

Work It Out: Stick to the Plan

WEEK
FOUR

JANUARY 2017

GRADES
2 – 3

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

252 KIDS

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

BIBLE STORY

Pennies from Heaven
Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."
1 Timothy 4:8 (NirV)

LIFE APP

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arrivers
Penny Don't Drop

25
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Opener
Bible Story
Worship
Prayer
Closer

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

"Anything Ever" from *At the Top of My Lungs*
"I Will Follow" from *Zapped*

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Penny Drop
A Penny for Your Thoughts
Penny Hopscotch
Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

GodTime
Parent Cue

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Pennies; at least 30 for each small group

PENNY DON'T DROP

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pennies from Early Arriver
- Buckets; 2 for each small group
- Masking tape

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

** If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #2.*

1. PENNY DROP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pennies
- Chair
- Plastic cup

* 2. A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Penny" Activity Page and cut apart; 1 penny for each child
- Scissors
- Pens or pencils

3. PENNY HOPSCOTCH

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Hopscotch Memory Verse" Activity Pages; 1 set for each small group
- Penny
- Tape

PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Kids' pennies from the "A Penny for Your Thoughts" activity

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv**, **CUE Box**, and the **Parent Cue** app.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Pennies from Heaven
Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44



CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and build on their understanding with others

MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8 (NirV)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, pray for each kid by name. Ask God to help you encourage kids to live for Him in order to show others the love of God.

1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, pennies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Collect kids' offerings as they arrive.
- Pass out the pennies to the kids in your group.
- Encourage them to work together to stack the pennies as high as they can.
- As they are stacking, ask the following questions:
 - What are some things you do to stay healthy?
 - What are some healthy things to eat? What are some not-so-healthy things to eat?
 - Why is sleep important? What happens if you don't get enough sleep?
 - What is your favorite exercise/sport?

LIFE APP

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

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15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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Mark 12:41-44



MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in their brain and taps into the energy in their bodies

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

2. PENNY DON'T DROP

WHAT YOU NEED: Pennies, buckets, masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Make sure the teams are even, or assign one kid to go twice if necessary.
- Mark a starting line for each team with masking tape, and line up the teams behind it.
- Place a bucket about 15 feet away from each team.
- When you say, "Go," kids will take turns placing a penny on the top of their shoes and hopping on one foot to the bucket without dropping the penny.
- Once they reach the bucket, they must tilt their foot and drop the penny into the bucket and run back to tag the next person in line.
- If they drop the penny, they must return to the starting line and try again.
- The first team to finish is the winner.
- *Note: If this proves too difficult for your group, allow them to take off their shoes and hold the penny between their toes. Play the game the same way, except kids will be holding their penny with their toes instead of balancing it on their foot.*

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job! Quick, someone raise your hand and tell me how much a penny is worth. (Pause.) That's right! It would take ONE HUNDRED of these to make a dollar. A penny isn't worth much, is it? **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we'll about someone who gave a little—like a couple of pennies—and someone who gave a lot. But one of these givers caught Jesus' attention. Let's find out who it was."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

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GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW



IMAGINE

an activity that focuses on biblical application and empathy through role-play and re-enactment

BIBLE STORY

Pennies from Heaven
Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

BASIC TRUTH

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1. PENNY DROP

WHAT YOU NEED: Chair, pennies, plastic cup

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the cup on the floor behind the chair.
- Instruct the kids to line up and one at a time, kneel on the chair (*facing the back*), lean forward, and drop a penny from chest height into the cup.
- If they make it into the cup, play passes to the next person in line. If they miss, that kid has to answer a question about today's Bible story. Kids can get help from friends if they need it.
- Bible Story Review Questions:
 1. What was Jesus watching the people do in our Bible story today? (*Place their money in the temple treasury*)
 2. Did the rich men give a little or a lot? (*A lot*)
 3. Did the rich men trust God to provide all their needs? How do you know? (*No, because they still had plenty to live on*)
 4. How much did the widow put in? (*Two small coins*)
 5. Which of the two givers was Jesus most pleased with: the rich men or the widow? (*The widow*)
 6. Why wasn't Jesus impressed with the giving of the rich men? (*Because they didn't make a sacrifice that required them to trust God*)
 7. Who did the widow trust? (*God*)
 8. What do you think the word "sacrifice" means? (*To give up something valuable*)
 9. Was the widow—who had very little—given a different command than the rich men? (*No, both were expected to give*)
 10. Did Jesus know the hearts of the people who gave? (*Yes, He knows all our hearts*)
 11. What are some ways that we show we trust God? (*By obeying Him, even when it seems easier/better/more fun to do what we want to do*)
 12. Why is it important to be obedient to God? (*Because God made everything, which means that the way He tells us to live is the BEST way*)
 13. Today we learned we should practice doing what? (*Living for God*)
 14. What are some ways you can live for God? (*Various answers*)

