



Values for LifeSavers

A Collective Worship Resource for Primary Schools:

Generosity

Values for LifeSavers

Collective worship materials for primary schools



Values for LifeSavers

Welcome to Values for LifeSavers, a set of collective worship materials for primary schools. We hope that you and your children will enjoy using the material which is designed to complement the LifeSavers Five Big Questions About Money, classroom resources.

How to use this resource...

Both the Five Big Questions About Money and Values for LifeSavers are based upon the same four core values: Wisdom, Generosity, Justice and Thankfulness. Within each value, a number of principles have been identified and these are at the heart of all the materials with which you will be working.

There are five acts of collective worship or assembly plans for each core value. The structure is always the same and follows the pattern below:



Whilst each act of collective worship offers new material, there is also an element of repetition, in order that children and staff may become familiar and comfortable with certain patterns of worship.

Brief **background notes** for leaders highlight the key learning focus for each act of collective worship and ensure that the underlying teaching is clear.

Each act of collective worship begins with a **Greeting**. We provide two options: one that will suit the context of a church school whilst the other may be more appropriate for community schools.

For the **Learning** section, schools are given a choice of material to use. They may select the drama sketch which can either be acted out with puppets* or by the children themselves, or the Bible stories which are retold by Bob Hartman. The characters Barney, Bella and Bob in the dramas are already well known to those schools using the Roots and Fruits worship material published by Imaginor**. Bob Hartman's work is internationally acclaimed and very familiar in many schools. Both options provide a lively and often humorous way of interpreting the theme.

The **Reflecting** section gives children an opportunity to respond to the drama sketch or story, with open questions to encourage them to relate these to their own lives. In some situations, it may be appropriate for children to reflect on these questions with each other in pairs; we have identified suitable opportunities with a **Talk Partners** logo: .

The **Responding** and **Sending** sections bring the act of collective worship to a close with a prayer and blessing. Alternatively, leaders can use the '**Thought for the Day**' which may be more suitable for community schools.

Schools are best placed to decide how and when to use these 20 acts of collective worship. They are suitable for a variety of groupings including whole school, Key Stage or individual class worship. Some schools will choose to use one a week over a period of time, whilst others may use them in a 'block'. They could function as a 'launch' for exploring one of the five Big Questions or as a way of drawing together the teaching at the end of a particular unit of work.

Church schools are required to provide a distinctively Christian daily act of worship, whilst, in community schools, worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. We believe that these acts of worship can be used to fulfil both of these requirements. Above all, we hope that these materials will help you to provide enjoyable and meaningful acts of collective worship for all your pupils.

Shahne Vickery and Neville Norcross

*The puppets are produced by The Puppet Company who sell via PuppetsbyPost: www.puppetsbypost.com

**The characters Barney, Bella and Bob were created by Imaginor Ltd and feature in drama scripts in the worship resource Roots and Fruits ISBN 978-0-9573429-5-8 Copyright Imaginor Ltd 2014.



