

Alley SG—November 28th-29th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: That's What Friends Are For (Give Freely to the Lord's People)

• 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Today's Key Question: How can you use what you have to help others?

Today's Bottom Line: You can always use what you have to help someone else.

Monthly Memory Verse: Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15 NIV)

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Pong Pong Balls (1 bag per Group)

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a seated circle and have them take a ping pong ball
- Tell the kids they will stay seated and bounce the ball to the person across from them. Keep passing it back and forth for 15 seconds until you say stop. If a ball comes their way from another player, they can bounce it back to whom it belongs. When you say stop, they should grab the ball closest to them.
- Based on the color ball they have, ask them to tell you:
Pink – A talent/skill they have
Orange – An object they own
- It can be an object like a bike or a skill/talent like singing or drawing.

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: "Give Freely Cards" (1-2 sets per Group, per service), Bibles, pens

What You Do:

- Pass out the "Give Freely Cards". (If you have more than 4 kids in your group, pair kids up to work together.)
- Give kids a Bible.
- Instruct kids to look up the verses on their cards and answer the questions listed on their cards.
- As they finish, let kids share their answers with the group.
- Set up the next part of the activity by pointing out the variety of examples God provides in Scripture of how people can use what they have to help someone else.
 - They can use their money, like the Macedonian people and Barnabas.
 - They can use their skills, like Lydia or Tabitha.
 - Remind kids that each of them has something they can use to help others too.
- Gather kids in a circle.
- Ask them to remember some of the items and skills they mentioned in Act. 1
- Encourage the group to quickly brainstorm a way they could use the item/talent to help someone else.

3. Discussion Questions

- What can you do when you don't think you have anything you can use to help someone? What's one thing you can do this week to use what you have to help someone else?
- What does contentment have to do with generosity?
- How can being content show others that you trust God?
- (If more than a couple kids in your group have phones, ask the following question.) How does social media affect our ability to learn to be content with what we have?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: “Blank DIY” Puzzles (1 bag of 2 puzzles per Group, per Service), markers, pens, Bibles

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Split your group into 2 teams, but keep them in the circle.
- Grab the bag of puzzle pieces and hand out all the pieces. (some kids may have more than one piece)
- Challenge kids to write/draw something they can use to help someone else, on their puzzle pieces. It could be a gift, a bike, money, etc. But don't put the puzzle together yet.
- As kids work, guide them to talk about ways they can use what they have to help others. Encourage them to see what they have in a new way.
 - Encourage kids to share a time they used what they had to help someone. ***[Make it Personal] (Share about a time when you used what you had to help someone.)***
 - What does contentment have to do with generosity?
 - How can being content affect how you treat others?
- Give kids time to share their pieces/gifts/talents with each other.
- Look up Isaiah 55:8 and read it to the kids.
- Ask:
 - What does this passage tell you about God?
 - How can remembering that God's ways and God's thoughts are so much more than we can imagine help us to be okay with what we have?
 - How can using what we have point others toward God?
- ***THE FUN PART!: Challenge the Teams to be the first to put their puzzles together. They will have to exchange pieces to get 2 puzzles done. Have FUN with this and keep the energy high! The teams can scramble pieces and race again.***

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Ask: In one sentence, what did you learn about contentment this month?
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“God, Through Your Word, You have taught us so much about contentment this month. Through Your power we can learn to be okay with what we have. God, help us be thankful for what we have right now. Help us to be generous with what we have and show us ways we can use what we have to help others. Amen!”