

Lesson 7: I Will Dare to Give Like Widow

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Learn that we can have faith in Jesus and because of our faith be daring to give our all.
- 2) Learn the account of the widow's coins and how we should learn to give Mark 12:41-44.
- 3) Understand the importance of seeing the needs of others and be daring to help.

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students? See Lesson 1

Supplies:

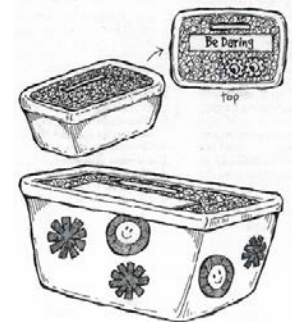
Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Lesson Review Visual Aids – one for teacher to share at the beginning of each class from lesson 2
- Widow's Coins Visual Aids – one copy for class to share
- Sharing Activity Sheet – one per student
- 20 Index or File Cards 4 x 6 inches (or if needed cut out cards from cardstock paper) – one set for every 4 students
- Marker – one for teacher

Optional:

Coin Bank Craft

- Recycled or purchased square plastic small containers (ex: from baby food, dollar store, hummus, etc.) – one per student with labels removed, cleaned and dried)
- Sharpie Markers – to share
- Stickers – smiley faces, dots, hearts, flowers, etc – to share
- Wiggly Eyes – 2 per student (optional)
- Glue Sticks – to share
- Scrap Construction or Felt Paper to cut and cover lid and to decorate sides – to share
- Scissors – to share
- Be Daring Phrase Sheet – before class cut out one per student on cardstock or construction paper
- Coins – if desired, hand out two real coins to each student to put into their coin bank to get them started. Ensure each student gets the same amount of money.



Snack:

- Banana, Kiwi, or Orange Slices (to represent coins) a few per student
- Napkin one per student
- Water/Cup one per student

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

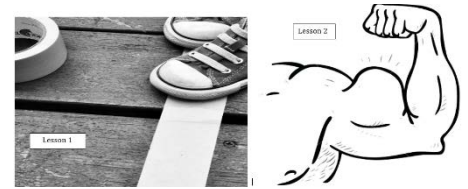
5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied).

*Have Bibles for those who need them and Lesson Review Visual Aid Sheet to show students.

Show the lesson review visual aid sheet.

Can anyone remember what we have studied so far? Look at the picture, name what happened for the lesson we have already studied, and what we learned from that lesson.



Lesson 1: We should stay focused on Jesus. We do so by 1) getting rid of things that stop us from focusing 2) we work in all things with Jesus in mind, and 3) we think of Jesus throughout the day.

Lesson 2: We need to put God first by loving Him with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Lesson 3: We need to seek God and we can do so like Jesus by taking some quiet time every day to pray.

Lesson 4: We are to love others as ourselves. Meaning we need to go out of our way to show love to others by our words, thoughts, prayers and actions.

Lesson 5: We can be brave like Esther and Mordecai who stood up and took responsibility to help others.

Lesson 6: We can be determined and persistent like the four friends who had enough faith to keep trying to bring their friend to Jesus.

2) We Can Be Brave, Determined and Persistent

5 minutes

Who are the heroes we have studied so far? Esther, Mordecai, and the Four Friends.

What were the things that made them heroes? Courage, faith, brave, persistent, and determined to do the right things.

They all seemed like very ordinary people who found themselves in some pretty special situations. They had to make some tough choices. The important thing is that they all had a strong faith in God to make the right choices.

Today's hero also faced a very tough choice. She had a choice as to whether she would give up everything for God...

When we have faith in God we can be daring to give our all, knowing He will care for us.

3) Widow's Coins - Daring To Give All

10-15 minutes

*Have visual aids of the Widow's Coins ready.

Ask students to turn to **Mark 12** while you say:

In Bible times, there were areas in the temple that the people could enter to give their offerings. There were thirteen offering receptacles all together. Each offering receptacle collected money for different needs. One day, Jesus and His disciples were at the temple sitting in the area where the offerings were made.



Do you know who a widow is? Let students answer.

A widow is a person whose husband or wife has died. In this case the widow was a woman who had lost her husband because he had died. In Bible times women who were widows, had no one to care for them because the husband's job was to provide for the wife, if he died, she had no one

to rely on. Unless her children were old enough and godly enough to care for her needs. Some widows were young and had children to care for. Others were much older and alone.

Most widows in Bible times had to rely on other's charity and help to survive. They needed people to give them money, food and other things so they could keep on living. They had a very difficult life.

Have students turn to **Mark 12:41-44**. Either ask for volunteers or read yourself. Show or have someone hold up the visuals while you read.

What did the widow do? Put in all the money she had to live on, which was only a few cents.

