

WEEKEND IN REVIEW

This weekend we learned the wise men that came to see Jesus brought their very best gifts to Him. It's important for us to remember that generosity is giving more than what's required of us – it's also giving our very best.

When you are thinking about being generous toward someone do you think about giving him or her your very best? Do you give your favorite toys to kids in need, or just the ones you don't want anymore? Do you loan your friend your favorite pen when he needs to borrow one, or do you give him a pencil you found in the bottom of your book bag?

Remember, being generous is about more than just giving something. Being generous means giving more than we have to – giving our best!

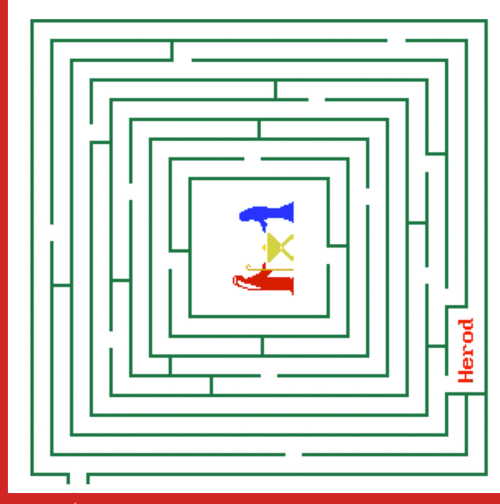
ACTIVITY



Reread our story from this weekend in Matthew 2:1-12.

King Herod didn't really want to worship Jesus the way the wise men did so he tricked them. Thankfully they were warned about Herod in a dream and didn't return to him once they had seen Jesus.

CAN YOU HELP THE THREE WISE MEN FOLLOW THE STAR TO THE BABY JESUS WITHOUT GOING BY HEROD?



DAY 1

MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

Our memory verse for this month is a great reminder that we need to be generous and give more than what's required of us. As this Christmas season approaches remember that God wants us to be generous with our time, our money, our encouragement, and even our stuff.

Find a piece of paper and write this month's memory verse on it – use your Bible if you need to. Then hang the verse up somewhere you will see it everyday. Each time you see the verse say it out loud, then pray and ask God to show you how He wants you to be generous.

DAY 3

Read Luke 6:35

We should be generous toward everyone in our lives – not just our family and friends. This verse says that we should even be kind and generous towards our enemies. Think of someone you know that is hard to get along with, then think of a way that you can be generous towards him or her this week. Write them a kind note, ask them to be your partner during an activity in school, or give them a complement.

Pray and thank God for the opportunity to be generous toward others.

DAY 2

Read Matthew 6:3-4

When we are generous God knows it. We don't have to tell the world that we did something for someone else, or make a big deal out of being generous. That's what these verses are saying. When we do something for someone else just to bless them God sees it and will bless us back in return.

Chose 2 (or more) of the things listed below to do this week for others. Find a time to do it without them knowing it was you. Remember that God rewards those who are generous, and God's rewards are better than anything on Earth that we could imagine!

- ☐ Unload the dishwasher
- ☐ Put away the laundry
- ☐ Vacuum and dust
- ☐ Pick up the trash in your classroom
- ☐ Leave an encouraging note for a classmate or someone in your family
- ☐ Empty the pencil sharpener in your classroom

DAY 4

Read 1 Kings 17:8-16

The woman in this story didn't have anything to give Elijah when he asked her for water and bread. Elijah told her to trust that God would provide for her and so she did. This woman understood what it meant to be generous and give more than what was required because she gave everything she had and trusted God to provide for her and her son – and He did.

If God wanted you to give up all of the money in your piggy bank could you do it? Would you be willing to do what the woman in this story did and give everything you had to God?

Pray and ask God to help you show generosity by giving more than what is required of you.