

Giver

CONCEPT

God gives everyone in His kingdom, including children, a part to play in His Mission to reach the unreached and bring glory to Him. The Giver is open and ready to freely give so the gospel will go to the ends of the earth.

PASSAGE: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

KEY VERSE: "You must make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully."

PLANNING AHEAD*

Lesson Supplies

Introduction:

- "Pray-er" symbol poster, 1/classroom
- Six-roles wall hanging

Lesson:

- "Giver" symbol poster, 1/class

Learning Activity #2:

- Praising God from A-Z poster, 1/CT class

Craft Supplies

Activity Stations:

- Giving can label, 1/child
- Empty can, 1/child
- 5" cloth square, 1/child
- Large rubber band, 1/child
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers
- Glue/glue sticks

* **Teachers please note:** For clarity, the shaded areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag. **Items followed by an asterisk* are to be supplied by the teaching team.**

LESSON PLAN

SET UP	Before class – Hang the “Giver” symbol poster for the students to see as they arrive.
INCORPORATION – LG GROUP 10 MIN	<p>Craft – Generous Giver Offering Bank</p> <p>Instructions: Give each student a giving can label, a can, a 5" cloth square, and a large rubber band. Have them color the bank cover and write their name on it in the space provided. Have them glue their offering bank cover onto the can, then cut a slit in the cloth square for the money. Secure the cloth to the top of the can with a rubber band.</p> <p>Giving to others in need is something that God considers very important. Even at your age it is very important to begin to practice giving to others in need. It is amazing how many children you have helped all over the world because of the money you put in this green giving globe. (Hold up giving globe.)</p> <p>Tell the students to take their banks home and begin filling them with coins and dollars. Encourage them to each think of a chore they can do to help around the house, e.g., picking up toys, helping to set the table for dinner or cleaning up afterwards.</p>
INTRODUCTION – LG GROUP 5 MIN	<p>MUSIC</p> <p>Well, it's missions week again and we are continuing our great adventure called “God’s Glory Shining Through!” But before I start, what do we need to do first? What should we always do before I teach? (Pray.)</p> <p>(Hold up the six-roles wall hanging.) We’ve learned a little about six ways we could be a part of God’s plan to reach people all over the world so they could get to know Him. Can you remember what these are? (Goer, Connector, Pray-er, Giver, Welcomer, Sender.)</p> <p>Today we are going to learn about another role that will help show others how great God is. This is something everyone of you can do. Who can remember what we learned last month? (Pray-er. Hold up the Pray-er symbol poster.) Remember that if you are a Pray-er, you are especially excited about praying and want to pray for unreached peoples and for missionaries and their families.</p> <p>We still have five more roles to learn about this year. If you find a role that you really want to do, this is probably God telling you that you could focus on this role and do it for Him.</p>
LESSON – LG GROUP 10 MIN	<p>Today we are going to talk about the role of “Giver.” (This is a role most 2nd/3rd graders understand to a certain degree. Try to make this more of a discussion instead of a teaching. It might help to write points on the whiteboard.) A Giver is someone who enjoys and looks for ways to give money to help missionaries or others in need.</p> <p>A Giver wants to give back to God because of what God has done for them. What are a few things God has done for us? (He created animals, parents, families, trees, etc., for us to enjoy. He gave us talents and gifts. We live in a country where we have homes, plenty of food, safety, freedom, etc.) Be sure to include the fact that He sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins. He did this because He loves us so much and wants us to be with Him forever. There are also all the things that are ours the moment we accept Christ. What are a couple of those? Givers know that it is a special thing to be able to show their praise to God for all the good things that He has done. Givers want to share with others because of all that God has shared with them.</p>

If you are a Giver, then you share what you have with others who have needs. Givers want to give even when they don't have very much money left for themselves. I would like to share with you a story about a boy named Austin. He is 6 years old and a wonderful example of a Giver. How old is he? (Allow students to answer.) Last year Austin and his family put together shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Some of you may have done this before as well. It is an organization that sends supplies to other countries where the children are in desperate need. Austin and his family tracked their shoe boxes on the web site to see where they went. They also watched a video of a woman who received a shoe box as a child and were able to see the impact receiving the box had on her life. Austin watched that video every day for a week and decided he wanted to do more. With the help of his parents, he organized a luncheon at his house and charged \$2/person. People were very touched by the way Austin wanted to help other kids. Some people who could not make the luncheon gave money anyway. Even though he was only charging \$2, people gave a lot more. They raised \$226. Austin is truly a Giver.

