

5-24-2020 **THE GIFT OF GIVING** Read Luke 21:1-4

This past Mothers Day, my college age daughter didn't have much money so she decided to make a card for me. She made a flower for the front using cupcake papers, drew some great artwork and wrote things from her own heart to me. Later she told me she was sad that she couldn't go out and buy me something. Oh no! This, my friends, was far better!!!! Another time, she made me a slideshow set to music with some favorite family photos. That brought tears to my eyes.

In this scripture Jesus was teaching about something similar. He made sure to point out this widow who had so little, but gave almost all she had. The rich men gave large sums of money, but they had tons left over...it wasn't very hard for them to give what they gave, because they had more than enough! The widow sacrificed the money she was to live on with none left over!

I heard of a boy that was doing chores, mowing lawns for neighbors and such to earn money to buy a bike he really wanted. Later he found out there were a few families nearby that didn't have enough food to eat. He decided to ask his mother to take him and his jar of money to the food kitchen instead of using his money to buy that bike. He really wanted that bike, but when he realized he could help people put food on the table, he gave up that shiny new bike.

Being kids, sometimes you don't have a job to make money...what are some ways you could give or sacrifice to serve God? Come on now, be creative! Get those brains working! That's it! You're getting there! This is what Jesus was talking about, always being on the lookout for ways to be more thoughtful, to be thinking of ways to be more helpful, to do more or better than what is asked of you.

Take some time now to talk with whoever is doing this devotion with you about how to be more like the widow, to put other people's well being before your own. What are some ideas for you individually or as a family? Do we do these things to show people how great we are or to get a prize? Why do you think the homemade Mothers day card was so precious in my eyes? In your own words, what do you think God wanted to teach you with this story?

Luke 21:1-4

- 1 And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury.
- 2 And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites.
- 3 And he said, **Of truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more than they all:**
- 4 **For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living she had.**

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