



Center STAGE

Lesson 5

Lesson Goal: The children will learn that we worship God through giving. We should give our tithes and offerings to God, but we should also give to people in need.

Main Point: I Worship God When I Give!

Bible Story: The believers share their possessions with each other. (Acts 4:32-37)

Bible Verse: Psalm 37:21 "The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers." NLT

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THESE ACTIVITIES?

Roadie Challenge (Weekly General Opening Activity)

This activity will teach the children the Main Point through a series of roadie-themed challenges and games.

Human Keyboard (Weekly General Opening Activity)

This activity will help the children memorize the Main Point through a music-themed game.

Skit and Bible Story (Large Group Activity)

This Skit and Bible Story will teach the children that we worship God through giving. We should give our tithes and offerings to God, but we should also give to people in need.

Bible Verse Music Code (Weekly Small Group Activity)

This activity will show the children that the Bible teaches us that giving is an important way to worship God.

Frame By Frame (Weekly Small Group Activity)

This activity will help the children review the content of the Bible Story.

Make Some Noise (Weekly Small Group Activity)

This craft activity will give the children a chance to make their own instruments to help them worship God.

Back Stage Snacks (Small Group Activity)

This activity will show the children that when we share what we have, everyone benefits.

Fill The Box (Small Group Activity)

In this activity the children will have an opportunity to give and share with people in need.

Use Your Color (Small Group Activity)

This activity will allow the children to practice sharing with each other and show the children how sharing helps everyone.

Build A Rock Song (Review Game Activity)

This is a strategic time to review and reinforce the content of the lesson.

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LESSON 5: I WORSHIP GOD WHEN I GIVE!

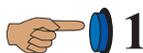
Single Teacher version - "Watch and Train" DVD

Watching Bible Story and Skit on DVD



Purpose Statement: This Skit and Bible Story will teach the children that we worship God through giving. We should give our tithes and offerings to God, but we should also give to people in need.

Materials/Props Needed: None.



• Lead the children through the opening activity "Roadie Challenge" or "Human Keyboard."



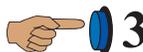
• Begin Worship Time.

Note: For this lesson use Sound Track CD #2.



TEACHER

(CD Track # 1) It looks like we've got a great crowd here for the 5th spot on our Center Stage concert tour. Make some noise, people! (*teacher gives the children a few moments to clap and cheer*) I hope you guys have that kind of energy for the entire show. Speaking of which, I think that Cloud 9 is ready to kick things off with their opening song!



Note: Play "Song 1" Video chapter #3.

Teacher leads the children in singing the song.

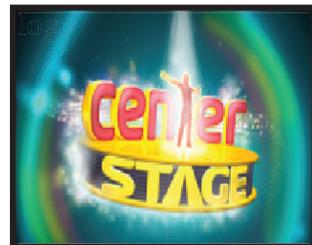
TEACHER

Yep, there's that energy from the crowd again! For those of you that are new to this tour you should know that Cloud 9 has given us some exclusive backstage access with our film crew. We're getting a behind the scenes look at what life on the road is like for a worship band. We've met the lead singer Nate Lately, Blake the guitarist, Gabe the keyboard player and Haven the drummer. There's also Nate's little sister, Kate Lately. Kate is playing bass and hanging out with the band before she launches a tour of her own. Nate is teaching her what it means to be a worship leader. And after looking at some of the backstage footage I can see why Nate wanted me to talk with all of you about giving and sharing. We'll take a look at what happened a little bit later, but for right now I need to get everyone in the crowd on the same page about giving. Let's have our Main Point up on the big screen for everyone to see. **I Worship God When I Give!**



The Teacher leads the children by first demonstrating the Main Point with motions. These motions should be similar to

1



2



3



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cheerleader-type hand motions. The Teacher can make up the motions or have the children help come up with them. Once everyone has gone over the Main Point have the children repeat it with motions two or three times.

TEACHER

You know, I actually think the crowd gets a little bit louder at each tour stop. This Main Point is important because everything we have comes from God. That means that it all belongs to Him. When we give back to Him we are showing that we are thankful, that we trust Him, and that we know He is in complete control. One type of giving we have here at church is called tithing. That is where we bring one tenth of the money we make and put it in the plate here during our offering time. But that isn't the only way to give and worship God. When we give money or our possessions to people in need, that's another way we worship God when we give. This past week, the road pastor told the band a great story from the Bible about giving. I think you guys should hear the story, too. If you brought your Bibles, open them up and turn to Acts, chapter 4, verse 32. You'll be able to follow along with the story.