Values for LifeSavers

Generosity I: Attitude of Gratitude

Generosity

1

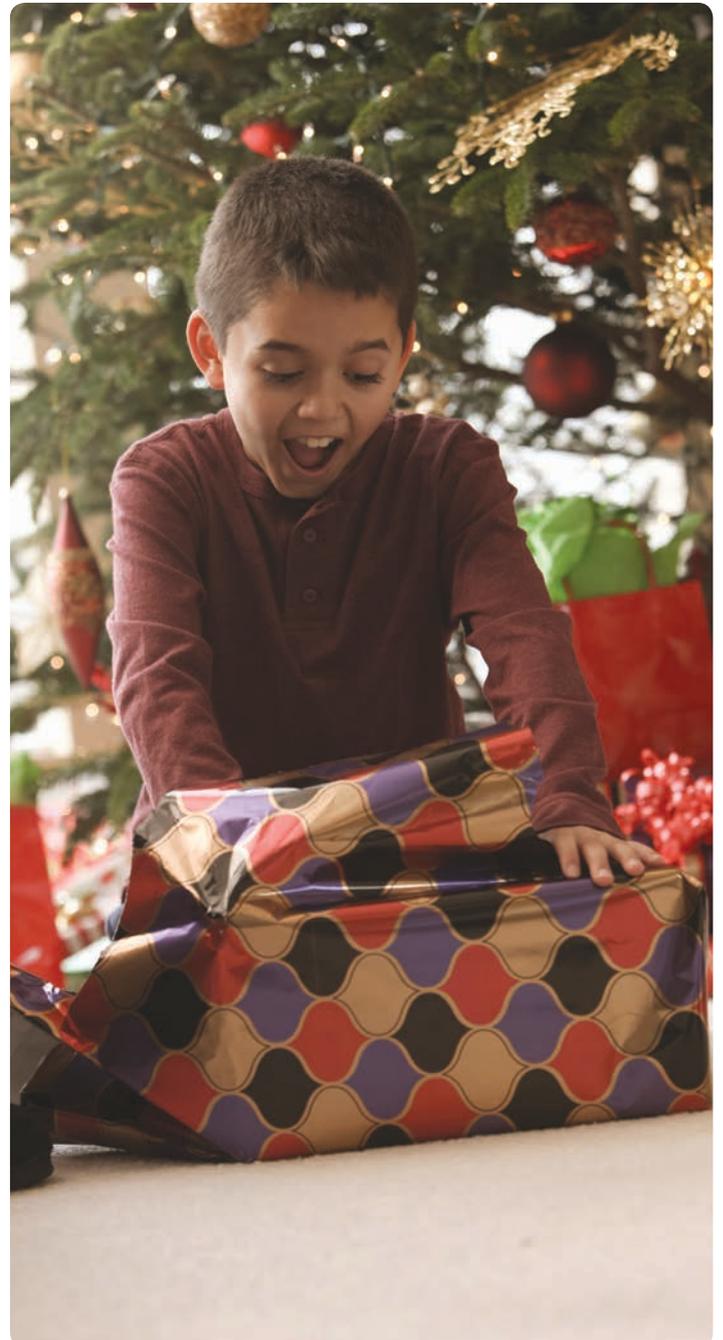
Attitude of Gratitude

Worship Table

- Bible open at 1 Chronicles 29. 14 - Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand.
- A cross and a candle.
- £2 in piles of 10ps

Leader's Background Notes

Christians believe that all good things come from God. This leads to a feeling of gratitude which in turn encourages generosity. A prayer often spoken during church services, after the offering has been presented, says, 'All things come from you, O Lord, and of your own do we give you'.



Welcome



Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible - God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and a candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit. The Bible is open at 1 Chronicles 29. 14 - *Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand.* We also have a pile of coins.

Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Generosity**.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity I: Attitude of Gratitude

Learning



Puppet Drama

Introduction:

The Bible tells us our Father in heaven gives us all good things that we might enjoy them. Talk with your partner about a gift that you have been given that you have really enjoyed. Raise your hand if the gift you talked about was given to you by a parent or another family member.

Sometimes a gift comes in the form of money. Barney has been given some money. Let's hear about what he plans to do with it...

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



(Barney is busy counting out silver coins into piles - like the ones on our Worship Table).

Barney: 50p for chocolate, 60p for crisps, 70p on fizzy drink...

Bella: Wow Barney, that's a lot of money!

Barney: I know, (*proudly*) My Dad has got a new job and he gave me £10! Hasn't he been generous? He says I'm old enough to make wise choices with money.

Bob: What are you going to do with it?

Barney: Spend it of course!

Bob: What, ALL of it?

Barney: Yes. I'm going to spend 50p on chocolate, 60p on crisps, 70p on fizzy drink....

Bella: Hmm... Do you think that's what your Dad meant by making wise choices?

Barney: Well it's my money, I can do what I like with it and I'm going to spend it all on myself.

Bella: It's a good job your Mum and Dad don't spend all their money on themselves, otherwise they wouldn't be able to afford to give you £10!

Bob: No, some parents can't afford to give any money at all.

Bella: I hope you said thank you to your Dad, Barney.

Barney: (*rather embarrassed*) Err I can't remember... maybe I'd better go and say it again, just to make sure (Barney exits).

Bob: (*calls after Barney*) And maybe share the first bar of chocolate with your Dad!

Reflecting



- What did you think about Barney's plans for his money?
- Why do you think Bob said maybe Barney should share the first bar of chocolate he buys with his Dad?

Many Christians, as well as people from other faiths, believe that, before they spend any of their income on themselves, they should first honour God by giving some of their money back to him. This usually means that they give generously to others who are in need.

- How could you show your gratitude for the good things you have been given?



Values for LifeSavers

Generosity I: Attitude of Gratitude

Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on 1 Chronicles 29. 1-13)



Introduction:

In today's story, King David is so filled with gratitude for God's goodness to him that he wants to give Him something wonderful as a gift in return.



Telling tips: When it comes to that part of the story where everyone says 'Wow!', you may want to have someone hold up a poster with this word on it.

King David was getting old. God had watched over him through the whole of his life. So he wanted to do one last thing to thank God for his help.

'Let me build you a temple,' he asked God. 'A great big beautiful building where your people can come and worship you.'

But God said, 'No.'

'You have been a man of war,' he told David. 'And I want a man of peace to build a temple for me. Leave it to your son, Solomon.'

David was worried that Solomon was too young and inexperienced. So he decided to give his son some help.

He told Solomon his plan for how the temple should look and how it should be built.

He encouraged Solomon. 'If you stick to it, and trust God, you can do this my son.'

Then he gathered together all the leaders of the country and explained to them where Solomon was going to get the money to build the temple.

'Some of it will come from public funds,' he explained.

'But I am going to give some of my own money, as well: 3,000 talents of gold. (Just a little over 10,000 kilograms, in today's

measurements which, at today's prices, would be worth 330 million pounds!).

(Have everyone shout 'Wow!').

And 7,000 talents of silver' (Around 23,000 kilograms, in today's measurements, worth around 13 million pounds!).

(Another 'Wow!').

'Now then,' David said to the leaders of the country, 'would you like to join me, and give some of your money, too?'

And so they did.

5,000 more talents of gold (worth roughly half a billion pounds)

(Another 'Wow!').

