

Children's Worship Lesson – October 18, 2020

**GLIMPSES OF HOPE**

**Focus Scripture: Matthew 22:15-22**

**Purpose: To see how love and sharing can bring hope to others.**

**Preparation**

Worship Table – green cloth

Pictures for story/activity at the end of the lesson

Coins

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** *We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us.*

**Prayer**

O God, you are always there for us,  
Help us to always be there for others,  
as Jesus showed us how to be.

Amen.

Words and music: Donald Schmidt, arr. Micahel Bloss  
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**Song: Living God's Way**

*(tune: Yankee Doodle)*

In the Bible Jesus shows us  
how to live God's w-ay.  
Listen, listen everyo-ne,  
what does Jesus say?

*Chorus*

G-od loves us – me and you,  
God loves everyo-ne.  
G-od loves us – me and you  
and we love others too!

*(verse 2 for after story)*

We have heard another story  
how to live God's w-ay.  
Now this is our story, too,  
so listen while we say...

*Chorus*



## **Introducing the Theme**

I have brought a collection of coins. Let's take a few moments to look at them. Perhaps you can help me to sort them too. Let's put them into groups of the same coin - all the nickels together, all the quarters together, etc. **(Give some time for the children to look at and sort the coins.)**

Thanks for your help sorting the coins. Let's look at the pictures on them. **(Go through each type of coin and talk about the images.)**

Of course, coins are money. What do we use money for? **(to buy food, clothing, etc.)** We bring money to church each Sunday or give authorization for the church to take it from our bank account. What do we do with that money? **(put it in the offering plate)** What is that money used for? **(to buy things the church needs and to help others who have very little.)**

Our Bible story today is about a time when some people asked Jesus about how they should spend their money.

## **Exploring the Theme – Bible Story: Jesus and the Coins**

Many people came to see Jesus. They liked to hear his stories and ask him questions about how they should live - about what God wants us to do.

In the land where Jesus lived, people had to give money to the Roman Emperor. He was like a very powerful king. He sent his soldiers to make sure that the people did what he said. The people of Israel didn't like to have to pay their money to the emperor. They said that God was their leader and not the emperor.

One day they asked Jesus about it. Jesus told them to take out a coin and look at it. (Bring out some coins) "Whose picture is on your coins?" Jesus asked. It was the emperor's picture. In Jesus' time, the Romans put a picture of the head of the emperor on their money. We still put pictures of important people on our money today. (Point out and identify the heads on your coins.)

Jesus said to the people: "The coin has the emperor's picture on it. Does it belong to the emperor?"

"I guess so," said the people.

"Do you belong to the emperor?" Jesus asked.

"No!" they said, "We belong to God!"

"Well," said Jesus, "then give God all your love and learn to live in God's way."

When we give our offering, we are trying to live in God's way by sharing what we have with others. Now I would like to tell you a story that shows how a young boy was helped by someone's offering. Maybe it was your offering!

## Story: Momodou



Momodou was going to be late for school. (Show the teaching picture “Momodou.”) “Hurry” said his mother. “Have your breakfast and run.” Momodou quickly gulped down a cup of water and ran down the path as quickly as he could. He had a long way to go. His family did not own a bicycle and there were no buses in his village. He ran and ran until he was very tired. “I’m almost there,” he thought. “I don’t want to miss school!” He slipped into the classroom, sat on the dirt floor beside his friends and started to work.

Later that morning his teacher looked over to where Momodou was sitting and noticed that his head was on his knees. “What is the matter, Momodou? Are you sick?” Momodou didn’t answer. He had fainted. The teacher quickly carried him to a quiet space and helped him until he could sit up. “Momodou, did you have breakfast this morning?” (to the children) Do you remember what Momodou had for breakfast? (a cup of water) Yes, Momodou didn’t have any food for breakfast. Momodou had very little food for dinner the night before as well. His mother was only able to give him a tiny bit of rice and a few mouthfuls of vegetables. No wonder he fainted!

The teacher knew that Momodou’s family had very little money. His father had a job, but it didn’t pay very much. The family had to pay for Momodou to go to school, and that didn’t leave much money to buy food. Momodou’s mother tried to grow food for the family, but the soil was poor and very dry, so not much grew in her garden. There was no water in their village. Every day she would walk a long way to the river to bring back some water for the family.

Momodou loved school, and he was a very good student, but in his village, boys his age sometimes had to stop going to school because their families couldn’t afford it. The boys would get jobs and help to buy food for their families. The teacher was worried and hoped that Momodou would be able to stay in school.



“I have some food in the cupboard. Please eat this, Momodou,” said his teacher. “It will help you to get a little stronger.” After his snack, Momodou felt much better and soon was back in the classroom having fun and learning with the other children.

Momodou’s teacher was able to help him because a church in a faraway country had sent some money. (Lift up the children’s offering basket.) It was money from church offerings, like this, that helped the teacher feed Momodou. The money was also being used to help the people dig wells for water, so that they could grow food in their gardens, and to pay the school fees for children like Momodou, so they could stay in school. Our offering gives hope to people like those in Momodou’s village. (Show the teaching picture, “Momodou Has Hope.”)

### **Song: Living God's Way**

(tune: Yankee Doodle)

In the Bible Jesus shows us  
how to live God's w-ay.  
Listen, listen everyo-ne,  
what does Jesus say?

