

How to Give– 33rd Sunday (Year B)

1 Kings 17:10-16 and Mark 12:38-44

Is God more impressed with those that give lots of money? The answer is no but that doesn't mean if you do have lots to give, that you shouldn't. Confusing? A little, but God is definitely interested in the attitude of the giver. It's difficult to decide what actually is 'a lot of money' because that amount will change depending on the circumstances of the giver. A millionaire putting £100 in the collection basket looks very generous but a person who puts in £1 when they only have £10 to live on that week, surely has given more? It's about the attitude of the giver and we look at that message today.

Sharing Scripture

Hold up two 1 pence coins and ask the children if they think it's a lot of money? Ask them what they could buy for 2 pence? You will probably hear that you can't buy anything or very much for 2 pence. They will probably tell you that 2 pence is not a lot of money.

Ask a confident reader to read aloud Mark 12:38-44. After they have heard that a poor widow has put in two copper coins (worth less than a penny) into the collection and that Jesus said she put in more than the rich people did, ask again whether they think that two 1 pence coins is a lot of money.

If they don't come to the conclusion on their own that two pence can be a lot for some people, then guide them to that conclusion. What we think is a little money may be a lot for someone else. Emphasise the point that Jesus made – The widow gave all she had (however little) because she was compelled to by God. The rich people put in visibly large amounts of money but that was easy for them because they still had lots more money for themselves.

If you have time, please read out the short section of Scripture in 1 kings 17:10-16 to share the story of another poor widow who had very little but still gave something to God's prophet Elijah. She was rewarded for her generosity.

SCIAF

Share the short stories of SCIAF supporters using the PDF document provided. The stories are about people in Scotland who have chosen to act in compassion to help others. The point is to show that you don't have to have lots of money yourself to give something and show you care.

Respond

Use any of the following ideas to reflect on and pray about this topic.

+ Use the pdf 'widow's purse' and ask the children to colour in and reflect on the verse shared

+ Click [here](#) to see an alternative colouring page of the story from the Gospel of Mark. **Please note that SCIAF are not responsible for the content on this website**

+ Spend a little time thinking about how the children can 'give'. It doesn't need to involve money. Encourage them to think about how they can give a kind word (encourage someone), or give their time (to play with siblings, help with chores). Pray that God will help your children to have the right attitude to giving.