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus stopped to watch the people putting their money into the temple treasury. He wasn't concerned with the AMOUNT that people gave. If that was true, then Jesus would have pointed out the wealthy people who put in large amounts of money. But He didn't. Jesus pointed out the poor widow who only gave two small coins. But her gift proved that she trusted God to take care of her. She obediently gave all she had. Talk about living for God! We can live for God too by obeying His Word and trusting Him to take care of all our needs. So my challenge to you is to make a commitment to **practice living for God.**"

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about one thing you do on a regular basis to [Bottom Line] practice living for God. How does this habit or commitment make a difference in your life? Maybe you read your Bible and pray first thing in the morning. Maybe you tithe on a regular basis. Maybe you take time to journal on a regular basis. Share an example of one way you choose to live for God.)

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25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD**
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY



CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through drawing
and making things

BIBLE STORY

Pennies from Heaven
Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

MEMORY VERSE

**"Training the body has
some value. But being godly
has value in every way. It
promises help for the life
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life to come."**
1 Timothy 4:8 (NIRV)

LIFE APP

**Commitment—Making a plan and
putting it into practice**

BOTTOM LINE

Practice living for God.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

* 2. A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Penny" Activity Page, pens or pencils, scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out one penny to each kid to cut out.
- Pair up the kids and ask them to share one thing they could do this week to practice living for God.
- Instruct the kids to write that one thing on the back (the blank side) of their penny.
- After they've written their answer down, instruct the kids to switch pennies with their partners.
- Then gather as a group and let each kid share what's written on the penny they are holding.
- Instruct the kids to return the pennies to their partners to take home.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You gave some great examples of ways we can all make a choice to **practice living for God**. I want you to take this penny home to remind you of the sacrifice the widow in our Bible story made AND to encourage you to take action as you make the commitment to **practice living for God**."

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25 MINUTES

HEAR FROM GOD MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY



MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in their brain and taps into the energy in their bodies

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3. PENNY HOPSCOTCH

WHAT YOU NEED: "Hopscotch Memory Verse" Activity Pages, penny, tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Select a volunteer to open the Bible to 1 Timothy 4:8. Then select a different volunteer to read this month's memory verse aloud to the rest of the group.
- Lay the "Hopscotch Memory Verse" Activity Pages in a hopscotch pattern on the floor in your small group area. Consider taping one side of the page to the floor so kids don't slip when they jump on it.
- Encourage the kids to read the verse aloud together as they look at the hopscotch grid.
- Line up the kids at the beginning of the hopscotch grid.
- Hand the first kid the penny and instruct him to pitch the penny so that it lands on one of the spots.
- Quickly pick up the penny and turn that page over so that the kids cannot see the words of that section of the verse.
- Encourage the first kid to jump across the grid and recite this month's verse, including the words that are now facedown.
- Play then moves to the next kid, who throws the penny, lands on a page, turns it face down, jumps along the path, and recites the whole verse.
- Play continues until every page is face down.
- Practice reciting the entire verse as a group from memory.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"When you work on training the body—eating healthy food or exercising—it definitely has value. But when you **practice living for God**, it has value in every way for every part of your life! If you want to live the best kind of life, the best thing you can do is look at how God wants you to live. But it takes commitment. It takes practice. You don't get to do one thing for God and then you're done forever! You have to do it over and over. But the good news is, God wants us to do that, and so He'll help us! All we have to do is ask Him."

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25 MINUTES

PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding
and application

BIBLE STORY

Pennies from Heaven
Widow's Offering
Mark 12:41-44

MEMORY VERSE

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PRAY AND DISMISS

WHAT YOU NEED: Kids' pennies from the "A Penny for Your Thoughts" activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask the kids to hold up their pennies from earlier.
- Give them a minute to pray that God would help them to make a commitment to follow through with what they have written as they **practice living for God**.
- Close your time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"A penny isn't worth a lot. But the gift the widow gave was the worth the MOST because it meant she trusted God with all she had. My challenge to you is that you will follow through with your commitment this week and **practice living for God**."

"Heavenly Father, we love You. You are an awesome God, and we know that living Your way is the BEST way! Help us to follow through with the things we've written on our pennies this week as we **practice living for God**."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show their parents the pennies and the ways they plan to **practice living for God** this week. Give each child a GodTime card. Pass out Parent Cue cards as adults arrive to pick up.