Point to the first two pictures of people giving lots of money. Say:

Jesus explained that the rich people were giving gifts based on how much money they had left over once they had bought all of their food, clothing, and a house to live in. The rich also knew that they had plenty of money to take care of their needs. But the widow's gift was larger because she gave all that she had and she did not keep anything else for herself. Her faith in God was so strong that she dared to give it all to God and knew that she'd be ok, because God was with her.

What made the widow a hero? She was daring in giving all she had to live on to serve God because of her faith in Him and that He would provide for her.

What options did the widow have? To give or not to give.

Do you think she realized that God/Jesus was literally watching her at that exact moment? Let students answer.

Do we realize that God literally watches us too and is so pleased and happy when we do what is right? Let students answer.

What was her faith like? Strong because she was willing to give up any physical assurance she had by putting in all she had to live on in the offering. She knew that God would continue to give her what she needed.

What can we learn from this story? We can be daring and give our all as well. When we have a strong faith, we can give God all that we have – time, things, money, energy, love, help, learning about Him, etc. because we know that He will continue to provide and bless us wonderfully for doing so.

4) Bible Verse Scramble

10-15 minutes

Before Class: Using the index cards and marker, write one word on each index/file card of the Bible verse taken from 1 Timothy 6:18. Write on the last card "**1 Timothy 6:18**"

"Command them to do good to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share"

Scramble the phrases. Make one set for every 4 students.



During Class: Tell the students that their job is to unscramble the Bible verse that you have written on the cards. Split the kids into groups of four with older students working with younger students.

Have them take their Bibles and go to **1 Timothy 6:18**. Hand out Bibles as needed. Read the verse aloud. Lay the cards face down spread out. Let one student at a time, flip one card. If they flip the first word in the verse "*Command*" then they get to keep the card face up and moved to a spot where all can see it, and then try to flip another card to find the next word "*them*". If they don't get the word when they flip, let the next student have a turn until all cards are flipped and put into the proper order. "**1 Timothy 6:18**" goes at the end.

Once unscrambled have the students read the verse aloud with you three times.

Ask:

Why would this verse be important for this lesson? Because the widow was very generous. She shared all that she had. She did not hold anything back and was willing to give.

How can we be rich in good deeds this week? Let students answer.

Let's turn to **Luke 6:38**, can I get a volunteer to read that?

Luke 6:38

"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."

What does this verse mean? When we give abundantly, kindly and willingly, God in return will give us much, much more. If we don't give, the same will be given to us – nothing, if we give some, the same will be given to us – some, but if we give a good amount of our time, love, energy, resources, God will give and bless us with so much more!

God doesn't just want money, what other gifts can we give? Time, love, energy, things, help, work, etc.

Why do you think the story of the widow is in the Bible? Let students answer.

What special power did the widow have? Faith in God and the daring to know that she could give her all and that God will definitely continue to take care of her even without the little money she had.

The story is about more than just giving money. Most of you do not have jobs or have any money. The money you have is usually what you have been given by others. But you do have things to give. What gifts do you have to give now? Let students answer.

How about singing praises to God? Giving your time to help make someone else happy? What about praying for other people? Giving some of your favorite clothes or toys to someone who doesn't have much? What about giving your love to your brothers and/or sisters. Rather than bugging them, or being annoyed by them, help them when they need it and be kind to them?

How do you think the widow would give the things we just discussed? She would sing and pray often, help others whenever she could, think of nice things to do for others, be willing to help, etc. She would give her all in everything she did that would please God. Instead of watching tv or being sad that she didn't have much, she would come up with ways to help others and then go do it! She would give her very best always!

Through our faith in our loving God who provides all things, we can have power to dare to give our all.

That is what I want you to do. Whenever you are asked to do something for someone else, or sing a song to God, or pray...think about the widow and dare to give the very best and all that you can.

How can you be daring to give this week? Let students answer

5) Daring to Share and Give Activity Sheet

15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each student along with pencils and/or pencil crayons. Read the directions aloud, help as needed.

While students are drawing at the bottom discuss:

How could you and I go about sharing what we have? Let students answer.

No one might notice your devotion....but God will! In all the things we do whether anyone sees them, recognizes them, or acknowledges them. We do not

SHARING - Mark 12:41-44
Fill the hands with things you have that can be shared with others.
(How many things can you share? How many things can you give?)



Reference: Mark 12:41-44
"The rich lay in abundance to share with others, but with each sacrifice that followed."
1 Timothy 4:8:18
"Contentment is the greatest wealth in the world, and it is the greatest and the most useful of all."
Share three pictures below of you practicing the virtues above by giving/sharing with:
(1) someone in need, (2) a friend, (3) a family member.

