

WEEK 3 LESSON GUIDE

HOW TO...

BIG IDEA

Jesus taught us how to share with others.

BIBLE

Giving:
Matthew 6:1-4

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | How To Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** To fit the theme, consider putting out [some DIY instruments](#) (or make them with your kids) that they can use during worship this month. You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Let Your Light Shine" (Hillsong Kids Jr.)
 - "This Little Light of Mine" (VeggieTales)
 - "The Opposite Song" (Yancy & Little Praise Party)
 - "The Lord's Prayer" (Summit Kids)

ACTIVITY | How to Spot the Music

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Select one kid to sit in the middle of the circle with their eyes closed (or they could wear a blindfold if needed). Hand one kid a classroom instrument (tambourine, maracas, and egg shakers) and have them shake it, then pass it down the circle. Each kid will shake it once then pass it. At any given moment, you or a volunteer will say, 'Stop!' Whoever has the instrument is going to hold it still. The person in the middle of the circle is going to point in the direction of where they think the instrument is. Have them open their eyes to see if they were right! Repeat with a different kid sitting in the middle.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Younger children might not want to pass down a fun instrument once they've gotten their hands on it! Consider passing out a variety of fun musical toys and allow toddlers to make as much noise as they'd like, then have everyone put all the instruments in the middle and try a different one. You can talk to toddlers about sharing in the context of taking turns.
- We were able to do this activity because you shared the instrument with one another. So everyone got a chance to play with it.
- Today, we are going to learn more about how Jesus wants us to share!

ACTIVITY | How to Gummy Bear Share

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids sit in a circle. Open up the bag of gummy bears. Explain that you've assigned an action and a conversation topic to each color bear. Use the suggestions below or create your own! Put on a glove, give a kid a random gummy bear, and have them answer the topic while completing the action. Repeat the process with the next kid, and so on. Feel free to go around the circle multiple times depending how big your group is. Tell kids to hold onto their gummy bear until you say it's okay to eat. Then group the kids by color in different parts of the room. Give them time to eat their gummy bear. Once everyone in the group has finished, go around to each color group and have them do an activity while answering a question (see below).*
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** *Revise this activity by substituting gummy bears with something less chewy/easier to eat like Froot Loops.*
- We have a lot of gummy bears to share today! Not only are we going to share gummy bears, but we're going to take turns sharing something about ourselves, too!
 - Red: Hop on one leg, and tell us your favorite color.
 - Orange: Pat your head and rub your belly, and tell us your favorite food.
 - Yellow: Spin around, and tell us your favorite game.
 - Green: Run in place, and tell us your favorite animal.
 - White: Do arm circles, and tell us your favorite TV show.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 6:1-4 (Giving)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass around a wrapped gift box filled with at least one treat for each kid as you tell the Bible story. Prepare to read the Bible passage in an easy-to-understand translation like ESV or NIRV. At the end of the teaching, open the box and pass out the contents.*
- Jesus was a wonderful teacher. He taught people how to do all sorts of things, especially how to follow God. Let's learn about one of those things right now!
- I'm going to describe something that is really important.
 - It's an action, which means something you do. You usually do this with friends or family but you can do it with anyone. You can use a toy or even food. When you do this, sometimes it means you have to give away something. **Do you know what it is?**
 - Yes! What I'm describing is sharing!
 - **Has anyone shared with you? What was it?**
 - Sharing is a great way to show love and kindness towards someone else, especially when we take what we have and give it away.
- *[Read Matthew 6:1-4 and pass around the gift box.]*
 - Jesus wants us to share. We can share lots of things we have. But Jesus also tells us HOW to share.
 - Sometimes when we share, our parents or our teachers tell us, "Good job!" But when they're not looking, we might stop sharing and say, "Give it back!" Jesus wants us to share even when nobody is looking and no one tells us we did a good job.
 - I know, it's not easy to give things away. But it's easier to do when we think that someone else might need something we have more than we do. It makes God happy when we think about others instead of only ourselves.
 - God gives us everything we need. God even gave us Jesus! But God doesn't want us to keep everything we get for ourselves. Just like Jesus taught us, we can share what we have, especially when it helps someone!