10,000 more talents of silver (let's say 17 million pounds worth)

(One more 'Wow!').

And a bunch of bronze and iron, which isn't worth that much these days, but was pretty valuable, back then. And a load of precious jewels, for good measure.

Now you'd think they would all have been a bit gutted, seeing as so much money had disappeared from their bank accounts.

But, no.

They were grateful. And they celebrated. Because they did this willingly, out of their love for God.

And that's why David prayed the following prayer:

'We praise you, God, because everything we have comes from you: all that is great and powerful, and everything in heaven and on earth. **(Have everyone hold their cupped hands in the air, as if receiving from God, then pull them towards themselves).** This is your kingdom, Lord. You are our true king. And all we have is yours. So when we give, we do nothing more than give back to you, what you have already given to us.'

(Have everyone lift those same cupped hands back into the air, as if returning their contents to God).

Reflecting



- What did David decide to do to show God how grateful he was?
- Can you think of a time when someone has been so kind to you that you wanted to give them something back, just to show how grateful you were?
- How were they kind to you and how did you respond?
- How did that make you feel?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity I: Attitude of Gratitude

Responding



Father God,
 Everything that we have comes from you.
 Give us wisdom to make good decisions about how
 we spend our money,
 Generosity to share with others and Thankfulness to
 appreciate all that you have given to us.
 Amen.

Sending



As we remember our gratitude to God,
 May God the Father encourage us,
 God the Son befriend us,
 And God the Holy Spirit support us.
 Amen.

Thought for the Day...

'If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share!'

(W. Clement Stone, businessman, philanthropist and author, 1902-2002)

Background: Stone was from a poor family in Chicago and started his business life selling newspapers in restaurants. He later moved into the insurance business, becoming a multi-millionaire in a classic rags-to-riches story. Stone donated over \$275 million to charity over his lifetime and celebrated his 100th birthday with a gift of \$100,000 to the University of Illinois.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 2: It's good for us, it's good for everyone

Generosity

2

It's good for us, it's good for everyone

Worship Table

- Bible open at Acts 20.35 - *It is more blessed to give than to receive.*
- A cross and a candle.
- Two gifts, one wrapped in birthday paper and the other in Christmas paper.

Leader's Background Notes

When we can't wait to give to others; that is a sign of generosity. The Bible reminds Christians that it is more rewarding to give than to receive. Being selfish is not good for us and the way we feel about ourselves.



Welcome



Greeting Option 1

On our worship table today we have the Bible - God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; a candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit. The Bible is open at Acts 20.35 - *It is more blessed to give than to receive.* We also have two special parcels.

Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Generosity**.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 2: It's good for us, it's good for everyone

Learning



Puppet Drama

Introduction:

Ask a volunteer to come up and guess, just by looking, the occasions on which the two gifts on the Worship Table might be given.

Christmas and birthdays are both very special times of year. Who likes birthdays best?. Who likes Christmas best? **Ask for reasons.**

It's Bella's birthday today. Let's see what she thinks.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Bob & Barney: Happy birthday, Bella!

Bella: Thank you.

Bob: Barney and I have bought you a joint birthday present. We'll bring it to your party after school.

Barney: Are you having a great day?

Bella: Yes! My birthday is the best day in the whole year!

Bob: What even better than Christmas?

Bella: Yes because on my birthday ALL the presents are for me! I've got loads of money from my Aunties and Uncles.

Bob: I like Christmas best. Everyone is happy because everyone gets presents.

Barney: My Grandpa says, 'It's more blessed to give than to receive.' He told me it's in the Bible.

Bella: How can that be right? Doesn't your Grandpa like getting presents?

Barney: I think so, but he says he loves seeing our faces when he gives us something he's made. He's a brilliant carpenter. Last year he made me a desk for my bedroom.

Bella: Well I guess I see what he means. Christmas is a great time for everyone.

Bob: Yeah, at Christmas you get the happiness of giving and receiving!

Barney: See you tonight at the party.

Bella: Don't forget my present!

Bob & Barney: We won't!

Reflecting



- What does Barney's Grandpa mean when he says, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'?
- Tell your talk partner about a time when you gave something away - money, a present etc. How did it make you feel?
- Share ideas with each other about other things that you can give away that you can't actually see or touch but are very important.



Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 2: It's good for us, it's good for everyone

Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Acts 9. 36-42)



Introduction:

In this story we learn about the generosity of one woman and the surprising way she was rewarded for that generosity.



In the town of Joppa, there lived a follower of Jesus called Tabitha.

Tabitha did lots of good things for other people.

She sewed clothes for them.

(Have everyone make a sewing motion).

She helped poor people who didn't have enough money. **(Have everyone reach in their pocket and pretend to give money to the person sitting next to them).**

And any other helpful thing she could think of.

Tabitha was very generous with everything she had. Her time and her money.

But then, one day, sadly, Tabitha died.

The people in Joppa were very sad.

(Have everyone make a sad face and rub the corners of their eyes). They did what people in those days did when someone died. They washed her body and laid it out in an upstairs room, so her friends could pay their respects.

But before they could bury her, someone heard that one of the men who had been with Jesus - a man called Peter - was in a nearby town.

