

DRAW THE PENNY ☆

Children will have fun learning about the percentage of tithing to God.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Giving, Offering, Tithing, Trust

MATERIALS:

A penny for each child, paper, crayons

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Have the children trace the outline of the penny as many times as they can on one piece of paper in 60 seconds. When they are finished, help them count how many times they drew around the penny.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Today we are going to talk about money. Who likes money? Who knows how much a penny is worth? *(Allow children to respond.)*

For our activity, everyone will get a penny, paper, and a crayon. When I say, "Go," draw around the penny as many times as you can. Let me show you how to draw around the penny. (Demonstrate by tracing around the penny, then picking up the penny and moving it slightly to the right and tracing it again.) When I say, "Stop," everyone will put his or her crayon down. Then, we will count to see how much money you made.

Ready! Go! (Give them 60 seconds to draw around their pennies and then say, "Stop.")

Now, let's count each circle you traced. Each time you traced a circle it is worth one cent. Count your circles by ones. (Demonstrate how to count using a student's tracing.)

Now, I am going to ask you to give me half of your money. Everyone tear your paper in half. (Collect the torn half from each child.) How many of you were sad to give me half of your money that you worked so hard to draw? *(Allow children to share their feelings.)*

In the Old Testament, God commanded His people to give only a tenth of all their hard work. He could have asked for half or even all of their money, but He is a fair and giving God. He just asked for a small portion.

Let me show you what a tenth looks like. Take one of the torn halves of paper from a child and tear off one drawn penny. Keep the one drawn penny and give the rest of the paper back to the child. This is a little closer to what God asks us to give. God is very generous. He could take as much as He wants, but only asks for a tenth.

Discussion Questions:

1. Would you rather give back half of your hard work or just a tenth? *(Allow for the children to respond.)*
2. Why do you think God asks us to tithe? *(It allows us to help God's people and also build the church.)*

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TRUSTING THE PROVIDER ☆

Children will see a visual demonstration of how God provides in different ways when we give to Him.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Offering, Tithing, Trust

MATERIALS:

Marker, Shoebox
 Money Cards [PDF] [Click here](#)
 Provision Cards [PDF] [Click here](#)

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



PREPARATION:

Print and cut out enough money cards for each child to have 10 one-dollar bills. Print and cut out enough provision cards so that each student can receive a variety of cards. Take the shoebox and put a slit in the top for the children to put their dollar bills through. The box will represent the Church, so draw a cross somewhere on the box.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

The teacher will pretend to be the provider (i.e. God). The children will give their money to the Church (shoebox). Students can put in as much money as they like into the shoebox. Watch as students give their money. You, acting as God, will give the children a variety of provision cards after they have given their offering.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

We are going to do an activity called "Trusting the Provider." We are called to give, and we trust that God will provide for our needs. Luke 6:38 says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

I am going to give you each 10 play dollar bills. I have a box here that is going to represent the church. We are pretending that the money in your hand is the money you have worked hard to earn.

One of the best places to give our money is to the Church. Money given to the Church can then be used for God's purposes. You can give to the Church as much money you like by placing it into the shoebox. You can give only a tenth, which means you would just give one dollar. On the other hand, you can give two dollars, half of your money, or even all of it. Now, I will pretend to be God. When you give to the Church, we will see what God gives you in return. You may be nervous that you will run out of money, but let's trust Him and see if He will continue to provide for your needs.

Decide in your heart what you want to give. Be happy about it and give with a smile, knowing that God will provide for your needs. The Bible says, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV (After rewarding the first child with one or more provision cards then go to the next child. Continue this process until everyone has a chance to give an offering.)

If you were to compare the provision cards you were given, you might find that you did not get the same types of cards as someone else or perhaps you or someone else got duplicates of the same card. In life, we all don't have the same needs, thankfully God provides for us based on what He knows we need.