Note: Play "Bible Story Video" chapter # 5.

TEACHER

Giving and sharing were very important parts of the worship of the early church. And they still are. We need to follow the example of the early believers and be generous with what we have. In fact, the Bible tells us that being generous is being godly. It's right here in our Bible Verse:



Psalms 37:21 "The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers." NLT

TEACHER

Wow! That verse makes it pretty clear. And I don't know about you, but I don't want to be thought of as wicked or mean. Being stingy doesn't help anyone. But not only can our generosity help others, as we've already stated, it is also a way we worship God. And we captured some great footage of the band and how they dealt with giving this past week. I think Nate would be happy for you guys to see what happened. Here's the footage.



Note: Play "Skit Video" chapter # 7.

TEACHER

That was cool how Nate compared being generous to playing bass in a band. I've tried to play bass before. It can get hard to push down those strings. And it isn't always easy to give and share what we have, but as we've been learning today, giving



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is more than just taking what we have and giving it to someone else. It's actually a very powerful form of worship. And speaking of worship, it's time for the second half of our worship concert! Please welcome back to the stage Cloud 9!

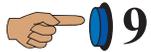
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Note: Play "Worship Concert" Video chapter # 8.

The Teacher leads the children in singing the songs and then begins the offering time.

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OFFERING



TEACHER

(CD Track # 5) Let's give it up for Cloud 9 and another awesome performance! (*gives the children a few moments to clap and cheer*) I also want to thank all of you for worshipping with us. We're going to continue to worship God with our offering time. Remember, this is our chance to give and that is a very important form of worshipping God. Let's pray.

Lead the children in prayer. If you want to, include elements of the lesson you are teaching today. For instance, today we are talking about how we worship God when we give. So you might say, "God, thank You for everything You have given to us. Help us to have a good attitude about giving and use this offering for amazing things. Amen." Take up the offering.

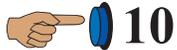


TEACHER

(CD Track # 1) Thanks, everyone. Even though the concert for today is over, and even though we just took up our offering and prayed, our time of worship isn't over. We're going to our Small Group time right now, and we're going to learn more about giving. See you when you get back.

Note: If you are teaching this lesson in a classroom, you will also be the Small Group Leader teaching the children during the Small Group Time.

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SMALL GROUPS

Teacher greets children as they return from Small Groups.

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TEACHER

Now that everyone is back, I think we should review what we've been talking about today on the tour. Let's play our review game and Build A Rock Song!

Note: Lead the children through the questions. Hit "play" when a child has given you the right answer. Have the children get up and dance at the end.



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CLOSING



TEACHER

(CD Track # 1) Now that the band is back together I think we can continue the tour. Great job on those questions. We'll see all of you down the road at the next concert stop. Remember our Main Point: **I Worship God When I Give!**



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Bible Verse Music Code

Lesson 5 - I Worship God When I Give!
Weekly Small Group Activity

Purpose: This activity will show the children that the Bible teaches us that giving is an important way to worship God.

Description: The children will decode and discuss three Bible verses, including this week's Bible Verse, using a music-based code.

Materials Needed: For this activity you will need this help sheet, a white board or a large sheet of paper, and a marker. For each child you will need a Bible, the "Bible Verse Code Sheet Lesson 5", and "Music Code Key Sheet Lesson 5" from your Lesson Materials CD-ROM.

Note: Have the Bible Verse for the week written on the board and covered up.

To introduce the activity say:

1. I have a musical code for you to solve.
2. One of these three codes tells us where to find this week's Bible Verse.
3. The other two verses tell us more about what we are learning today.
4. Decode the references, and we will look up the verses to find out what the Bible has to say about worship.
5. There are two parts to the code: the shape of the note and the line or space that the note is on.
6. For example, the note with two flags on it is called a sixteenth note. When the sixteenth note is on the bottom line it stands for the number eight, but when the sixteenth note is on the middle line it stands for the number three.

Note: Pass out the sheets and Bibles. Help and encourage the children in decoding the verses.

For detailed instructions on how to do the activities, see the DVD.

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To lead the activity say:

1. After you have decoded the reference, you can look up the verse and we will talk about it.
2. Let's read the Bible Verses out loud when you find them.

Note: Help the children find the verses and read them out loud. Discuss what each verse says as you read it.