Peter was one of the leaders of the people who followed Jesus. And, what is more, he had performed miracles, through the power that Jesus gave him.

So they sent two men to fetch Peter, and when he arrived in Joppa, they took him to the upstairs room to see Tabitha's body.

They told Peter how generous Tabitha had been.

(Repeat giving action).

The widows Tabitha had helped showed him the clothes she had made. **(Repeat sewing motion).**

And everyone told him about all the other good things she had done.

When they had finished speaking, Peter sent them all out of the room. He knelt beside Tabitha's dead body and prayed. Then he looked at her and said, 'Tabitha, get up!' And she did!

Then he called for all her friends and presented her to them.

Everyone was so happy **(Everyone cheer)**, and word spread throughout the town that the generous woman who had made clothes for the widows **(Sewing motion)**, gave money to those in need **(Giving motion)**, and helped others in every way she could think of, was alive again.

And many more people came to follow Jesus, too.

Reflecting



Sometimes we don't feel like being generous. We want to hold on to the things that we have rather than sharing them with others. In this story, Tabitha generously shared her skills for the good of others.

- What skills do you have - the things you are good at doing?
- Can you think of a time when you have used your skills, your time or your money to help others?
- How did this make you feel?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 2: It's good for us, it's good for everyone

Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Lord, help us to be generous.'

Leader: As we consider how we should use our money,

All: Lord, help us to be generous.

Leader: As we think about the time that we can give to others,

All: Lord, help us to be generous

Leader: As we think about the way in which we use our skills to serve others,

All: Lord, help us to be generous.

Amen.

Sending



As we remember that it is more blessed to give than to receive,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

Thought for the Day...

'I enjoyed making lots of money but it is much more fun giving it away.'

(Bill Gates, business entrepreneur and philanthropist)

Background: Bill Gates became a billionaire selling computer software that is used in homes, schools, and businesses across the whole world. From the profits he made from his Microsoft company, he set up the Bill & Melissa Gates Foundation with his wife in order to tackle global poverty, spending billions of their own money on better healthcare and education for children in the world's poorest countries. One of their top priorities is to eradicate malaria which kills over half a million people every.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 3: Plan first to give

Generosity

3

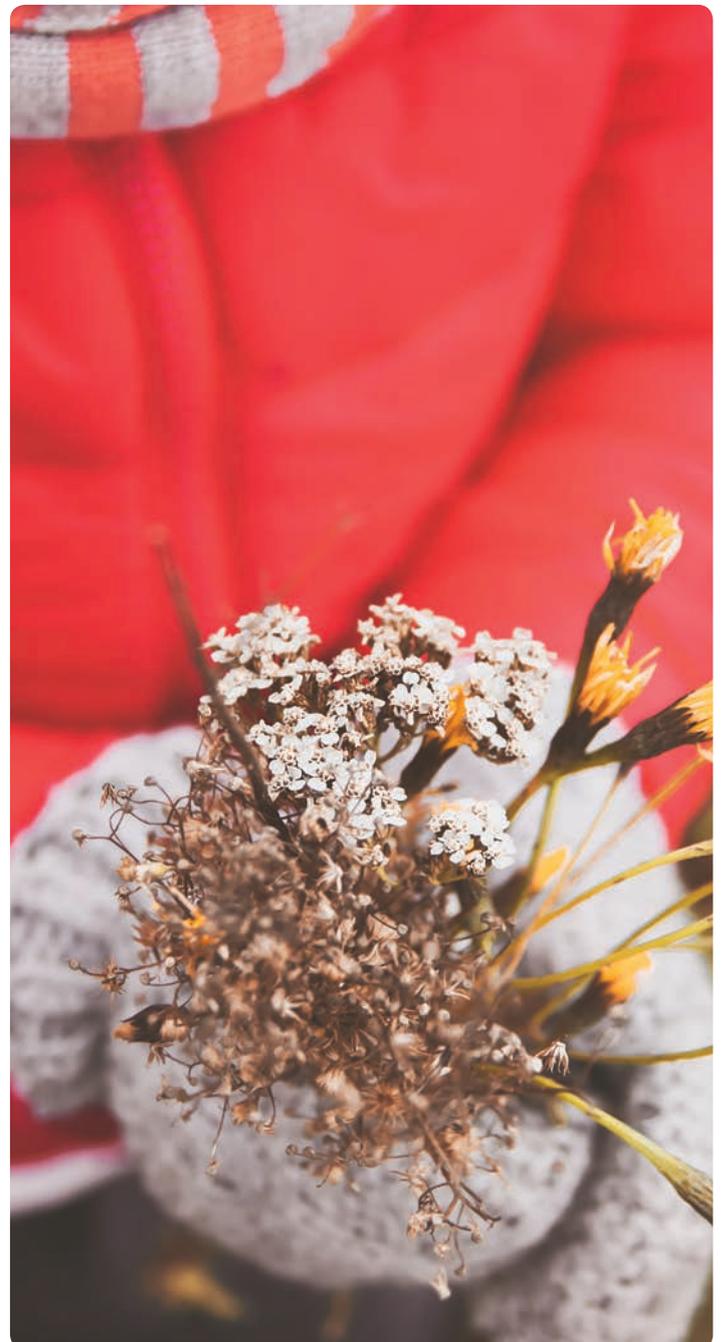
Plan first to give

Worship Table

- Bible open at 1 Corinthians 16.2 – On the first day of every week each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.
- A cross and a candle.
- Picture of a child whose education is being sponsored through a charity such as Compassion.

