

**LIFE OF CHRIST**  
from the gospel of  
**Mark**

**LESSON 39**

**A GIVING ATTITUDE**

**MARK 12:13-17;  
41-44**

# Life of Christ

## A Giving Attitude

Mark 12:13-17; 41-44

### Younger Verse

“More blessings come from giving than from receiving.” Acts 20:35b

### Older Verse

Remember that our Lord Jesus said, “More blessings come from giving than from receiving.” Acts 20:35b

### Lesson Goals

**Learn what Jesus taught about the attitude of giving**  
**Understand that God looks at our heart when we give**  
**Recognize that we can give God our all by following Him**

### Opener

I want you to think about the last time you helped someone. Why did you do it? Today we are going to see what Jesus says about giving of what we have.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week, we learned about a story that Jesus told a group of people. Some of the people listening were leaders in the church. They did not like the story because it was about them. They wanted to arrest Jesus, but were afraid of looking bad in front of all the people.

Later, those leaders came up with another plan. They sent some different people, called Pharisees and Herodians. They hoped they could catch Jesus saying something that they could use against Him.

These men came up to Jesus and said, “Teacher, we know you are respectable and honest. You are not afraid of what others think about you. You teach people the truth of how God wants them to live. Tell us: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay taxes or shouldn’t we?”

Jesus asked, “Why are you trying to trap me?” Then He said, “Bring me a denarius so that I can see it.” What was a denarius? That was a coin they used like we use quarters or dimes. They brought the coin to Him. He asked them, “Whose picture is on this coin? Whose name is on it?”

They looked at the coin and said, “Caesar’s name and face are on the coin.” Then Jesus answered them, “Well then, give to Caesar what belongs to him, and give to God what belongs to God.” Caesar was the leader of the government. When they heard this, they were amazed. Jesus did not fall for their trick. They could not believe how wise Jesus was.

Jesus had been teaching and answering many questions while He was in the temple. As He was sitting, He watched all the people. The people were in line to place money inside of a box. Why do you think they were putting money there? The people were giving some of what they earned back to God. The money was going to be used for the church. Some people gave a lot of money, others not as much. The rich people gave a lot of money and made sure everyone saw how much they put in.

A poor widow had been waiting for her turn in line. The whole time she was holding something in her hand. She had some money she wanted to give, too. When it was her turn to put the money in, she dropped in two very small copper coins. The Bible says those two coins were worth less than a penny!

After Jesus watched this take place, He called His disciples over to talk to them. What do you think He wanted to talk about? He told them, “I tell you the truth, that poor widow gave more than all the others. The rich people have a lot, and they gave what they did not need. This woman is very poor. She needed that money to live. But she gave all she had.”

Wow! That woman had a giving heart. She was not afraid to give God her all. She knew that God would take care of her. She knew that **it is more blessed to give than to receive**.

God gave His all to us when He sent Jesus to die for us on the cross. Then Jesus rose to life three days later. Do you believe it? If so, Jesus wants to have a relationship with you. You can invite Him to be in your life. He can help you live the way God wants you to live. Please talk with me if you have questions.

#### Review Questions

1. What question did the Pharisees and Herodians ask Jesus? (“Should we pay taxes or not?”)
2. How did Jesus answer their question? (“Give to Caesar what belongs to him, and give to God what belongs to God.”)
3. How much money did the poor widow give to the church? (two small coins—all she had)

#### Prayer Time

Thank God for all He has given us. Have the children tell God what they are thankful for. Then pray that God will help us to have a heart that wants to help and share.

#### Life Application

Jesus saw the heart of the poor widow. He knew that it was not about the amount of money, but the attitude of the heart. The woman showed God how much she loved Him by giving Him all she had.

How can we give God all we have? It doesn't need to be about money at all. We can give God our time by going to Bible Study, spending time in prayer, and reading the Bible. We can help someone and show them the love of Jesus. We can obey God even when we don't feel like it.

Can we ever outgive God? No! God made everything, so everything belongs to Him anyway! He wants us to have hearts that are willing to share and give. He knows that we will be more happy when we give than when we are selfish.

Planning for Lesson 40  
The Greatest Commandment  
Mark 12:28-34

## **Preschool Lesson for A Giving Attitude**

Boys and girls, I want you to think about the last time you helped someone. Did it make you happy? Today we are going to see what Jesus says about giving and helping others.

Some men went up to Jesus and asked Him a question. It was like a trick question. They didn't think Jesus could answer the question without getting in trouble. First, they told Jesus that they knew He was a good, honest man who followed God. Did these men believe that Jesus was God's son? No! These were the people who did not like Jesus. They were called Pharisees.

The men asked Jesus if they should have to give money to the king. Jesus said to bring Him a coin. When they brought Him a coin, He asked them, "Whose face and name are on the coin?"

The men looked at the coin and answered, "The king." Jesus responded that they should give to the king what belongs to him, and give to God what belongs to God.