A gift given by a generous heart can never be too small. How old are you guys? You may be thinking you really don't have that much to give. Because of your generous heart, God can multiply or stretch whatever you give – remember the boy who gave 5 loaves and 2 fish? God fed thousands with it! A Giver believes God will use whatever he/she can give to accomplish His work. Remember that God cares more about your giving heart than how much you give. The small gifts of thousands of Christian kids add up to huge amounts. Kids are a gigantic force for God!

Money is one thing we can give for God's work but it's not the only thing we can give. Remember since this is about missions, focus on giving to help someone from a different culture or a missionary. (Refer to the "Giver" symbol poster.) What else do you see in the picture that we can give? The clock tells us that God has blessed us with time that we can use to help others. The artist's palette and paintbrush tell us that He has given each of us things that we can do well that can help others. Do you like to draw? You can draw a picture and give it to someone who doesn't know English very well. Do you like to write letters? You can write a letter to encourage a missionary or missionary kid. Do you like to make things? You can make a gift and give it to someone at school who looks different from you. Do you own something special that you could give away? If your parents agree, you could give a special item, book or whatever you have to a missionary or someone in need. You could also use your talents to make money to give to missionaries. Maybe you could have a bake sale, sell arts and crafts items that you made, put on a show or create a neighborhood newspaper to sell. There are so many ideas!

**LEARNING ACTIVITY
#1 – LG GROUP
10 MIN**

OBJECT LESSON #1

Breakfast by Brooke – A Giver in Action

I would like to tell you another story about a girl named Brooke, a Giver in action. This is a true story about a 3rd grader that will show what can happen when you think of ways you can earn money to give to others.

Early on a frosty Saturday morning in February, where would you rather be – in a warm, snuggly bed or out delivering breakfast to neighbors? Most of us would choose to be in bed, right? So why was Brooke, an average Wisconsin third grader, outside in the cold? The flier

	<p>she sent to her neighbors explains that her Sunday School teacher gave each student some money to use towards a special project to earn money to give to missions.</p> <p>Brooke wrote, "I want to make it grow because the money I earn will be used to send Bibles to communist countries in the Far East. On Saturday morning Mom and I will be cooking a breakfast menu: a ham and cheese omelet, fresh fruit, and banana muffins. We will deliver the meal to your door, hot and ready to eat!!" Brook helped prepare and deliver eight breakfasts that morning.</p> <p>While the neighbors received a scrumptious breakfast, Brooke learned that "it takes a lot of time and hard work to make things to sell. I had to put other people ahead of myself. It was hard to go outside on an eight-degree morning to deliver food. Then I thought about the people in communist countries and realized I had no reason to complain. They really need the Bible to know the truth."</p> <p>This is just one way a third grader decided to earn money to give to missions. There are many, many ways each of you can make a little extra money to give to others in need. Who remembers what our new giving campaign is for? How could each of you earn money to give to a missionary or a missions project? (Encourage any answers given. Encourage the students to follow through on these so they can help missionaries and those in need.)</p>
<p>LEARNING ACTIVITY #2 – LG GROUP 10 MIN</p>	<p>OBJECT LESSON #2 Praising God from A-Z</p> <p>When we work together with God to share who He is with people who don't know Him or help others know Him better, we actually become closer friends with God. We get to know what He is really like and others do, too. When people can see God more clearly for who He really is, then that gives Him glory. It makes them say "Ooh, Wow, God is so cool, He is so..." Well, we've been listing some of the things God is on our A-Z poster.</p> <p>This week I would like for you to go home and think about the words that we talk about today. It is easy to take God for granted, but a big mistake when we consider how amazing He is and the unbelievable things He does for each of us.</p> <p>(Review A-D if there is time or if you were not able to get to it last missions week. <i>Words and descriptions of letters A-D are attached.</i>)</p> <p>Who can think of a word that describes God that starts with an "E?" How about Eternal? What does it mean when we say God is eternal? Yes, He not only lives forever in the future but He has also already lived forever in the past. This is a hard thing to grasp even for an adult. Do you know what else? God promises that when we accept Christ into our hearts, we will live forever in heaven with Him. How do you guys feel about living forever in heaven with God?</p> <p>Okay, how about the letter "F?" Yes, Father. God is our heavenly Father. He loves you, just like your father here on earth. He knows what's best for us. I'm sure most of you would like to have a new toy every day, watch TV or play computer games all weekend, right? How does your father feel about this? Why? God is a heavenly Father who knows what's best for us. There may be times when we pray to Him asking for something and we don't ever get it. It's not because God couldn't answer our prayer, it's because He knows it's not what's best for us.</p>