#### *Chorus*

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God loves everyo-ne.  
G-od loves us – me and you  
and we love others too!

(verse 2 for after story)

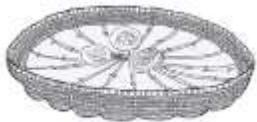
We have heard another story  
how to live God's w-ay.  
Now this is our story, too,  
so listen while we say...

#### *Chorus*



**Memory Verse:** Jesus said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s. *Matthew 22:21*

### **Activity/Game or Craft – Offering Basket Activity Sheet – Coin Rubbings**

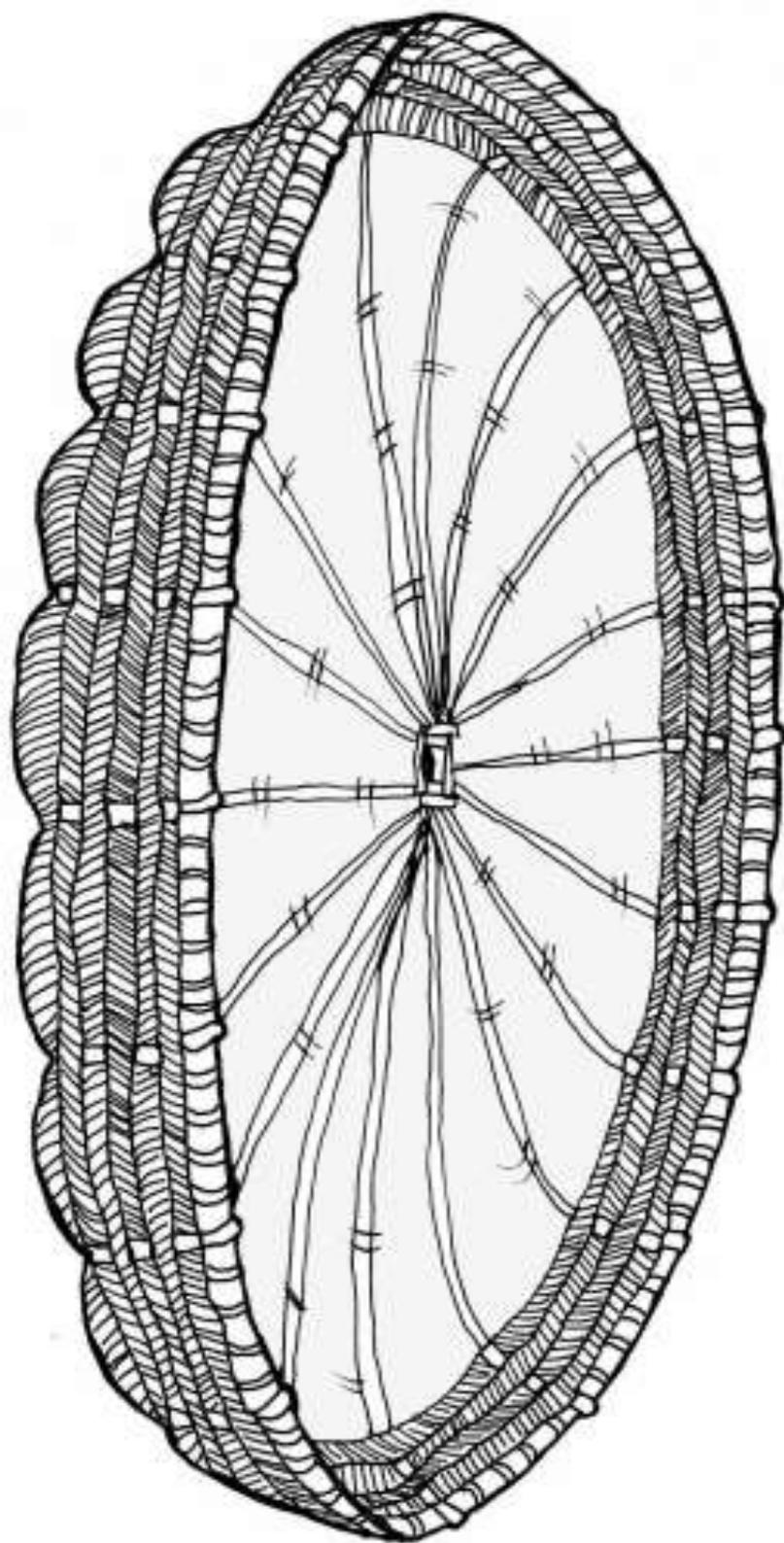


**Materials:** Make copies of the Offering Basket activity sheet. Bring coins and crayon pieces with the paper covering removed.

Jesus reminded us that we need to love God and we need to live in God's way. Part of that is bringing offering to church to help others, like Momodou. We're going to make some offering baskets. You'll get a picture of a basket, and you can make coin rubbings to put money in the basket. To make a coin rubbing, put a coin under the paper and then rub the long side of the crayon over top of it. (demonstrate)

### **Closing Prayer**

Thank you God for teaching us about how our offerings help others in need.  
Thank you for giving us the wisdom to help people with our own money in our way.  
We are glad to learn the stories about you and your disciples.  
Help us to leave here remembering what we have learned.  
Amen.



Offering Basket

Cut apart and mount separately



**Momodou**



**Momodou Has Hope**

Whole People of God/Dr. Lee. Printed in Canada © 2000 WoodLake Publishing.