



Family Worship Guide 11

Look Up and Read Aloud

Matthew 6:1-4

Activity

You'll need a glass of water and some pennies.

Set a glass on a table and fill it to the very top with water. Now, add one penny at a time, dropping it gently into the water with the edge-side going in. The glass looked like it couldn't take anymore, but it did. Gently add another penny. Did it overflow? No! Keep adding pennies one at a time to see how many will actually go in the glass before the water spills over.

Have you ever known someone who needed help, but you said to yourself that you couldn't help them because you didn't have anything left over to give? If you gave them something of yours, then you would be in trouble. You'd be in a mess ... which is what you were expecting when the pennies went into the water. You feel like there's nothing "extra" left to give.

Talk Time

- What about this experiment amazed you? How many pennies went in before it spilled?
- Were you amazed at how many pennies you were able to add to the glass? I bet you didn't think you would be able to get that many pennies in the glass before it spilled. But, you found out differently. God surprises you with what you're able to contribute to help someone else.
- What do you think might amaze you if you started giving little by little to people who need help?

Take Action

This is one of "THE" BEST eye-opening exercises I've done with kids over the decades. And, it's good for them on so many levels. There are 2 options for doing it.

Option 1: Give your family a set amount of money to provide a meal for someone who may be out of work or ill at this time. Take into account the number of people in their family. Challenge your kids to purchase all the ingredients for a meal for that family, but it must stay on budget. The kids will: make a card to include with the groceries, write up a menu they had in mind when purchasing the groceries, and then go with you to deliver them (even if they have to social distance by watching from the car).

Option 2: Plan a meal and actually work together as a family to prepare it. All ages can be involved. This is not a project for one person! Preschoolers can use a plastic knife to chop fruits for a fruit salad, or they can pour ingredients out of a can or box. Elementary-age kids can measure out ingredients and practice following a recipe. Casseroles are great for this! Add something special by making placemats out of large pieces of construction paper, decorated with stickers or pictures drawn of what the kids have been enjoying doing. Copy some favorite family photos and glue them on as a personal greeting.

Talk Time

- In Matthew 6:4, Jesus describes how we should offer our help. How does He say to handle helping?
- How did it make you feel to help someone? Of course, you felt good ... BUT Jesus didn't say you should help others to make yourself feel good.
- How do you think the person who received your help felt?
- Do you think they would've felt differently about your help if you had bragged on it to everyone, and told people how bad they needed your help?
- What does this verse say about how you will be rewarded? Is that enough for you?
- Name some other ways people need help, besides food. (*someone to keep them company, someone to help them take care of their house or yard, someone to walk their dog*)
- How will you, or your family together, help someone who needs help this week?

Pray Together

Dear God, I want to help others who need my help, because it makes you happy and it makes me happy. I don't care if anyone ever finds out. I want them to know that the help they received came from someone who loves You. Amen.

Don't Forget!

Encourage all of us by posting your pictures to the Shorewood ChoG Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/224923212204867/>