When the Pharisees heard this, they were amazed. Jesus did not fall for their trick. They could not believe how wise Jesus was.

Jesus had been teaching and answering many questions while He was in the temple. As He was sitting, He watched all the people. The people were in line to place money inside of a box. Each person had something in their hand. What do you think they had with them? All of them had money. What do you think they were going to do with the money?

They were all waiting to put money in a box. They were giving money back to God. Some people gave a lot of money and made sure everyone saw them put the money in. Jesus was still watching when He saw a poor lady place two small coins in the box.

Jesus then looked at His disciples. He told them, "That lady gave more than all of the other people. She gave all the money she had, but the others still have money left.

The lady was very happy to be able to give all her money. She knew that God would still take care of her.

Jesus wants us to see how we should feel when we do things for other people. We should do it without complaining, and not because we have to or are trying to get something. Jesus wants us to do things because we WANT to do them.

Jesus did something very special for us. He died on the cross and came back to life. He made a way for us to be with Him in Heaven. If we ask Him to clean out the bad things we've done, and then to live in our hearts, we know that we will get to be with Him one day. Please talk with me if you want Jesus in your heart today.

## **Hands-on Activities for A Giving Attitude**

Have a prize box. Pass out fake money to the children for good behavior. Let them “buy” something from the box with their fake money. Another suggestion would be to give their prize or the fake money to someone else. Talk about the memory verse, that it is better to give than to get.

For preschoolers, sort coins. Let them separate coins and put them in bowls or zipper bags. If you believe that small children will put the money in their mouths, tape or glue the coins to construction paper or cardstock.

Make coin rubbings. Place paper over coins and rub with crayons.

Have a coin toss to see who can toss the coin into a bowl. Share how the woman gave all she had to the church.

Glue 2 pennies on an index card and let the kids write the verse on it. Ask them to take the card home and help them remember to have the same attitude as the woman.

Make some jingling musical instruments using pennies and paper cups. Put several coins in a cup and tape another cup on top. Now sing some songs to God and use your new band!

Act out the story. Bring sheets (to use as the woman’s head covering). Don’t forget the coins!

