"Be Different" - LESSON 4 "Share With Those In Need"

Main Focus:

Christians must share with those in need.



Power Verse:

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." - Romans 12:13 (NIV)



"I Will Share With Those In Need!"

LEADER'S INFO

God has blessed His children with so much! As sons and daughters of God, we are blessed beyond measure!

Sadly, too many kids have a hard time sharing the blessings they have received. Instead, they look at their blessings and want to be selfish instead of sharing.

God has not blessed us so that we can keep those blessings to ourselves and be selfish. Instead, God has blessed His children so they can share and bless others!

Through the story of the lepers who shared, the children will learn that God can use us to bless others big-time if we are willing to share the blessings He has given us. As we are obedient to God, He will use our blessings to bless others time and time again.



"The Spark" Intro Video

"Time To Share"



'Whatchagaddaknow'' Video

Dylan teaches "Whatchagaddaknow"



Character Skit

"Inspector Change-A-Lot"



Offering Time



Game Time!

"Higher Or Lower"



Bible Story

"The Lepers Who Shared"



Power Verse Video

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

- Romans 12:13



Call To Action

"Share With Those In Need"



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

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Whatchagaddaknow:

"I Will Share With Those In Need!"

"The Spark" Intro Video

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Small Group Experience

Lesson 4 Materials Needed:

"The Spark" Intro Video

- "Lesson 4 - The Spark" Intro Video

"Whatchagaddaknow" Video

- "Whatchagaddaknow" Teaching Video
- "Whatchagaddaknow" Trigger Video

Character Skit

- "Inspector Change-A-Lot" Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- "Offering Time" Bumper Video

Game Time!

- "Game Time!" Bumper Video
- "Higher Or Lower" Graphics

Bible Story

- "The Lepers Who Shared" Graphics

Power Verse Video

- "Lesson 4 Power Verse" Video

Call To Action

- "Share With Those In Need" Graphics
- A Large Gift-Wrapped Box
- A Small Bag Of Cookies (Or Candy)
- Three Large Bags Of Cookies (Or Candy)

Rewind!

- "REWIND!" Bumper Video
- "REWIND!" Lesson 4 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers
- Timer



Leader: Hey, kids! Welcome back to this series called "BE DIFFERENT." It is all about the ways Christians should be different from the rest of the world. We are studying Romans chapter 12. Today's lesson is all about how we are supposed to SHARE the blessings God has given us.

Can you name some of the things God has blessed YOU with? (allow children to share some of the blessings they have received from God; if they can't think of some, help them think of things)

We are going to learn what we are supposed to do with the amazing things God has BLESSED us with. It's going to be so much fun! Right now, I want you to check out this video...

(play "The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 4")

Leader: WOW! God has blessed us with SO much! But He hasn't blessed us so that we will be selfish and keep it all to ourselves. Instead, He wants us to share our blessings with others! We are not supposed to hold back when it comes to our blessings! We are supposed to SHARE!

In today's lesson, you're going to learn all about how God blesses us if we obey Him and choose to share our blessings with others. It's going to be awesome. Right now, it's time to find out "Whatchagaddaknow."

(play "Whatchagaddaknow" Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: "Inspector Change-A-Lot" (They are a wacky person who loves to invent things! Dressed like an old-timey detective, they should come in each week ready to feature their latest invention or tool that can be debunked with a simple solution.)

Inspector: (Enters carrying a scale) Hello, everyone! I've outdone myself this time!

Leader: Hi, Inspector Change-A-Lot! You seem excited. What's that you're carrying?

Inspector: (Proudly holding up the gadget) Oh, this? This is my latest invention—the Sharing Scale! It's the most brilliant device ever created for measuring how much people are willing to share!

Leader: A Sharing Scale? That sounds... interesting. How does it work?

Inspector: It's simple! When you step on the scale, it tells you your generosity number! Brilliant, right?

Leader: Generosity number? What is that? Like, how generous you are? Does it actually work?

Inspector: Yep! And, of course, it works! I've tested it on myself. And I might have noticed a little... issue.

Leader: What kind of issue?

Inspector: (Fidgets nervously) Well... no matter how hard I try, my number is always zero!

Leader: Zero?? You don't share at all?!