Leader's Background Notes

The Bible reminds us that we should plan our giving. Many Christians do this through the principle of tithes - giving away 10% of their income. Whatever we 'pledge', it is important that we stick to our promises.



Welcome



Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at 1 Corinthians 16.2 - On the first day of every week each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.

We also have a picture of a child who is being sponsored.

Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Generosity**.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 3: Plan first to give

Learning



Puppet Drama

Introduction:

Hold up the photo or have the image projected on the screen.

If the school community is sponsoring the child, ask everyone why he/she is special for their school?

If the child is being sponsored by an individual pupil, a church or staff member, ask them to come and talk about the sponsored child, reminding everyone about how the donated money is spent.

In the Bible, St Paul gives advice to people in the church in the city of Corinth about the importance of planning how to spend their money and sticking to it. Let's see if Barney, Bella and Bob can help us to understand this a little better.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Bob: Hi Barney, you look as if you've lost a shilling and found sixpence.

Barney: (crossly) What does that mean?

(Bella enters).

Bella: It means you look fed up.

Barney: Well I am fed up!

Bella: What's the problem Bob?

Barney: Well you know I pledged to give 25p a week to help that little girl in India,

Bella: Yes Rani, we all did.

Barney: The problem is that now I need that money because I'm saving up for the new Man U football shirt, so I'm thinking of stopping my payments.

Bob: (exasperated!) You can't do that, you made a promise!

Bella: Yeah, you promised that before you spend money on anything else, you would first set aside 25p of your pocket money each week to help Rani get an education. You can't stop now!

Anyway you've already got plenty of football shirts!

Barney: Hmm I knew you'd say that!

Bob: She's right Barney. Rani's family is really poor. You can't just change your mind and stop helping her, it's irresponsible!

Barney: I know, I know. It was just a thought! Maybe I can ask for the shirt for my birthday instead.

Bob: (as they walk off stage) I'm pleased that Barney has realised how important it is to keep to his plans to support Rani.

Reflecting



- Why do you think it's important to plan how you spend your money?
- If you pledge money, why is it important to honour that promise?
- Do you think that Barney made the right decision in the end?



Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 3: Plan first to give

Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Deuteronomy 14. 22-28 and 2 Corinthians 8. 1-15)



Introduction:

When something is very important to us, we want to make sure it happens, we don't leave it to chance, we plan for it to happen, and we try to stick to our plan. In this story, Christians are encouraged to plan their giving, because being generous with our money and possessions is very important.



Jesus was Jewish.

And so he kept the rules for living that other Jewish people kept - the rules that God had given to Moses.

One of those rules had to do with the things people gave back to God, as a way of thanking God for all he had given them.

This rule was called 'the tithe' which more or less means ten percent, or one-tenth.

So if someone earned ten silver coins at work, then they would give ten percent, or one-tenth, of that back to God. And that would be how many coins? **(Gather answers from your group. Hopefully someone says "one"!)**

Or if a shepherd's sheep gave birth to a hundred lambs, then he would give ten percent, or one tenth, of that back to God. And that would be how many lambs? **(Again, gather answers).**

And if a farmer's crop yielded fifty baskets of grain, then he would give ten percent, or one tenth, of that back to God. And that would be how many baskets? **(Gather answers again).**

What is more, the worker or the shepherd or the farmer wouldn't wait to give that to God, or give the smallest lamb or the worst grain. No, they would give it to God, first of all, and then live on what was left. And they would give the very best of what they had.

God didn't need what people gave Him, of course. God doesn't need anything. So the things people gave were often used to help other people who didn't have enough of their own.

And that is the reason why Paul, who was also Jewish, used a similar idea when he wrote to the Christians who lived in a city called Corinth.

He was going to visit them. And one of the things he was going to do was collect money for Christians who lived in Jerusalem. There had been a famine in that city. They were struggling. And they needed help.

Now Paul could have said to the Christians in Corinth, 'Give me the spare change you have left over at the end of the week, and I will pass that on to the Christians in Jerusalem.' But he knew that wasn't the best way to say 'thankyou' to God or to raise enough money to help. So he told the Christians in Corinth to do the kind of thing he had always done - to set aside their gifts, first of all, on the first day of the week, before they spent any of the rest, so they could be sure there was something to give. And he didn't say, 'Set aside a tenth.' **(You might want to do a review, here. Ten percent of ten is...? Ten percent of a hundred is.....? Ten percent of fifty is...?).** No, he suggested something that was, in some ways, even better!

'If God has blessed you and provided you with a lot of money, then you need to give a lot back. And if you only have a little, still do the very best you can. Give to others, as you have received.'

And, in that way, the Christians in Corinth both showed God how grateful they were for what he had given them, and also provided for the needs of others.

Reflecting



In this story, the Christians in Corinth had plenty of money and wanted to help the Christians in Jerusalem who did not have enough. What advice did Paul give them?

