



Worship By Giving Back



THE MISSION AIM

We worship God when we give back to Him.



KEY VERSE

2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Note cards from last week's Field Mission Project
- Pencils
- Sign-up sheet for Sunday participation from last week's Field Mission's preparation time – any supplies required for this
- Volunteers to help act out the widows offering (see mission assignment # 2); give one just two pennies; give the others more, encouraging them to show off all of their money but only to put in two pennies; offering plate (or likeness) ;
- Bible to read Mark 12:41-44 (a version that uses the word "offering" rather than "mite" such as NlrV or NIV)

Directions

SAY: This week we have a few options for our pre-mission time. First we could use some volunteers to help prepare for a small Bible story re-enactment. Anyone interested?

DO: Get the group started. If no one wants to volunteer, get some leaders organized to do it. Give them a quick heads up.

SAY: Our other task is to finish up our notes of encouragement from last week. If anyone is interested in that the paper and pencils are just over there. The other option is to begin some preparation for our Sunday service. You will meet with _____ (leader) to get ready.

DO: Give the recruits a chance to choose where they would like to go.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Worship 101 Episode 4: Worship By Giving Back"

Play "Worship 101 (S2) Episode 4 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have W-Episode_4-Worship_By_Giving_Back.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- List of questions posted: What is your most valuable item? Why is it valuable? Did it cost a lot? Did someone special give it to you? Have you had it for a long time? Where and/or when did you get it?
- Bible
- The following Scripture verse written or typed out five times - 2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Take each verse and cut it up and put it in a gift bag. There should be about five gift bags (adjust the number based upon your group size – you do want enough for a few recruits to be working on putting the verse together again)



Mission Assignment

SAY: MMMM! Giving and God? There could be some very interesting missions today. Well, I guess we shouldn't just wait around to find out, let's dig right in. Mission # 1 (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Take a few minutes to look at and think about the things that are most valuable to you. Would you be able to give them away? Would you be able to let them go and let God have them?"

SAY: Some of you have brought in one of your most valued possessions today. To start off, we are going to meet in small groups to share. Don't worry if you weren't able to bring something in then you can tell us what you would have brought in. There are some questions posted on the wall and I'd like each of you to discuss them in your small group. As soon as you are ready you can get to it.

DO: Create groups of about four recruits. Assign an adult or older recruit to each group. Walk around as the recruits share to make sure that everyone is staying focused.

SAY: I saw some pretty neat stuff today. Wow! Okay, so that was the easy part of our mission. Now, if you are comfortable in your small group you can share aloud, otherwise I want you to think about this. Would you be able to give that item to someone else? Why or why not? Would you be able to let God have this item and allow Him to tell you what He'd want you to do with it?



DO: Give the recruits a moment to reflect. Be sure to have a safe place where they can sit their valuable item during the rest of today's meeting.

SAY: I've overheard some great reflections. It's not easy to think of giving away our things and particularly to let God have control of them. But the truth is, everything belongs to God and He wants us to give cheerfully to Him. There is a verse in the Bible that I want us to look at that talks about just that. You may have guessed, it's our key verse for today. Of course you know we can't just tell it to you. You'll have to do some work for it. We're going to work together as a team. Our task is to get to the five gift bags in the room. Each bag has 2 Corinthians 9:7 our key verse in pieces. Your task is to get every bag emptied and all of the verses put together as quickly as you can, so you will have five copies of this verse. You can all go and work on one, you can work separately, or you can have teams working on individual bags. It's up to you. You can certainly use the Bible if you would like as well. The goal is to get the verses together as quickly as possible as a whole team. After all we did talk last week about worshipping together in community.

DO: Let a little of the chaos ensue but go and assist as necessary to help the recruits to accomplish their task. Help to make sure that the verse is correct at each of the bags.

SAY: Isn't this a great verse? Stand near one of the verses and let's read it together.

DO: Read the verse as a group.

