, boys and girls, the measure of the blessing is tied to the measure of the gift. God’s amount of blessing is up to you. Let’s pray.