- How could you plan to be more generous with what you have?
- Could you save some of your pocket money to give away to a charity you would like to support?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 3: Plan first to give

Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Lord, help us to be generous.'

Leader: As we plan what we should give,

All: Lord, help us to be generous.

Leader: As we plan how we should give,

All: Lord, help us to be generous.

Leader: As we promise what we will give,

All: Lord, help us to be generous.

Amen.

Sending



As we remember that we should plan our giving and keep to our promises,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

Thought for the Day...

'You have to start giving first and expect absolutely nothing.'

(Dalai Lama, monk and spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, 1935-)

Background: The Dalai Lama is greatly revered in the Buddhist world and is also highly respected as an international statesman and as a man of great wisdom and peace. From humble beginnings - born in a cowshed in a remote part of Tibet - he has become one of the most respected world leaders.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 4: Give to bless, not to impress

Generosity

4

Give to bless, not to impress

Worship Table

- A Bible open at Matthew 6.1-4- Beware of practicing your righteousness before men, to be noticed by them.
- A cross and a candle.
- A trumpet (real or toy).

Leader's Background Notes

The idea of giving in humility rather than boastfully is a common theme in the teachings of Jesus. The Bible says that when we make a big a show of our giving in order to impress other people, the recognition of others is all the reward that we will receive for our generosity. But when we give quietly, this pleases God and we will receive an even better reward in Heaven.



Welcome



Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible – God's word, the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at Matthew 6.1-4 - Beware of practicing your righteousness before men, to be noticed by them.

We also have a trumpet.

Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Generosity**.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 4: Give to bless, not to impress

Learning



Puppet Drama

Introduction:

Leader (or a child who volunteers) blows the trumpet as loudly as possible!

No-one can ignore a trumpet, it is very loud and everyone hears it. Often the trumpet is used to announce that something is about to happen. Jesus taught a lot about how to be generous with money.

Listen to what he said about giving in secret:

'Be careful not to do your acts of kindness in front of people so that you can be seen by them. When you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets as some do, for they receive their reward in full. But when you give to people in need, do so in secret, and your Father God, who sees everything, will reward you.'

Bella is about to learn what Jesus' words might mean for her:

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



(Barney comes on first followed by Bella).

Bella: (looking very pleased with herself) Hi Barney! Glad I found you. I've got something pretty cool to tell you about what happened at the school fete yesterday.

Barney: Go ahead then.....did you win on the tombola?

Bella: No.

Barney: Did you knock all the coconuts off the stand?

Bella: (irritated) Nooo! Do you want me to tell you or not?

Barney: Sorry. I'm listening!

Bella: Actually, I didn't win something for myself, instead, I did something very kind and generous for May Ling. I paid for her to have a go on the Bouncy Castle because it was her birthday. I gave her 50 pence!and that meant I didn't have enough money to buy myself another ice cream!

Barney: That was generous of you Bella.

Bella: It was, wasn't it? I was hoping you would be impressed. What about you? I didn't see you having a go on many of the stalls.

Barney: Oh Well

(Enter Bob.)

Bob: Barney! There you are. I've been trying to find you! Thank you so much for giving me the money I needed to catch the bus home. (to Bella) That's really generous of him, isn't it? (Back to Barney) I bet you didn't have much money left to go on the stalls at the fete, Barney, did you?

Bella: (looks a bit embarrassed) You didn't tell me about that Barney.

Bob: Well, he didn't want to boast about how kind he had been. He simply wanted to be generous for its own sake and without making a fuss about it.

Reflecting



Hold up the trumpet from the Worship Table – try to give a blast on it if you can.

A very old saying tells us that people sometimes, 'blow their own trumpet'. Turn to your talk partner and discuss what you think this means.

Take feedback.

- In our story Bella and Barney both gave some money away. Which one of them 'blew their own trumpet'?
- The Bible says that those who give to impress others have their reward now but those who give quietly will have their reward in Heaven. What do you think this means?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 4: Give to bless, not to impress

Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Matthew 6. 1-4 and Luke 21.1-4)



Introduction:

The way in which money is given can be just as important as the amount that is given. The following story is all about giving in a quiet and humble way. In other words it is about not 'blowing your own trumpet'.



'When you give money to help somebody,' said Jesus to his disciples, 'do it quietly. Don't make a big deal of it. And definitely don't do what the hypocrites do.

When they give to the poor, they parade through the streets, trumpets blasting ahead of them **(Lead everyone in making a trumpet sound)**. And the song they're playing is "Look at me! I'm so generous!" **(You might want to have everyone repeat this with you, in a rhythmic, rap kind of way)**.

'Yes, they'll get their reward, but it won't come from God. For they have already received it, through the praise and admiration of the people who applaud that self-serving show.'

'Instead, give your money secretly. Do it so secretly that even your left hand **(Have everyone look at or wave their left hand)** will not know what your right hand **(Have everyone look at or wave their right hand)** is doing. And your Father in Heaven, who sees everything you secretly do, will reward you.'

Then, one day, as Jesus sat with his disciples outside the temple, something happened to prove his point.

'Do you see those men, putting their money into the temple treasury box?' asked Jesus.