**“More blessings  
come from giving  
than from  
receiving.”  
Acts 20:35b**

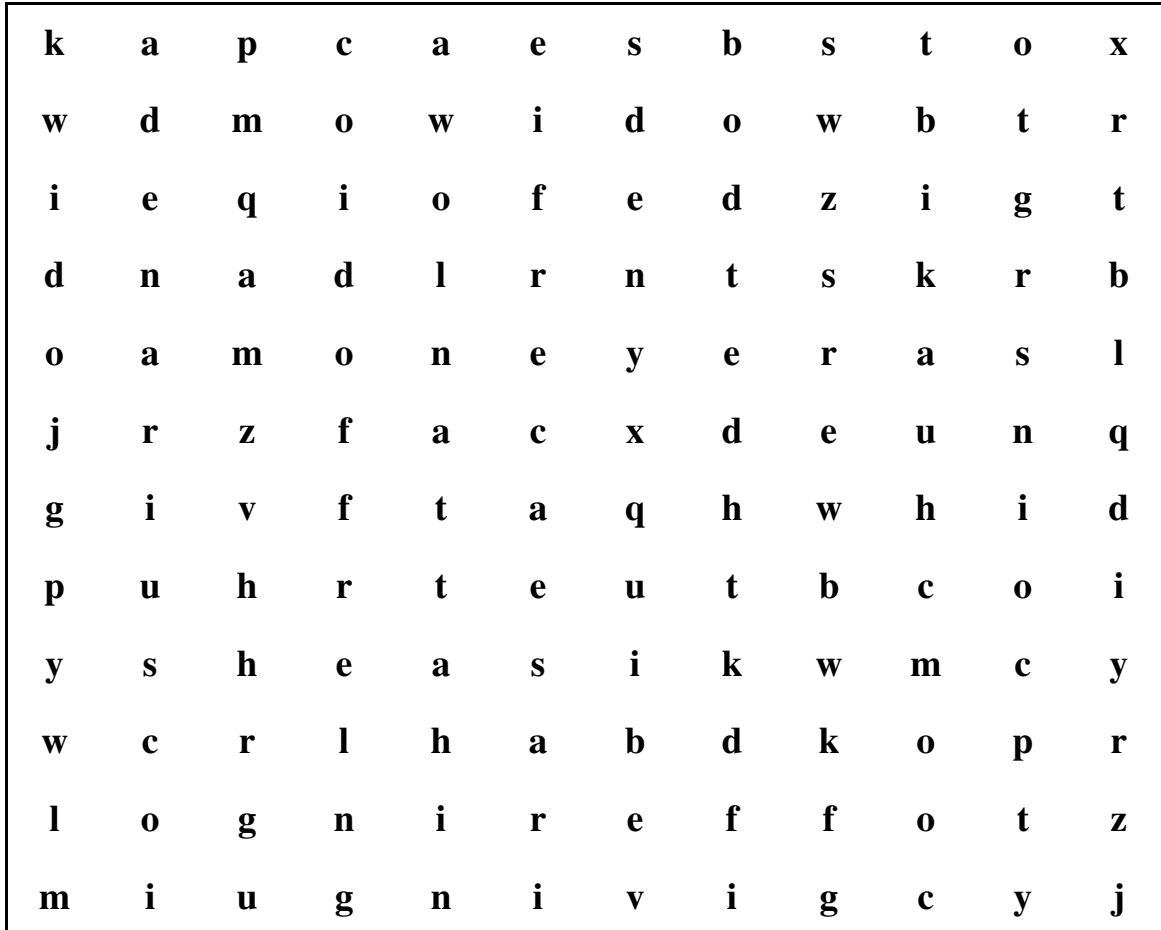


**Remember that our  
Lord Jesus said, “More  
blessings come from giv-  
ing than from  
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Acts 20:35b**



# Word Search

## A Giving Attitude

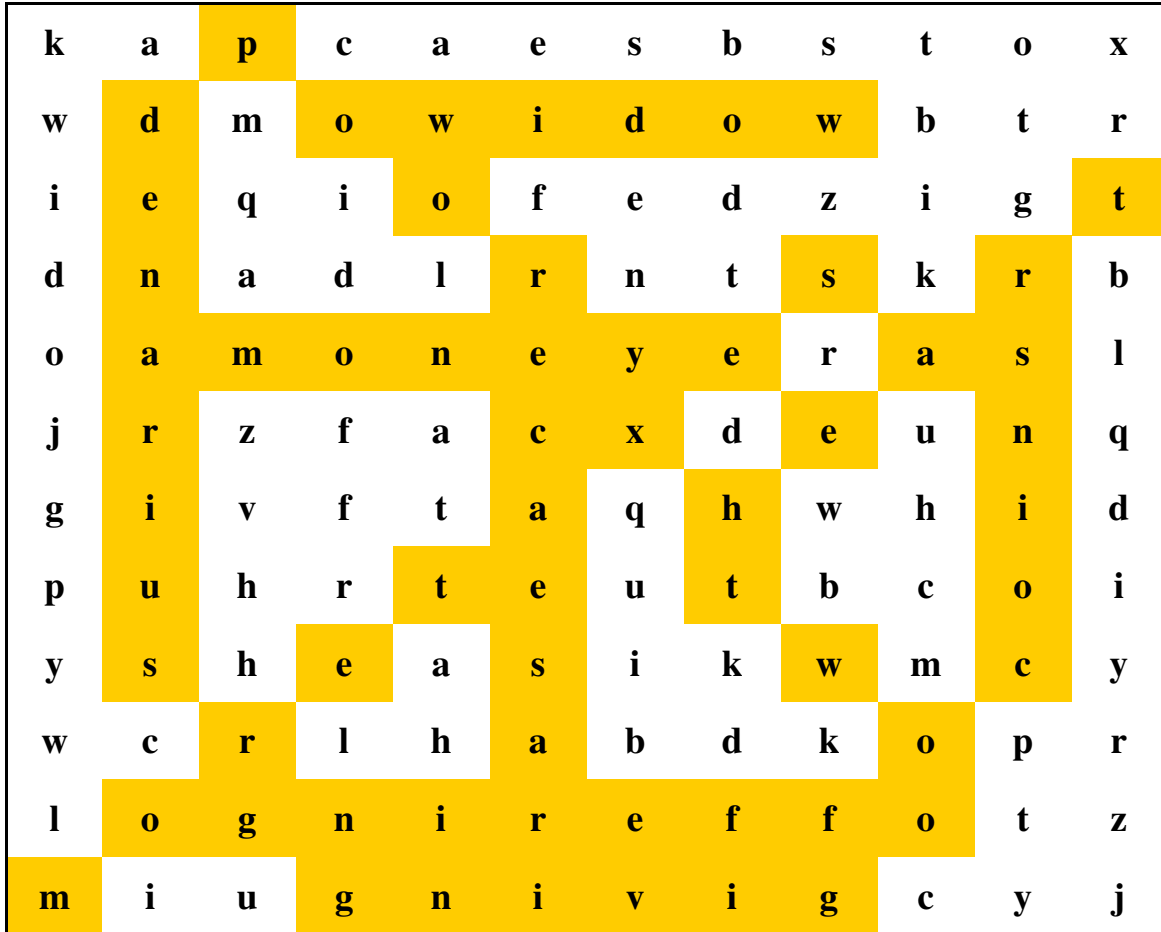


coins	Caesar	denarius
taxes	widow	poor
two	offering	more
money	heart	giving



# Word Search

## A Giving Attitude



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taxes	widow	poor
two	offering	more
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A\_\_L SH\_\_ H\_\_D