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worry. For God notices all the good things we do. He will know when you have given your all. Just like the widow. She did not know that Jesus was watching her. She did not know that she would forever be in the Bible because of her total devotion. But Jesus did see her. And we see her today and so do all people who read the Bible. We might not ever think anyone notices the good we do, but just like the widow we can be daring and give all because God sees, knows and is happy when we do. And, He will continue to take care of us, even when we have given our all.

6) Optional: Be Daring Giving Bank

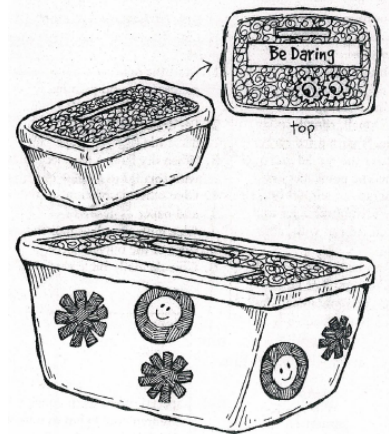
10-15 minutes

Before class: Gather enough plastic containers so each student gets one. Ensure each have a tight fitting lid. If needed you can purchase plastic containers. Ensure you remove any labels, and that they are clean and dry. Print the “Be Daring Phrase Sheet” and cut out one phrase per student. Gather remaining supplies.

During Class: Explain that: **Today we are going to make a craft to help us be daring to give. We can use these to gather money to help those in need so when the time comes we don’t have to search for something to give – we will already have saved some!**

Lid

- Hand out one lid and let students decorate by gluing a piece of construction paper or felt cut to size (leaving about a half inch rim) and then adding the “Be Daring” phrase by gluing. (See image).



Bucket

- Using stickers, markers, and scrap paper and felt; decorate the bucket in a way that is cheerful and reminds you to give happily.

Coins

- When students are done, clean up the mess and tell them to add coins, all they need to do is remove the lid. Help them practice giving now by handing out two coins to each student and when you say so, they are to put the coins in their new coin giving bank.
- Tell them you are going to read the story of the widow again. When you get to the part where she puts in her two coins, the students are to put theirs into their offering bank. This will help them have some money to start with so that they can use this money to share with others – just like the widow.
- Remind them that when they get some money for birthdays, chores, or doing jobs, they should put some of that money aside into their “Giving Bank” so they always have money to share.

7) Lesson Review

5 minutes

Say: **What did we learn today?** Let students answer.

What did you like best about today’s Bible lesson?

What questions do you have about today’s lesson?

8) I Will Follow Songs

5-10 minutes

If time choose songs that relate to this lesson from the “I Will Follow Songs” sheets.

9) Optional: Memory Verse

2-5 minutes

For this quarter, each week have the students go to **John 14:6** in their Bibles and read the verse allowed as a class 2 times. Other options include:

- You saying a word and having them repeat it as you go through the verse
- Have students repeat a small phrase ex: “*I am the way*” a few times before working on the next phrase.
- Have students repeat after each other

- Ask students to think of hand gestures. Ex: Point ahead when you say “the way”, point to their Bibles when they say “truth”, etc. and then go through verses as a class with gestures.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

10) Optional – Snack: Fruit Coins – Banana, Kiwi, and/or Orange Slices 5 minutes

Hand out a few pieces to each student, ensuring you check for allergies first. Say, **this snack is to remind us about our lesson today. Raise your hand if you remember what our lesson was about?** We can be daring to give, just like the widow. We don’t give only when we have lots, we can give any time, even if it is very little – God sees it and is happy with it.

As we eat our snack, let’s think of ways we can be giving and sharing to others. Let students come up with answers.

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands if needed. Review with students by asking them questions from the lesson again and discuss any questions they have while snacking. What did they like best about today’s Bible reading? What questions do they have about today’s lesson?

11) Close in prayer

Let’s close our time together with a prayer. Remembering what we learned today. First – you need to give your all to Jesus – that means even in your prayers. You need to concentrate just on what you are saying to Jesus and nothing else. Keep focused.

We also learned that Jesus can see what we are feeling in our hearts and what we do. So even when we don’t know exactly what to say, Jesus knows our hearts and what we would like to say. So we can at times just sit and be quiet and think about what it is you want to say to Jesus. He’ll understand!

Let’s practice now. I want you to sit quietly, fold your hands so you are not distracted to use them, bow your head and close your eyes, so you are not distracted by things around and concentrate on your prayer.

Each of you, on your own will pray to God silently. Remember to thank Him for Sunday school and learning more about Him. Thank Him for the example of the widow and what you learned. Ask God to help you be daring to give and to have opportunities to give this week in different ways. Ask God to be with those who are sick, away, or needing help.

Remember to end with **“In Jesus’ name, amen.”**