



When Giving is Difficult

The Goal: To understand that even when it feels difficult to give, like when we don't have much to give, God sees our hearts.

Leader's Notes: This is an immersive experience designed for ages 6-18. The duration is 30 minutes or can be extended by completing the GIVE activities together.

Please read through all pages of the adventure before starting the session. Change the questions and use different source videos to best serve your group.

The Generosity Adventure Path



Engage in a **giving** adventure to experience generosity more fully as a recipient OR as a giver

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Gather around the Bible and discuss what it means.

2



Play an experiential **game** to raise curious thinking, then answer some reflection questions.

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Game – Hands Full or Empty



What you need: A set of any small items (such as coins, candy/sweets, play money, buttons etc.) The goal of the game is to show the challenges of giving when we have limited resources, and how easy it is to give when we have plenty.

Play this game together

- Gather three or more players in a circle. Place the small objects in the centre.
- Explain the goal of the game. Then start the timer for 5 minutes.
- Each player takes a turn to choose between two options:
 - **Hands Full:** Take as many objects as they want from the centre.
 - **Hands Empty:** Choose to give one object back to the centre.
- Players continue taking turns until the timer runs out.
- At the end of the five minutes, gather all the objects from the centre, and count them. Then have a discussion with the players about their experience.

Reflect together

- How did it feel when you had a lot of objects in your hands (hands full) compared to when you had fewer objects (hands empty)?
- What was the most challenging part of the game for you?
- What do you think the game teaches us about giving and sharing, even when you feel like you don't have much to give?

Stop and imagine

- What it will be like to give when you have **lots** to give.
- Now imagine what it will be like to give when you **don't** have much to give.

Gather



Remember: Even when we don't have much to give, it's the attitude of our heart that matters to God. God always looks at our heart.

What you need: At least one Bible for each small group

Story of the Bible

Gather in small groups and describe or discuss the Biblical principles around our key theme: When giving is difficult, God sees our hearts.

PRINCIPLE: It is not about how much we give, but the heart behind our giving. Every act of giving, no matter how small it may seem is valuable in God's eyes.



[The Widow's Offering](#)



Read Luke 21:1-4 (NIV) out loud together. Consider writing it out and marking the text to highlight what stood out to you in the passage.

Discuss

- What did you notice about this story?
- What does Jesus know that only God can know about the widow (and the other people)?
- Jesus sees the value of money differently; how can we see that in this story?
- What would it look like for you to trust God like the widow?

Reflect together:

- Re-read Luke 21:1-4 together.
- Now that we see God looks at the heart behind our giving, what should our hearts be like when we give?

Give – Two Boxes



What you need: Prepare two boxes: one beautifully wrapped with ribbons and shiny paper and the other more modestly wrapped in plain brown paper or newspaper.

Which is more Valuable?

- Place something of little value inside the beautifully wrapped box, such as a single pebble. Place a special handwritten note, or something meaningful in the simple box.
- Present both boxes to the children and ask which one they're drawn to based on what the box looks like.
- After they choose, reveal the contents of each box.

Discuss what you found

- Was the appearance of the beautifully wrapped box misleading?
- What do you think people choose first, the shiny or flashy objects, or the simple ones? Why is that?
- What small things can you give to God or share with others?



Remember that even though the widow's gift might seem tiny compared to others, it was huge in the eyes of Jesus, because of the love and sacrifice behind it.



[Unsung Hero](#)

Repeat



This adventure is just the beginning of an ongoing journey learning more about our generous God!

You can repeat this experience or choose another! Visit <https://generousgenerations.org> for more resources and Generosity Journeys with new discoveries, games, and experiences!

Lights, Camera, Generosity in Action!

Share your story of your observations about God's generosity!



If you'd like to share your generosity story, please send a video or audio to the Gen-G stories team. Your story can inspire others to be a part of the Gen-G movement! You can email them to stories@generousgenerations.org or send them via WhatsApp to +27-83-395-4588