

INTRODUCTION

A simple definition of stewardship is the responsibility and care for the resources God has given us for His purposes in the world. Resources include creation, gifts and talents, money, time, and the Gospel.

Our hope is that through these Parent Connect resources, your children will learn to give with joy. Whether it's giving time by volunteering at church or in your community, giving time and effort by sharing and helping others, or giving financially and sharing the resources God has blessed you with, any act of stewardship should be done with joy. We hope that these lessons will help children understand how they should use their resources over a lifetime.

In our last Parent Connect, we learned that all things are created by and belong to God. We have been given these gifts to be used for a time. We should be careful and thoughtful of how we use these gifts. Today, we learn a story from the New Testament of a poor woman's gift to God. Jesus was watching people as they put their offerings into the collection boxes. Several wealthy people gave large amounts of money, but then a poor widow put only two small coins into the box. Her gift was worth less than a penny, but it was all she had. Jesus called His disciples and explained how many wealthy people gave large amounts to God, but it was money that they did not need to live. This poor woman gave God all the money she needed to live. She willingly gave everything to God.

BIBLE TRUTH

This lesson is based on the story of the poor woman who gave God everything she had in Mark 12:41-44. It teaches us that God is more concerned with why someone gives, not how much.

SCRIPTURE

READ: Mark 12:41-44

- What was Jesus doing?
- Why do you think He was watching this activity?
- How much did the rich people give? How much did the poor widow give?
- Jesus called His followers and told them something. What was the truth He told them?
- What do you think Jesus was trying to teach His followers?

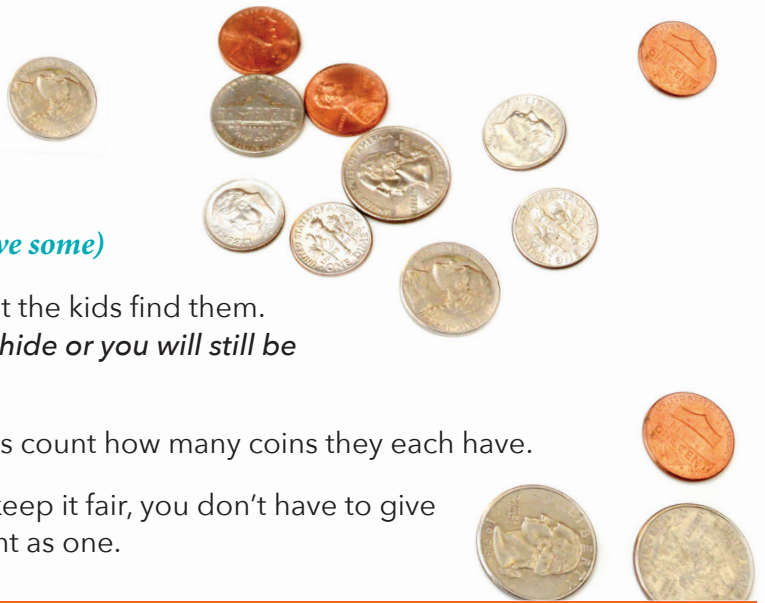


ACTIVITY

ITEMS REQUIRED:

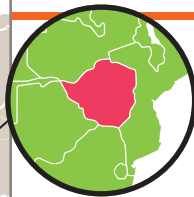
Coins of all different shapes and sizes
(you can even use international money if you have some)

- Hide the coins all around the house and let the kids find them.
(Remember to count how many coins you hide or you will still be finding them months later!)
- After they have found the coins, let the kids count how many coins they each have.
- Let each child “buy” a snack from you. To keep it fair, you don’t have to give the coins a dollar value. Let each coin count as one.



APPLICATION

- You worked to find the coins, then “bought” snacks from the money you found. How did it feel to use the coins that you earned?
- If you were to follow Jesus’ teaching in the story, what could you have done to give sacrificially?
- Why would you want to give back to God what He has given to you?
- What do you think sacrifice means? What do you think God sacrificed for you?



PLAY LIKE KIDS IN ZIMBABWE

KUDODA is a traditional kids’ game in Zimbabwe.

It is simple and uses materials that kids can find in their villages and towns. You need at least three players for the game to be fun. It’s all about quick fingers!

Fill a metal or wooden bowl with 20-30 small stones or marbles. If you don’t have a bowl, draw a circle on the ground using chalk. Players sit in a circle around the bowl. The first player picks up one of the stones and tosses it into the air. Before it lands, the player tries to pick up as many other stones from the bowl as he/she can. The player keeps the stones they collect. Once all players have had a turn, the stones are counted, and the player who collects the most is the winner.