	<p>He wants what is best for us because He loves us with a perfect love, something we will never understand until we are with Him in heaven.</p> <p>What's the next letter? It's "G." What do you think "G" stands for? Good – God is Good. When someone is good at something, it means they're better than most. Maybe you're a good runner or good at video games. But God is Good at everything. His plans for us are Good and He wants Good things for us because He is Good. Nothing about Him is less than Good.</p> <p>The last letter this week is "H." "H" stands for Holy. God is 100% perfect. It is only because of Jesus that we can come close to God. When we ask Jesus to forgive us of our sins and accept His death on the cross for our sins, He washes away our sins. We can only come close to God because as believers in Jesus we are now clean and pure, just like God. This shows how much God loves us and wants a relationship with us.</p>
<p>LEARNING ACTIVITY #3 – LG GROUP 10 MIN</p>	<p>OBJECT LESSON #3 Giving Campaign Update Before small group I'd like to update you on our giving. (Hold up giving globe.) What have we been giving to? (Refer to flyer for current amount given.) Talk about current campaign.</p> <p>SMALL GROUP Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do any of you love to give? In what ways do you like to give? (Let students respond briefly.) Have a student read II Corinthians 9:7. What do you think this verse means? So, how do you know if you are a giver? God wants all of us to give, but a Giver often gives freely of their money, time, talents, and even things, like favorite clothes or toys. (Refer back to the "Giver" symbol poster.) A Giver looks at others and sees their needs before looking at themselves and what they need or don't want to give up. Maybe you can give your time and befriend or help someone at your school or in your neighborhood who is from another county. A Giver really loves to give and enjoys sharing with others. Prompt the kids to think about what they could do to give. Ask God to show you how you can be a "Giver." What were some things you have done in the past to bring in change? There are so many things each of us could do. What are some of the things you did last year? (Bake sales, sell arts and crafts items made, shows put on, go door to door.) Everyone tends to be very generous during the holidays. We just need to be willing to prayerfully think about what we can do and take the time to do it. <p>Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pray we will remember how amazing God is and that we will want to share His love with others by being "Givers" in different ways. Pray we will think of ways to make money to give and how exciting it is to have this opportunity. Pray for your classroom adopted missionary kids.
<p>LEARNING ACTIVITY #4 – LG GROUP 10 MIN</p>	<p>Game – Receiver, Receiver, Giver Instructions: This game is just like Duck, Duck, Goose, however the Giver is chasing the Receiver. When the Receiver is caught they become the Giver and the old Giver goes into the center of the circle. The game continues until everyone is in the center. While you are playing the game, talk about how Giving can be contagious and the more we give the more it makes others want to give in return.</p>

	<p>We certainly had fun today learning about the role of Giver. God uses Givers in his plan to help tell others about Jesus. God loves a cheerful and generous giver. When you go home, tell your parents and friends about what you learned today. Ask God to show you ways you can help. Bring the money you saved and worked for each week and we will add it to the giving globe.</p>
--	---