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TITHES AND OFFERINGS

LESSON 1: GIVE WITH A GRATEFUL HEART ☆

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [Overview](#)

Children will learn the meaning, purpose, and benefits behind tithing and offering.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS

Giving, Offering, Tithing, Trust

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

Draw the Penny (Activity) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (12 MINUTES)

"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops." Proverbs 3:9 NIV

Before class, write the verse on the board. Read the verse aloud, pointing to each word as you read. Then explain that God wants us to acknowledge and praise Him for our wealth. That is how we can honor Him. (Underline the word honor.) Every time we are given something, it is good to thank God for it because every good and perfect gift comes from the Lord. Read the verse as a class one more time.

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Introduction:

Today, we are learning about the words tithing and offering. A tithe is a percentage of our wealth that we give to God. An offering is something extra we give out of the goodness of our hearts. We are going to read two passages about tithing and offering. The first one discusses God's goodness and provision when we give and tithe to Him.

Read Malachi 3:10-11

Discussion Questions:

1. What does God want us to do? (*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse. Not all of our money, just our tithe.*)
2. Are we allowed to test God to see if He will provide? (*Yes.*)
3. How will we know if God has provided? (*We might get more money back, more clothes, more food, a better car, or better house, etc. God says, "Test me in this and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have enough room for it." Malachi 3:10 NIV*)

Now, we are going to read about how Jacob put God to the test. Jacob promised that he would give a tenth of everything back to God, if God blessed and provided for him. Our story takes place in Bethel. Jacob just had a dream from God. He woke up and made this promise.

Read Genesis 28:20-22

Discussion Questions:

1. What does Jacob ask from the Lord? (*He asks that the Lord be with him, watch over him, feed and clothe him.*)
2. What do we ask from the Lord? (*We ask Him to protect, feed, and clothe us. We are just like Jacob.*)
3. What did Jacob promise to give God? (*A tenth of his living.*)
4. Do you think Jacob was happy to give to God? (*Allow for discussion.*)

FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Trusting the Provider (Activity) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

Alabaster Box (Craft) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Start by having each child come up in front of the class to thank God for something He has provided for him or her. Next, offer up a prayer of thanks for the snack you are about to enjoy.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (10 MINUTES)

Where Will You Place Your Coin? (Activity) [Click here](#)

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to see if your gift matters to God.

TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF] [Click here](#)

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WHERE WILL YOU PLACE YOUR COIN? ☆

Children will learn that God gives them ideas of where and how to give.

by Kristy Thornton

TOPICS:

Giving, Offering, Tithing, Trust

MATERIALS:

Tape or glue
Lots of Pennies
Pictures [PDF] [Click here](#)
Poster board and marker



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

PREPARATION:

Divide the poster board into four equal squares. Using the marker, label each section: Church, Family, Friends*, and Bank. Tape or glue the appropriate picture in each square on the poster board.

*Friends can be also be labeled as neighbors or the poor.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give each child 10 pennies and let them know that they can put their pennies in any category on the poster board.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Acts 20:35b says, "Remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Jesus states that giving something to someone is more rewarding than getting something. If we are supposed to give, where do we give and to whom? (*Allow children to respond.*)

God gives us good advice on what to do with our money. The first thing we should do is to acknowledge and praise Him for our wealth. Then, we can demonstrate our thankfulness by giving in return of the wealth we have received.

Then, He says to give to the Church. (Point to the picture of the church.) "Bring all of the tithes into the storehouse that there may be food in my house. And test me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, and see if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10 NIV.

He says to provide for our family with our money. (Point to the picture of the family.) "If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." 1 Timothy 5:8 NIV.

He says to help our neighbors and others. (Point to the picture of friends.) "Look not only to your own needs, but also to the needs of others." Philippians 2:4 NIV.

He wants us to save our money too. He wants us to save for the future and for emergencies. (Point to the picture of the piggy bank.) "There is desirable treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man squanders all he has." Proverbs 21:20 NIV.

You all will receive 10 pennies. Think about where you want to put your pennies. Decide in your heart how much you want to give to the Church, to your family, to others, and to savings. I will give each of you a turn to give all of your pennies. As you do, say, "Thank you God for this money. I happily give it to (and then say the name of the square)." For example, you can say, "Thank you God for this money. I happily give it to the Church."

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