"The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers." Psalm 37:21 (NLT)

"You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.'" 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

"And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had." Acts 2:44 (NLT)

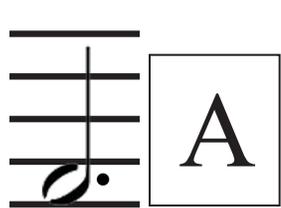
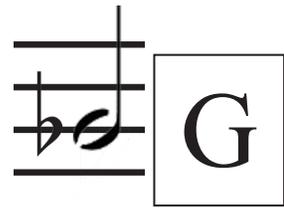
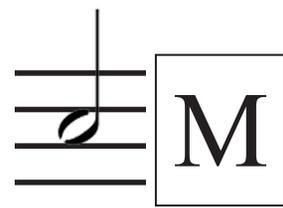
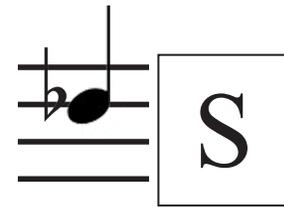
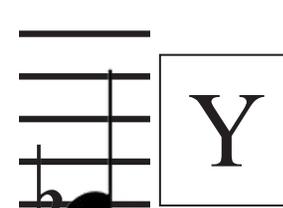
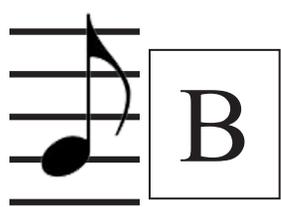
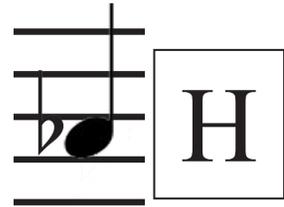
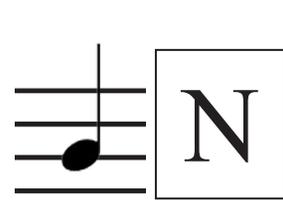
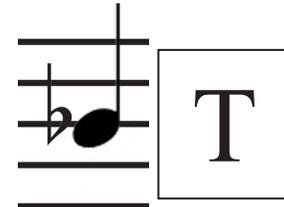
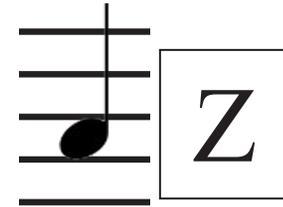
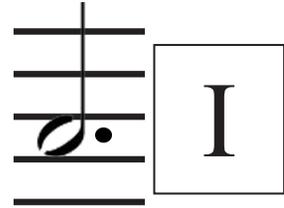
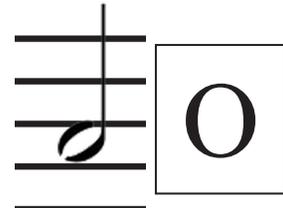
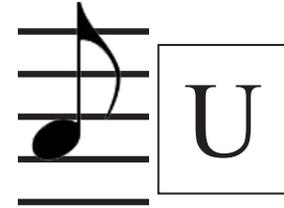
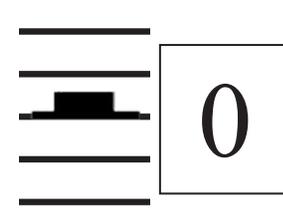
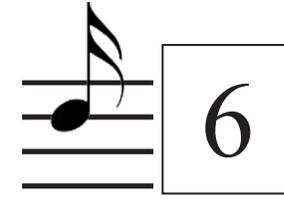
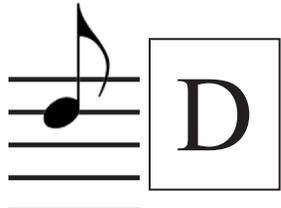
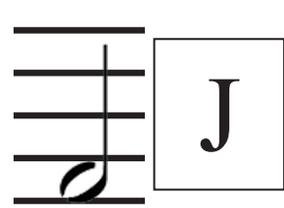
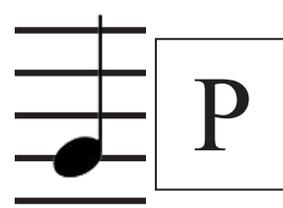
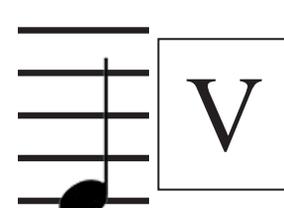
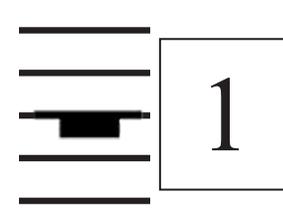
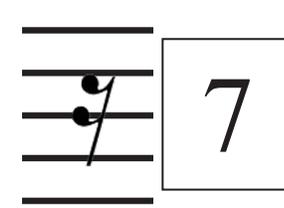
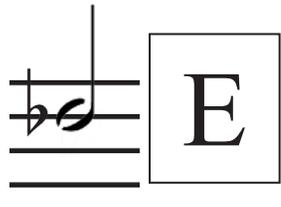
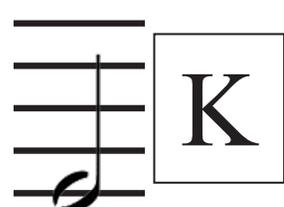
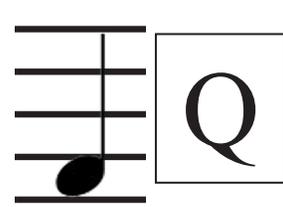
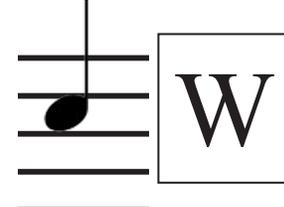
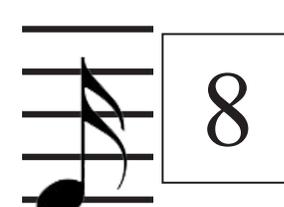
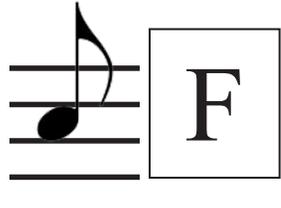
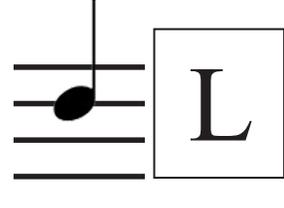
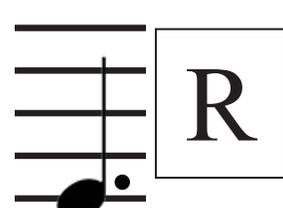
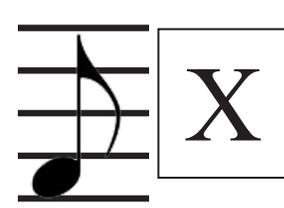
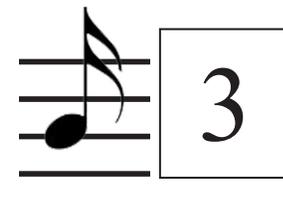
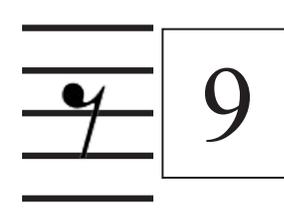
3. Which of these is our Bible Verse for this week? (*Psalm 37:21.*)
4. What do all of these verses tell us about worship? (*We should worship God by giving.*)