'We do,' said one of the disciples. 'And they're giving a lot! The coins rattle and ring as they go into the box.' **(Lead everyone in making a clinging, clanging sound)**.

'So everyone can hear,' said Jesus, 'and admire those rich men for how generous they are.'

'But, look, see. Here comes a widow. And she's putting just one, two coins into the box.' **(Lead everyone in making the sound of two coins dropping - clunk clunk)**.

'And little copper coins, at that,' said another disciple. 'Hardly worth anything at all. No wonder you can't hear them drop.'

'It's amazing, then,' said Jesus, 'that she ended up giving more than any of those rich men.'

'What?' said the disciples. 'Impossible!'

'No,' said Jesus, 'generous. For all those rich men had many more coins in their bags and in their money boxes back at home. But she gave all she had. So she gave most of all.'

Reflecting



- Who impressed Jesus most - the rich man who noisily gave away lots of coins or the old woman who quietly gave a few small coins? Why do you think this was?
- Can you think of a time when you have come across someone showing off about something they have achieved, or something they have done, such as giving money away to a charity - 'blowing their own trumpet'? How could that have been done differently?
- Have you ever 'blown your own trumpet'? Do you think that people were impressed by you?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 4: Give to bless, not to impress

Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Lord, help us to give humbly.'

Leader: When our friends need us,

All: Lord, help us to give humbly.

Leader: When our families need us,

All: Lord, help us to give humbly.

Leader: When our teachers need us,

All: Lord, help us to give humbly.

Amen.

Sending



As we remember that we should give generously without showing off,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

Thought for the Day...

'Too many people spend money they haven't earned on things they don't want, to impress people they don't like.'

(Will Rogers, actor and writer, 1879-1935)

Background: Will Rogers had a colourful life. Starting out as a cowboy and circus performer, he became one of America's most loved and best paid Hollywood movie stars of the 1930s, appearing in 71 movies. He also travelled around the world three times, meeting a premature death when his plane crashed in Alaska.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 5: God Loves a cheerful giver

Generosity

5

God Loves a cheerful giver

Worship Table

- A Bible open at 2 Corinthians 9, 7 – God loves a cheerful giver.
- A cross and a candle.

Leader's Background Notes

St. Paul in his second letter to the Christians at Corinth, 9.7 says, 'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver'. Christians are encouraged to give because they want to, not because they have to. Giving should be a heart-felt response to God's love and generosity to us and a desire to show that same love and generosity to others, not a religious duty that we fulfil because we think that is what 'good' Christians are supposed to do.



Welcome



Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible - God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at 2 Corinthians 9, 7 - God loves a cheerful giver.

Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Generosity**.

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 5: God Loves a cheerful giver

Learning



Puppet Drama

Introduction:

Have you ever received a gift from someone and you felt that they were not very happy about giving it to you? Or has someone said something nice to you and you felt that they didn't really mean it?

Today Barney, Bella and Bob are thinking about why the way we give matters. Bella has some very exciting news to share.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Bob: Hey, Bella you look on top of the world.

Bella: If that means I look happy, I am! My baby sister was born at the weekend. She's amazing!

Bob: Wow! That's brilliant news. What's her name?

Bella: Anna-Beth. Anna is my Granny's name and Beth is my Nana's name.

Bob: Has your Mum brought her home yet?

Bella: No, she's not very well at the moment so she's in the Special Care Baby Unit. The nurses say she'll be OK soon though. They've been so kind to her in the hospital. My Mum says Anna is very blessed to have had such good treatment. They are saving up for a new incubator

Bob: What's that?

Bella: Well.....In fact, me and Dad have decided to go on a sponsored 10 mile walk at half

term to raise money to help the Unit buy a new incubator because so many babies need to use one and they haven't really got enough. It is our way of saying 'thank you'. Here's my form.

Bob: Great, have you got a pen? I want to be the first to put my name down. I'll sponsor you 20p a mile. If you get me another form, I'll take it to our church on Sunday. I'll get loads of sponsors for you there.

Bella: That's brilliant Bob, thanks! That will be £2 in total. If we get 25 people to donate £2 each then we'll reach our overall target of £50!

(Enter Barney)

Bob Hey Barney, Bella's got a new baby sister. She's doing a sponsored walk for some equipment at the hospital. Want to sign up?

Barney: Well....er.....I'm going to the cinema on Saturday so I really want to save my money for that. I s'pose I could manage 1p per mile.

Bella: (crossly) Forget it Barney. I only want people supporting me who really want to. Come on Bob, let's see if we can find some cheerful givers.

Reflecting



Think of a time when you have given something away to another person.

- Can you tell your talk partner how this made you feel?
- Has there ever been a time when you have found it hard to give something away?
- Can you think of something that will help you to be a cheerful giver?



Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 5: God Loves a cheerful giver

Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Luke 10. 25-37)



Introduction:

This is the familiar story of the Good Samaritan. This re-telling focuses on the generosity of the Samaritan who goes well beyond what is expected of him to help someone who has been attacked by robbers.



Telling tips: This one is a little different from the others, in terms of participation. It's almost like a conversation. You tell your group what to do, as you go along, line by line, and they respond. You might want to do a line or two, before you begin, to show them how it works.