SAY: So basically, God wants us to give cheerfully, not to think we have to give, but to want to give. To share the wonderful things that He has blessed us with whether it's money or things or even family and friends. That can be quite a challenge. Well, I think we can say, "Mission Accomplished" on this one. Let's gather up all the gift bags onto the table here while I send a text to the Recon Team so that they will see all of the thinking we've done. Alright, let's get back and find out what Mission # 2 might be.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Worship 101 (S2) Episode 4 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.





Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Bible to read Mark 12:41-44 – choose a version that includes widow’s “offering” instead of “mite” such as NIRV or NIV
- Volunteers to help act out the widows offering (perhaps you chose these actors during your pre-mission activity time); give one just two pennies; give the others more , and encourage them to show off all of their money but only to put in two pennies; offering plate (or likeness)
- Parcel for “Pass the Parcel” – have the article that is wrapped be something that can be shared i.e. a package of stickers, a box of candy, etc.; use the template provided on attachment pages 8-9 to write instructions on each layer; there are only four layers but feel free to add other layers without task cards if you wish.
- Music for “Pass the Parcel”



Mission Assignment

DO: Get another leader to get the recruits set up with their money and offering plates while doing the introduction to Mission # 2.

SAY: We don’t often think of giving as an act of worship but the team is really making us think. I’m looking forward to Mission # 2 just to find out more about what it means to worship by giving. Let’s give a drum roll for Mission # 2 (reading mission card from satellite uplink) “Recruits, look at the Bible and see how Jesus views giving and how it brings us closer to God and to others.” That sounds great!

SAY: Let’s just take a look at the story that the team was telling us about. It’s in Mark 12:41-44. I know we got the idea of the story from the team but I’d like you to really understand what is happening here. I’m going to read it for you while some recruits who were here for pre-mission activity time act it out.

SAY: Okay folks, those of you sitting in our audience, I want you to represent Jesus as I read this story.

DO: Read Mark 12:41-42 (don’t read verses 43- 44) as the recruits dramatize it.

SAY: Thanks so much actors and actresses. Let’s give them a round of applause. That’s not the end of this passage. Let’s hear what verses 43 and 44 say.

DO: Read verses 43- 44.

SAY: Why was Jesus impressed with what the widow did?

DO: Give the chance for the recruits to respond. (She gave everything she had, trusting that Jesus would provide for her)



SAY: I don't think that means that you need to give all of your money all of the time. There are many times when God wants us to make sure that we take care of our NEEDS - with the emphasis on NEEDS. But He does want us to be willing to give everything we have, remembering that nothing that we have is really ours, but God's. That is just one story in the Bible that talks about giving as an act of worship, loving God with a right attitude. We're going to spend some time now looking up some other verses that will help us to understand this a bit more.

SAY: God gives us the gifts that we have. All the things that we value, all the money we have are really gifts from God, so as a reminder of that, we are going to spend the next few minutes unwrapping this gift here and seeing what God has to tell us about giving.

DO: Begin a game of "Pass the Parcel." Have the recruits sit in a circle and begin passing the parcel around the circle while the music is playing. When the music stops, have the person with the parcel take off a layer. At each unwrapping be sure to have the recruits do what is said on the task card and lead them in a short discussion as outlined on the Pass the Parcel Template. Continue until the recruits reach the last layer. When they get to the last card, ensure that they share the gift with everyone else.

SAY: – MMM! I hope you enjoy your little gift but more importantly I hope that you enjoy sharing your gift with each other. We've learned that giving brings us real joy, it can bless those who are far from us, it can help people understand more about Jesus and it will help us keep our focus on God. It truly is an act of worship, having a proper attitude in our giving. Well done on all of your thinking and research recruits. Now, let's get back to the team and see what they've been up to.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Worship 101 (S2) Episode 4 (3/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Two large charts for brainstorming
- Markers

Mission Project

SAY: Michael has posed our next challenge quite clearly. So, let's have a countdown to Mission # 3...3-2-1 (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "What are some ways that you can give as an act of worship? How can you make some extra money to give away and who might you give it to?"



