

### LESSON 3

## GENEROSITY AND CHEERFUL GIVING

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Helps Us Be Generous

**SCRIPTURE:** 2 Corinthians 9

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** Paul writes to the Corinthian Christians, encouraging them to give generously to the believers in Jerusalem and reminding them that God loves a cheerful giver.

**Activity: Planting Play**

**Activity: Let's Share!**

**Worship**

**God's Big Story**

**Prayer and Blessing**

**Activity: Time to Give**

**Wonder@Home™**

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

## Activity: Planting Play

**SUPPLIES:** bin, shredded brown paper (enough to fill the bin), pom-poms (1 per kid), fake flowers (1 per kid), sand (optional)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church. Ahead of time, fill the bin with shredded brown paper or sand.

**Welcome! I'm so glad you are here today! I have something I want to give you, but I need your help first. Can you help plant these pom-poms like seeds?**

Encourage toddlers to dig in the pretend soil in the bin and pretend to plant the pom-poms as if they are seeds.

**Thank you! Now, let's pretend our pom-pom seeds grew into flowers! Can you help me make flowers?**

Encourage toddlers to put the flowers in the bin as if flowers have grown in the bin.

**How wonderful! I wanted to give you these flowers to look at and play with, but I needed your help first. Thank you for being generous and giving me your time! And we got to pretend something grew. We're going to learn about how God can help us be generous and help us grow as we share with others.**

Allow kids to play with the pom-poms, flowers, and soil bin.

## Activity: Let's Share!

**SUPPLIES:** dolls, play food, toys

Set out dolls, food, and toys. Encourage toddlers to pretend to help the dolls share the food and toys.

**Can you help the dolls share? Sometimes it feels hard to share. But we can show others that God loves them when we share and give. God loves you. He will help us be generous and share with others.**

**Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD HELPS US BE GENEROUS.****

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

**GOD**—Point up.

**HELPS US**—Make a fist and put it in the palm of your other hand.

**BE GENEROUS.**—With palms up, start with hands by your side and lift up.

## Worship

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** songs from the [Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**Today, we're learning how God helps us to be generous, like when you share or give someone something.**

**We'll learn in God's big story how God helps us be generous!**

Play songs from the [Walking in Love Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, scissors (prep only), small gift (1 per kid, optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** [God's Big Story Video](#), Good Gifts Sheet

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the Script provided.

Ahead of time, print one copy of the Good Gifts Sheet (double-sided) and cut along the dotted lines.

**Our God's big story today is about a person named Paul.** Encourage the kids to say, "Paul." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Paul!**



**Paul, who was one of Jesus' followers, wrote letters to the early church to help them follow Jesus. Paul told them that, above all, showing one another love would make them more like Jesus. Which of my cards do you think represents love?** Show kids both the heart and the seed. Allow them to get up and move to stand in front of the card they think represents love (heart card).

**That's right—the heart represents love!** Ask kids to sit back down. **It can be hard to give love to strangers, but Paul wanted the church to share money with people they had never met.**

**Why would anyone do that? Paul says, "Here is something to remember. The one who plants only a little will gather only a little. And the one who plants a lot will gather a lot" (2 Corinthians 9:6). Paul says giving to others is like planting seeds. You can't grow plants if you keep the seeds all to yourself! Which of my cards represents planting seeds of generosity? Generosity means sharing and giving to others.** Show kids both the heart and the seed cards. Allow kids to get up and move to stand in front of the card they think represents the seeds of generosity (seeds card).

**Right!** Ask kids to sit back down. **We can remember that God is the One who gives us everything we have in the first place. God does not give gifts just for us to hold on to our gifts and not share them. We can be generous and share with others. What do you see in this picture?** Flip the heart and seed cards over to show the gift box. **That's right—a gift! God gives us good gifts, and we can share with others.**

**God invites us to share whatever we have with those in need and to trust Him to handle the rest. Generosity means we share happily with others, and it will make others thank God. God helps us be generous.**

**Leader Tip:** You can give each toddler a small gift, such as a sticker or small toy.

## Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

**God, thank You for all the good things You have given us. Remind us that we can give good things to others. Thank You for helping us be generous. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** May you experience God's blessing when you are generous. May God give you the courage to give to others and show God's love.

## Activity: Time to Give

**SUPPLIES:** large pom-poms, clear jar

Place the jar in the center of the room. Scatter the pom-poms around the jar on the floor. Invite toddlers to pick up the pom-poms and put them in the jar. Encourage them to watch the jar fill up as they "give" the pom-poms. Even when the pom-poms overflow, act excited and continue to encourage toddlers to give.

**Wow! You are giving so many pom-poms! You're giving more than the jar can even hold! That's how much God gives us. When we remember just how many good things God has given us, we can easily give and share more with others.**