Inspector: (Gasps) Of course I do! Just last week, I let my cousin, Detector, eat the leftover crumbs from my cookies after I ate them all!

Leader: Wait, your cousin's name is Detector?

Inspector: Yes, Detector Find-A-Lot. He's the best at finding things when they get lost!

Leader: Sounds like it! Anyway, Inspector, that isn't exactly sharing. Why didn't you give him a whole cookie?

Inspector: A whole cookie? But then I would have even less! That can't be right.

Leader: Well, that is technically true. But sharing is so nice, and it makes us feel good!

Inspector: NICE? Sharing is HARD! It means I have less than I did before! Why would I want to give away anything that I have? I want to keep it so I don't lose it!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: Actually, Inspector, when we share the blessings God gives us, He blesses us even more! Sharing doesn't mean losing—it means gaining in ways you can't imagine.

Inspector: (Skeptical) Really?

Leader: Exactly! Sharing isn't something a machine can measure. It's about our actions and our hearts.

Inspector: But how do I know what to share? Do I just give away everything?

Leader: Not everything. Sharing is about giving from the heart—your time, your talents, or whatever you have that could help someone else. It's about showing God's love to others.

Inspector: I can do that! (To the kids) Do you have any ideas on how I can share?

(Allow kids to suggest a few examples)

Inspector: Those are GREAT ideas! I can do that. I'll try to share more this week and see if it helps boost the number on my scale!

Leader: That's a great start, Inspector! But remember, sharing is about blessing others, not about making yourself look good.

Inspector: (Thoughtfully) I've been focusing on the wrong thing all along. Sharing isn't about scales and numbers. I guess I've got a lot to learn!

Leader: Don't worry, Inspector. We're all learning! Today, we're learning about how God blesses us when we share.

Inspector: (Excitedly) Sharing makes me even more blessed—and it helps others see God's love. I better get started right now! I am Inspector Change-A-Lot, and I'll be back to inspect your transformation, so be ready!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



Items Needed For Game:

"Higher or Lower" Graphics

Preparation:

None

How To Play:

Choose one boy and one girl to play this game. The audience will be able to help them. In classic "Price Is Right" fashion, show each item one at a time. Give details about the item, including a "suggested" price. The player must decide whether the actual retail price of the item is HIGHER or LOWER than the price you suggested. The audience can help them decide by yelling "Higher" or "Lower" while they think about it. Once they decide, be sure it is their FINAL answer. If they guess it right, they get a point. Once each player has had a chance to give their guesses on an equal number of items, the player with the most points wins.



Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 4; begin with the slide that says "Bible Story"; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (as shown)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the passage in 2 Kings 7; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today's Bible Story is found in the book of 2 Kings in chapter 7. It's a story about the importance of sharing what we have with others. The nation of Samaria was at war with the Arameans. The enemy was camped around the city and was blocking all food deliveries. As a result, the people were starving to death. There was nothing to eat at the stores or their homes.



There was a prophet named Elisha who shared a word from God with the people. He told them, "I know you're hungry, but by tomorrow, there will be lots of food - deliverance is coming!" What Elisha said didn't seem very possible. However, Elisha knew that with God's power, it WAS possible.



Not long after that, four lepers were sitting at the city gate, talking. They were starving too and knew that if they went into the city, they would die. If they waited at the gate, they would die. And if they went to the Aramean's camp nearby, they would probably die, too. But they also knew there was a crazy chance they might live if they went to the Aramean's camp, so one of them said to the others (show pic), "Why stay here until we die?"



The four lepers took their chances and went to the Aramean camp and found out that the Arameans had abandoned their camp and run away, leaving everything behind - including a ton of food! They were SO excited. (show pic) They went into the tents and started chowing down! But all of a sudden, in the middle of their feast, they stopped and looked at each other, and said (show pic), "We're not doing right. This is a day of good news, and we are keeping it to ourselves."

The lepers remembered all of the people in Samaria that were starving, and they decided it was the right thing to share with everyone so they could also enjoy the food! So they went back to the city gate and yelled to the guards about the food they found! Soon, all of the people rushed out to eat the food and celebrate.

Everyone was shocked to find out about the food and realized that Elisha was right all along - there was tons of food and their deliverance had come from God! In today's lesson, you will learn how important it is to share the blessings God has given you. We should never keep things to ourselves and be selfish. We should learn to share with those in need!



