

Thinking about generosity WITH OUR TIME



To talk about together

In Galatians 6:9 – 10, Paul writes: “Let us not become weary in doing good... Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.”

- Can you think of a time someone gave you their time? How did it make you feel?
- What’s one way we could give our time to help someone this week?

Make some easy biscuits to give away!

Mix 200 grams of soft unsalted butter with 200 grams of caster sugar.

Break an egg and 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract into it, then 400 grams of plain flour

Roll out with a rolling pin and cut out shapes from the edge

Bake in an oven (gas mark 6, or 180/200C) for 8–10 minutes

Decorate as much as you like!

A verse: Matthew 22:39: “Love your neighbour as yourself”

A prayer

Loving God, you have given us more good things than we need.

Help us to share them with those who have less.

Loving God, help us to be generous in giving.

Loving God, you have given us families and friends and neighbours to care for us.

Help us to show love for those who are unhappy or alone.

Loving God, help us to be generous in giving.

Loving God, you have given us different gifts and talents and many opportunities to learn.

Help us to use them creatively to make your world a richer and a lovelier place.

Loving God, help us to be generous in giving.

Loving God, you have given us freedom to live how we choose.

Help us to use it wisely for those deprived of basic human needs and rights.

Loving God, help us to be generous in giving.

Thinking about generosity WITH OUR TREASURE



Try asking:

What does treasure mean to you?

What do you have that you could share to bless someone else?

Why do you think sharing makes us feel good inside?

Make your treasure chest

Use brown paint or mix red, yellow and brown paint to make brown. Paint an eggbox.

When it is dry, stick strips of foil across the top of box to make it look like a pirate treasure chest.

Fill with treasure!

Spend, save and give jars

You will need: three clean empty jam jars with lids, sticky labels, felt tips.

Talk about where the children receive money from, e.g. pocket money, birthday presents, money for chores done at home. Introduce the principle of giving money to charity, as well as spending it and saving it up for ourselves.

Together, make three separate labels with the words Spend, Save and Give, one word on each label, and decorate the rest of the label. Stick the labels on three jars (ideally a set for each child), and ask the child/children to decide what they're going to spend, save and give and put their money into the jars. You could use tokens or play money rather than real money. It's a opportunity to talk about where would give and why.

A verse: Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

A story action prayer

Jesus said, 'Don't keep all your things for yourself. (*Pretend to hug something tight.*)

You can either love God, (*Point up.*)

or love money. (*Cup a handful of 'money' to yourself.*)

You can't do both.' (*Shake your head.*)

Thank you for every good gift you've given us.

Please help us to be generous with what we have and
to share with others, and to give from the heart.

Amen.

Thinking about generosity WITH OUR TALENT



Try asking: What do you think is special about the way God has made you?

Make a reminder of how God made you

Get a piece of paper and draw lines so it is in four sections.

These are things to think about and fill in for each section.

I am especially good at....

I love people by.... (is it by saying encouraging things, or choosing clever

I would like to practice more...

I am happiest when...

Decorate it and stick it up as a reminder of the talents God has given you!

Secret helper mission

Challenge each other to do one kind or generous thing this week without being noticed.

A verse: 1 Peter 4:10: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others"

Two prayers:

Thank you for the talents and gifts you've given each of us.

Help us to use them to serve others and bring joy to the world.

May our creativity and kindness reflect your love every day.

Amen.

(Cup one hand in the other palm and look down at empty hands.)

Loving God, we are young and small and our hands are empty,

yet we can still give something precious to you.

Take our hands and hearts and mouths and minds, to serve you our whole lives through.

Amen.

Generosity activities



A prayer activity to celebrate God's generosity

- Blow up a balloon, and ask everyone to think of some of the great things God has given them that they can celebrate. These could be big things like creation or his love. Or they could be things personal to them.
- Ask everyone to write on the gift tags the things they want to celebrate. Blow up lots of balloons and attach the written tags. Then all look at the balloons and remember the abundant generosity of God that we can celebrate.
- If you have a parachute, pack the prayer balloons inside it. Sit underneath together and thank God for his generosity before releasing the balloons!

Working together – an activity for younger children

You will need: toys or games that can be shared or need more than one player, e.g. a toy railway set, a simple board game or puzzle.

Invite children to share the toys or games and play with them together. If they find it difficult, acknowledge that it is not an easy thing to do, and help them to try again.

You will need: a large piece of air-dry clay or play dough, modelling tools, plastic cloth, hand wipes.

Invite the children to share out the clay and tools between them, then create a model. They could work together on one piece, or make individual figures to group into a scene.

Promise jar – an activity for older children

Fill a jar with God's promises (write or draw them!). Pull one out each day and thank God.



A Generosity Prayer



Thanking God for his generosity using each of the five senses.

Thank you, God, for beautiful things to see. *(Think of some examples.)*

For paintings and sculptures and friendly faces,
for rainbows and rivers and smiles and frowns,
presents with surprises inside.

Thank you, God, for wonderful sounds. *(Think of some examples.)*

Music and chatter and the crash of waves,
laughter and birdsong and cheerful voices.

Thank you, God, for delightful smells. *(Think of some examples.)*

Vinegary chips and fresh baked bread,
bubble bath and shampooed hair.

Thank you, God, for delicious tastes. *(Think of some examples.)*

Chocolate and strawberries and marshmallows,
buttery toast and tomato ketchup.

Thank you, God, for the pleasure of touch. *(Think of some examples.)*

For hands to hold and soapy bath sponges,
for showers and towels and clothes.

Thank you, God, for all our senses. Amen.

