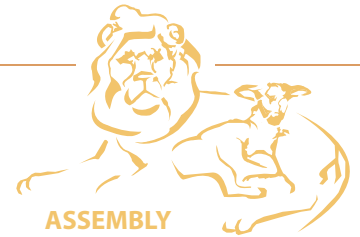


**GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER**

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### SOWING AND REAPING

#### Supplies

- foam cups
- potting soil
- grass seed
- plastic wrap

Two weeks prior to class take three foam cups and fill them with potting soil and plant grass seed in each in differing amounts. In the first cup plant 3-6 seeds. In the second cup plant 10-12 seeds and in the third plant 50 seeds. Moisten the soil and then cover with plastic wrap poking a few holes in it for some air circulation. When the seeds germinate move them to a sunny window.

Use these to demonstrate 2 Corinthians 9:6. You can ask the class if they were farmers, what would they rather do, sow sparingly and get a small crop or sow bountifully and get a large crop. The answer is obvious, and then you can connect the illustration to how we are to sow our time, money and energy into the Kingdom of God. If you want you can have them plant some grass seed in an aluminum pan. Each week you can refer back to their project reminding them that 1 Corinthians 3:7 tells us that only God makes things grow.

## GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

### GIVING TO OTHERS

#### Supplies

several boxes of cookies  
(Make sure that no one  
in your class has special  
dietary considerations  
that would prohibit  
participation.)

Give everyone in the class a cookie. Then ask them if they would like to go and give cookies to another class. Pass out sandwich bags to the children and ask them to each take two cookies and place them in a bag. Then, having made arrangements with another teacher, take your class over to another class and give them the cookies.

When you get back to your classroom ask the children how they felt about giving some of the cookies to the other class. Ask them why they enjoyed giving them away. Ask them how much it cost them.

Then point out that all that we have comes from God and that we should be willing to part with our money for the good of the kingdom. Point out to the children that Paul commended the giving of the Corinthians as flowing from "your confession of the Gospel of Christ." Explain that it was probably easy to give up the cookies because the teacher freely provided them. In the same way it should be easy to give up our money and possessions because of what Christ did for us when he died on the cross.

## WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Paul is excited about the cheerful giving of the Corinthians. He is not excited because it is an empty work but because it flows out of their, "confession of the gospel of Christ" (2 Corinthians 9:13).

Our giving should not be a work with which we try to gain heaven. Our giving should be a work which we do out of thanksgiving for our salvation and promise of life in heaven. The end result is that the giving of the Corinthians brought thanksgiving to God. Because of the cross, God is able to make "all grace abound" (2 Corinthians 9:8) through His salvation in the Gospel so that the treasures of this world no longer have a grip on us.

