

The Widow's Mite

Items needed: Box: any variety will work. (Amazon, Pop Tart, Kleenex, whatever you have laying around,) Art supplies of your choice: markers, colors, colored pencils, stickers, etc.

Optional: Paper to cover the box. Tape or glue.

Bible truth: God can use whatever we give.

Bible verses: Mark 12:41-44- *Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.*

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

1. Teach: Jesus was in the temple with his disciples. Jesus was teaching and noticed people giving their offering to God. Most people gave out of their extra. Jesus pointed out a woman, whose husband had died, who did not have a lot to give. Jesus pointed her out, because even though she did not have a lot to give, she still gave.

The widow was not able to give a lot like a lot of people. Actually, according to history, what the widow gave came up to about a half a penny. That half a penny was not her extra. It was all she had. Jesus pointed her out as someone who gave from their heart even when things were hard.

2. Do: As a family put together your "Mite-y box." Use this box to allow your children to put their offerings in the box each Sunday. When we are able to meet back together we will bring our Mite-y boxes and present them to the Lord. He will use what is given in MIGHTY ways.

3. Discuss: Ask: We give money to the church each week when we meet together. What does the church do with that money? (Pay the light bill, provide wifi, pay the ministers, help our missionaries, buy supplies for Bible classes,

clean the building, help pay for kids to go to camp and go on retreats, help families who do not have enough, etc.)

Money is one thing that we give to God. What other things can we give besides money? (Time, care, a phone call, a text message, color a picture for a friend, give a hug, share a smile, use our smarts to help teach and share Jesus, encourage each other, write to our missionaries, make a cheerful video to share, learn our memory verses, etc)

For our older learners: 1 Corinthians 16:1-2- *Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

What is Paul asking the Corinthian church to do? (Put money back each Sunday so that when Paul comes there will be money ready to give.)

There was a severe famine in the area and people were starving to death. Paul is asking the churches that are not affected by the famine to put a little money away each week so that when he comes the money will be ready to go to those who are struggling.

How much more will be in the collection if people put a little away each week instead of cleaning out their pockets when Paul shows up? Do you think our Mite-y Box might have more in it if we put a little in each week until we are able to go back to meeting together than if we wait until we are all able to meet together again?

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