After the activity say:

1. Good job finding all the verses. You are master music decoders!
2. Does anyone want to try saying our Bible Verse for today? (*Yes, no.*)

Note: Uncover the Bible Verse and repeat it with the children. Let anyone who wants to try saying it without looking have a turn.

Closing statement: Put this music code some place that you will see it regularly. Whenever you see these verses remember that we worship God by giving back a part of what He has given us.

 A	 G	 M	 S	 Y	 4
 B	 H	 N	 T	 Z	 5
 C	 I	 O	 U	 0	 6
 D	 J	 P	 V	 1	 7
 E	 K	 Q	 W	 2	 8
 F	 L	 R	 X	 3	 9



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Backstage Snacks

Lesson 5 - I Worship God When I Give!
Small Group Activity

Purpose: This activity will show the children that when we share what we have everyone benefits.

Description: The children will combine ingredients to make a party mix.

Materials Needed: For this activity you will need this help sheet, a large bowl, and a large spoon. For each child you will need a half or one cup of a party mix ingredient in a sealed sandwich bag and a paper cup or bowl. Examples of suggested ingredients: rice cereal, wheat cereal, corn cereal (*such as Chex™*), small pretzels, chocolate chips, raisins and other dried fruits. **Warning: Avoid products with nuts due to possible allergies.**

To introduce the activity say:

1. Do you remember some of the things the believers shared in today's Bible Story? (*Money, property, food.*)
2. I want to share some food with you today.

Note: Hand out the ingredients.

For detailed instructions on how to do this activity see the DVD.

To lead the activity say:

1. Everyone has a snack! Does everyone have the same thing? (*No.*)
2. Some of you might enjoy only having one ingredient, but some of you wouldn't.
3. I have an idea that would make this snack the best it can possibly be.
4. If everyone shares what they have we can make something really delicious.
5. I want each of you to come dump your bag into this big bowl.