Materials Needed:

The "Share With Those In Need" graphics; A gift-wrapped box; A small bag of cookies (or candy); three LARGE bags of cookies/candy

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, "Share With Those In Need"

The Message: (title slide)



Today, we are learning about one of the ways we can "Be Different" from the rest of the world. That is by sharing with those in need. As God's children, we are all so blessed! We have so many things God has blessed us with: food, clothes, toys, and more. It's true...

God Has Given You So Much (slide)



(hold up the gift-wrapped box) Blessings are gifts! We don't "deserve" them. After all, we have not done anything to earn God's blessings. He freely gives blessings to His children because He loves us and wants to bless us in a big way.

The Bible says in James 1:17, "Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father..." Every awesome blessing is a gift from God. You have been blessed by God in many different ways. However, He did not bless you so that you could hold on to those blessings for yourself. Not at all. Even though we have been blessed by God, we must...

Say "NO" To Selfishness (slide)

God has blessed us NOT so we can keep everything to ourselves. Just as our Power Verse taught us, "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." God wants us to say "NO" to selfishness so that we can use our blessings to bless others.

Now, you might say, "Well, I don't have the same amount of blessings as some other people. I have less." I understand. Not all people are blessed with exactly the same blessings. Some have more money than others. Some have more talent than others. Your blessings don't look exactly like other people's blessings. But God asks that we give what we have in order to be a blessing to others.

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Here is the important thing to remember - God doesn't ask you to give what others have been blessed with. He only asks you to be faithful and give what YOU have been blessed with. Let me help you understand this better. (Choose three volunteers from the audience. Give one of the volunteers three cookies. Give another one cookie. Give the last volunteer five cookies.)

Notice how I gave each of these volunteers a different number of cookies. I can go to the one that has five cookies and tell them, "Please hand me five cookies." They can do that because they actually have five cookies to give, right? But it would be mean for me to go to this volunteer (go stand in front of the volunteer that only has one cookie) that only has one cookie and tell them, "Please hand me three cookies." After all, they don't have three cookies. They only have one. Why would I ask them to give me what they don't have?

It's the same way with God. He has given each of you certain blessings, certain talents, certain gifts. He doesn't ask you to give the same as someone else. He doesn't ask you to give of someone else's blessings. He doesn't ask you to give what you don't have. He asks that you use the blessings He has given YOU in order to be a blessing and help others. Rather than choosing selfishness, you can choose to SHARE! (ask each person to share some of their cookies with you)

The good news is...

Share With Others And You'll Be Blessed (slide)



Deuteronomy 15:10 teaches us something so wonderful. It says, "Give generously...for the Lord your God will bless you in everything you do." That means that when we share the blessings we have, God will bless us even more! What a wonderful promise!

God wants us to SHARE what we have. It's awesome that these friends right here chose to share. So you know what? Because they shared, they will be blessed. (pull out the three LARGE bags of cookies/candy, hand one to each volunteer, and then dismiss them)

Isn't it wonderful that God blesses us with such incredible blessings? When we say "NO" to selfishness and choose to SHARE. He blesses us even more!

ALTAR RESPONSE (play soft music)

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving with your children. Thank God for His blessings - no matter how big or small we might perceive them to be. Then, pray that each child will choose to share the blessings God has given them in order to be a blessing to others. Pray against selfishness in every heart so that others can be blessed as we are blessed!



Materials Needed:

"REWIND!" Lesson 4 Graphics; "REWIND!" Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the "REWIND!" Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled "REWIND!"; there is a slide for each question

I. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: "I Will Share With Those In Need!"

- 2. Who was the prophet who said God would provide food for the people the next day?

 Answer: Elisha
- 3. How many lepers were at the gate of the city?

 Answer: Four
- 4. Where did the lepers decide to go?

Answer: The Aramean's Camp

5. What did the lepers find in the Aramean's camp?

Answer: Food

6. What did they decide to do when they stopped eating?

Answer: Share With The People

7. According to our lesson today, "God Has _____ You."

Answer: Blessed

8. According to our lesson today, we must "Say 'NO' To _____."

Answer: Selfishness

9. According to our lesson today, " _____ With Others And You'll Be Blessed."

Answer: Share

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Romans 12:13