- You all saw this nicely wrapped gift here . . . let's see what's inside. *[Unwrap and open box.]* Wow, look at these goodies! This is mine, so I can keep it for myself. Or, I can share it with you.
- **What should I do?** That's right, I can share! *[Pass out treats to all the kids.]*

BIG IDEA | Jesus taught us how to share with others!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the piñata from Week 1 and hang it up in your ministry space. Write the Big Idea on a piece of paper, fold it up, and attach it to a piece of string. Then tape the paper to the back of the piñata so kids can't see it, but let the string hang down. When it's time for the reveal, yank on the string attached to the paper, so that the paper drops. Pick it up and read it out loud. (You'll use the piñata the intended way in Week 4.)
- Today's Big Idea is: **Jesus taught us how to share with others!**
- **Can we say it together with some hand motions?**
 - **Jesus** (point pointer fingers to heaven)
 - **taught us** (point thumbs to self)
 - **how to** (spread hands out to side with palms up)
 - **share with others** (link arms with a friend or two!)

VIDEO | How To . . . , Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | How to Share Like a Spy

- Today's Bible story said that when we give, we shouldn't let our left hand know what our right hand is doing. That means we don't have to let everyone know that we shared. We can do kind things in secret . . . like a super-secret sharing spy!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this modified version of "Heads Up, Seven Up" with kids. For this activity, it would be easiest if kids were sitting at a table so they can put their heads down easily. Pick a few kids to be "it" and have everyone else put their heads down on their arms but put their thumbs up. The kids who are "it" are going to go around and place a sticker on everyone's thumbs. You can play a few rounds so more kids have the opportunity to be "it" — have kids put the stickers from the previous round on their shirts!
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Show or teach toddlers a song about sharing, (like [this one](#)), and invite kids to sing and dance along.
- **Can you tell which friend gave you your sticker? Want to give it your best guess?**
- When we share with others, it's not important if they know. It feels good when people know you did something nice and they say thank you. But even if they don't, that's okay! God knows! What matters is that you did something kind for someone else.
- That's the way **Jesus taught us how to share with others!**

PRAYER

- Jesus, thank you for teaching us how to share with others. You give us everything we need. Help us to give what we have and share with people who need our help. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | DIY Hands-On Meal

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Each kid will receive two "hands" (gloves filled with snacks). One glove will be filled with popcorn or a salty snack and the other will be filled with grapes or blueberries. Chat with kids while they munch using conversation starters like the ones we've provided below.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Keep in mind that popcorn and grapes are considered a choking hazard for kids under 4.

- What are some things that are really easy to share?
- What is something that is super hard to share?

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hand a stuffed animal to one kid. Have them say the first word of the Big Idea (“Jesus”) with you. Have them pass it down and the next kid says the next word, and so on. Whoever is holding the item at the last word (“others”) gets to answer the question. Start with a different kid for the next question.
- What is our Big Idea?
- Who do you like sharing with? Who do you think is hard to share with?
- Should we share even when nobody sees us?
- What is one kind thing you can do for someone this week when they’re not looking?

ACTIVITY | Handy Butterfly Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide each kid with construction paper and help them trace their hands on the paper. Have them decorate and cut out their hands. These are the wings that will then be attached to a popsicle stick. On the other side of the stick, kids can glue various pom pom balls for the body, pipe cleaners for the antenna, and googly eyes. Additional instructions can be found [here](#).
- Today we’re going to make butterflies using our hands to help remind us that we can use our hands to share. It will also help us remember what Jesus said about not letting our left hand know what our right is doing . . . that we can share with others even when we don’t get anything special out of it!
- We want to give to others with open hands and be generous because **Jesus taught us how to share with others!**

MEMORY VERSE | John 13:15 (NIV)

- “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids stand in a circle and give one kid a ball to start. Have them say the first word in the verse and pass it to another kid for the second word and then so on. Continue to have them pass faster and faster as they get the hang of it. Be ready to coach kids with what word to say if they don’t know the verse well enough yet.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Revise this activity by having the whole group say the verse together while passing the ball around.

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today’s Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | How to Train a Spy

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a [hallway laser maze](#) using crepe paper streamers and painter’s tape. Have kids take turns to climb through the maze without “activating the alarm” (a leader making alarm noises each time a streamer comes down). Afterward, continue talking with kids about today’s Bible story by asking what are some nice things at home they can do for their family in stealth mode, like a super-secret sharing spy!

ACTIVITY | How to Wow Your Friends

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out a video like [this one](#) for easy illusions even preschoolers can do! Every week, demonstrate one simple sleight of hand trick and then teach kids how to do it themselves! Prepare the props needed in advance (plates, coins, and toothpicks) so it's easy for kids to try it out. They can perform the trick they learn for each other and wow their friends and family when they go home!