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Note: Have each of them dump their ingredients in the bowl and stir the ingredients together. Then use the spoon to serve each child the snack mix in a paper cup or bowl.

After the activity say:

1. I hope you enjoyed our snack.
2. I don't know about you, but I enjoyed this snack more when we mixed all the ingredients together. Thanks for sharing!
3. Just like the believers in our Bible Story we shared what each of us had.
4. Who are people in your life you can share with? (*Family, friends, classmates.*)
5. All of us have people in our lives that we can share with.
6. What are some ways you can share with the people in your life this week?



Closing statement: If you kept your ingredient to yourself, you would only have a handful of one thing. Together we were able to make this big bowl of delicious party mix. When we share what we have with others and they share with us, we will all end up with something better.

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Use Your Color

Lesson 5 - I Worship God When I Give!
Small Group Activity

Purpose: This activity will allow the children to practice sharing with each other and show the children how sharing helps everyone.

Description: The children will make a mosaic using colored paper. At first they will only be allowed to use one color. Then they will have the opportunity to share colors.

Materials Needed: For this activity you will need this help sheet. For each child you will need glue sticks, several sheets of colored paper, and two copies of the "Use Your Color Art Sheet Lesson 5" from the Lesson Materials CD-ROM. *Option: You could use markers instead of colored paper and glue.*

Note: Make sure you have enough colors for each child to have one.

To introduce the activity say:

1. I have a picture from our Bible Story. What is happening in this picture? (*She is giving her a coat or blanket.*)
2. That is right. I want you to color the gift that is being given in the picture.
3. I am going to give you the color that I want you to use.

Note: Hand out ONLY ONE Use Your Color page to each child.

For detailed instructions on how to do this activity see the DVD.

To lead the activity say:

1. Each of you may only use the one color I gave you to color your picture.
2. Tear off pieces of paper, and glue or tape them onto the blanket until you have covered the whole blanket.

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Note: Hand out the colored paper. Each child should only have one color. The children will put some glue on the picture using the glue stick. Then they will tear small bits of paper and stick them to the picture to make a mosaic. Give the children a few moments to add color to the picture.

3. How do your pictures look with just one color? *(Not good, doesn't look right.)*
4. Now that you have tried coloring your picture with just one color, I want to give you the choice to share.
5. You may trade your colors with each other to color another page.

Note: Hand out another Use Your Color page and encourage the children to share and trade the colors.

After the activity say:

1. Which did you like better, one color or sharing your colors? *(Trading, one color.)*
2. What did the pictures look like with only one color? *(Okay, not as pretty.)*
3. Tell me, would the pictures have turned out as well if you all had continued to only use your one color? *(No.)*
4. Is our life better when we share with each other? *(Yes.)*
5. What are some things we could share that would make everyone's life better? *(Snacks at lunch, games, toys, bike, skateboard, Bible.)*

Closing statement: When I look around I see a lot of colorful pictures. In the same way your pictures were better when you shared and gave to each other, our lives will be better when we give to and share with others.





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Build A Rock Song

Lesson 5 - I Worship God When I Give! Review Game Activity

Purpose: This is a strategic time to review and reinforce the content of the lesson.

Materials Needed: DVD chapter "Review Game" Lesson 5.

Ask the following questions and then ask for volunteers to answer. If they answer correctly, hit "play" on the DVD.

- Which of these is NOT a reason why we should give back to God?
 - Because giving shows that we are thankful.
 - Because we will feel guilty if we don't give.**
 - Because everything we have comes from God.
 - Because God can do more with what we give than we could do on our own.
- Besides our money, name two things that we can give to God.
- When we give our tithe to God, we should give _____.
 - Half of everything.
 - Our brother's money and keep our own.
 - Our last and worst.
 - Our first and best.**
- In today's Bible Story, the people of the early church did something that showed the world that they were different. What was it?
 - They shared with each other so no one was in need.**
 - They refused to let newcomers join the church.
 - They protected the city from enemy attacks.
 - They had amazing parties and everyone was invited.
- According to Nate Lately, when we don't give, we are like _____.
 - A guitarist who forgets how to play.
 - A lead singer who is late to the concert.
 - A bass guitar player who quits the song early.**
 - A drummer who drums too fast.
- Fill in the blanks. Psalm 37:21 "The wicked _____ and never repay, but the godly are _____ givers." (NLT)
 - steal, helpful.
 - borrow, generous.**
 - spend, kind.
 - give, generous.