'Jesus,' asked a man, one day. 'What must I do to live forever with God?'

'What have you been taught?' said Jesus.

'Love God - with everything I am,' answered the man. 'And love my neighbour in the same way I love myself.'

'Good,' Jesus smiled. 'That's what I would have said.'

'But who exactly is my neighbour?' asked the man.

So Jesus told him a story:

There once was a man who went for a walk, from Jerusalem down to Jericho. **(Have everyone tremble and say, "Oh my, that's a dangerous road!").**

Robbers grabbed hold of the man, and beat him, and took his clothes, and left him lying helpless by the side of the road. **(Have everyone hide their eyes and say, 'I don't think I can watch!').**

Soon, a priest walked by. **(Have everyone shout, 'He'll help the man!').**

But the priest didn't. He walked past the helpless man and left him lying there. **(Have everyone shake their heads and sadly say, 'Oh dear!').**

A man who worked at the temple came by next **(Have everyone shout, 'He'll help the man!').**

But he didn't, either. He walked past the helpless man and left him lying there. **(Have everyone shake their heads and sadly say, 'Oh dear!').**

Then a Samaritan came by.

The beaten man was Jewish. Some very bad things had happened between Jews and Samaritans, years and years before. So they didn't get along.

So, once again, a Samaritan came by **(Everyone shout, 'He'll never help the man!').**

That's what anyone who lived in those days would have thought. He didn't have to help the beaten man. No one would have expected him to help. But he felt sorry for the man. And he wanted to help.

In fact, he was very generous. He bandaged the man's wounds. **(Have everyone say, "'That feels better!').**

He put the man on his donkey.

He took the man to an inn and paid the innkeeper to take care of him. **(Have everyone say, 'Here's some money.').**

And he promised to pay even more, if needed, when he returned. **(Have everyone say, 'And here's more money!').**

'So which of the three men,' Jesus asked, "was a neighbour to the man who has been beaten?" **(Ask, 'What do you think?' and gather an answer or two).**

'The one who showed him mercy and cared for him,' answered the man who asked the question.

'Then you go and be a neighbour, too,' said Jesus.

Reflecting



The Samaritan was not expected to help the man who was injured because Samaritans and Jews simply didn't get on. He could have used this as an excuse not to help, but instead he gave generously and gladly.

- Can you think of a time when someone gave you something, but the way they acted made it clear they weren't happy about it? How did it make you feel?
- What about your own attitude when you give money away or help others? Do you do so generously and gladly?

Values for LifeSavers

Generosity 5: God Loves a cheerful giver

Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Lord, help us to give gladly.'

Leader: When we share with our friends,

All: Lord, help us to give gladly.

Leader: When we share with our families,

All: Lord, help us to give gladly.

Leader: When we share with people we don't know,

All: Lord, help us to give gladly.

Amen.

Sending



As we remember that we should give generously and with gladness,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

Thought for the Day...

'The person who gives with a smile is the best giver.'

(Mother Teresa, Catholic nun and missionary, 1910-1997)

Background: Mother Teresa was born in Macedonia and moved to India at the age of 19 to become a nun, where she spent much of her life caring for the poor and the dying in Calcutta. The work she started now extends to 133 countries with over 1 million co-workers. Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and was made a saint in 2003.

Values for LifeSavers

LifeSavers Core Values

Generosity

Generosity is the desire to share what we have with others – our time and talents, as well as our money and possessions.

Principle	Christian belief
Generosity is a way to show that we are thankful for all the good things that we have.	For Christians, generosity is a response to all that God has done for us, above all for his sacrifice on the cross.
Being generous makes us better people, as well as benefiting others.	Christians believe that we honour God when we are generous to others.
It is good to plan what we give to others, rather than giving from what is left over once we have looked after our own needs and wants.	For Christians, tithing or planned giving is an offering to God, and a recognition that all that we have ultimately belongs to Him.
True generosity comes from a desire to help others, not to impress them or win their praise.	Christians believe that giving quietly and without showing off is pleasing to God.
True generosity is when we give because we want to, not just because we feel we ought to.	Christians are encouraged to give cheerfully, not grudgingly.

LifeSavers

Helping children manage money wisely

LifeSavers supports schools in setting up savings clubs and helps children and their families learn about money. A partnership between the Archbishop of Canterbury's Just Finance Foundation and Young Enterprise, it is being extended to 120 primary schools over three years, with financial support from Virgin Money. Additional funding from the Government will be used to share the resources and learning with other schools through a LifeSavers website.



Young Enterprise is the UK's leading charity that empowers young people to harness their personal and business skills. We work directly with young people, their teachers and parents, businesses and influencers to build a successful and sustainable future for all young people and society at large.

JUST FINANCE FOUNDATION

The **Just Finance Foundation** was established by the Church of England and Church Urban Fund to develop and implement the Archbishop of Canterbury's vision of a fairer and more just financial system. We work with credit unions, churches, schools and other local organisations to strengthen the financial resilience of communities through financial education and improved access to responsible credit and saving and free debt advice services.



free expert advice for anyone teaching young people about money
email: ask@pfeg.org call: 0300 6660 127 tweet: @pfeg_org using #ASKpfeg

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