SAY: Okay, so what could you do to make some extra money that you could use to give away to others? Let's take a few minutes to write down some thoughts.

DO: Write down the recruits' ideas on a large sheet of paper visible to the group. Give them some ideas if necessary. (Sell lemonade, do some extra jobs around the house and see if your parents will pay you, put aside some money from gifts, pack your lunch instead of paying for it, with your parents' help sell one of your gently used toys on Kijiji or Craigslist)

SAY: Okay, now, let's think of some things that you might want to do either alone or as a group to give to others. Let's write down some ideas.

DO: Write down the ideas. (The Salvation Army sponsorship, OTHERS Products – see website, a gift for someone at school who is feeling down or who you notice needs something, giving in the offering plate, buying something the church needs)

SAY: Great brainstorming, everyone. Now of course here comes the hard stuff. You need to decide what you are going to do. The best way to start thinking about such things is of course to pray so we are going to spend some time doing that right now.



Squad Leader you can find out more about Salvation Army Sponsorship Programs at www.salvationist.ca/international-development/brighter-futures/ or www.salvationist.ca/international-development/gifts-of-hope/.



Squad Leader you can find out more about OTHERS products at www.salvationist.ca/womens-ministries/others/.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Worship 101 (S2) Episode 4 (4/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Background music to play while recruits pray
- Brainstorming charts from Field Mission Project
- Money template - one for each recruit (see attachment page 10)
- Pencil

Directions

SAY: I want you to find a place to sit by yourself where you can see our lists of ideas. While the music plays, I want you to pray and ask God how you can make some extra money this week. I'd also like you to pray about what you will use that money for. Okay, let's just spend a minute or two praying right now.



DO: Give the recruits a minute or two. It may appear uncomfortable for some but help them to ride it out. Pray for them as they do this and help any of them who may need help with reading to get through their list.

SAY: Okay, now, I'd like you to take a moment to write down your plan on the "money" that we give you.

DO: Give the recruits a moment to write. Help those who need a hand.

SAY: Let's just take a moment to pray over our plans and to ask God to give us the courage and strength to do what He has told us to.

DO: Pray for the kids.

SAY: Well my friends have a great week. We'll see you next week.

NOTES



Template for Pass the Parcel

Put the instructions in the following order as you wrap the parcel. Number 1 would be on the final gift, the first layer that you wrap.

1. Read the following verse from Matthew 6:21. Or have someone else read it.

“Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.” (NLT)

2. Read the following verse from 2 Corinthians 9:13-14. Or have someone else read it.

“As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you.” (NLT)

Wait for the verse to be read and then ask, “What will happen when people see us giving to others?”

3. Read the following verse from 2 Corinthians 9:12. Or have someone else read it.

“So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.” (NLT).

Wait for the verse to be read and then say, “This is an easy one? Whose needs will be met?”

4. Read the following verse from 2 Corinthians 8:2. Or have someone else read it.

“They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.” (NLT)

Wait for the verse to be read and then say, “Even though the people in this verse are very poor, how are they feeling and what do they do about it?”

Answer Key and Further Questions - After **each part** of the parcel is unwrapped, be sure to allow the recruits a chance to answer the questions and then use the ideas on the next page as a response as well. Once you have discussed then continue with the game. **Remember that you will be starting with # 4 as the parcel is unwrapped.**

1. If we give in God's name, our hearts will be focused on Him, not on the things here on earth. So, when we give a gift to someone who needs something more than we do, then we are thinking more of God and not ourselves. Can you think of other times when we can give and we are focused more on God than ourselves? (*Choosing to buy a used item so that we have more money to sponsor a family overseas, choosing to save some of our allowance to give to the church and put it in the offering plate rather than just keeping it all for ourselves*)

2. People might question why you gave a gift of some sort and you will be able to tell them about Jesus. Those who are Christians may even pray for you.

3. The needs of those in Jerusalem would be met. In this verse, it is talking about how the people in the church of Corinth would give and be able to help those in the church in Jerusalem, another city. How can we give to Christians in other parts of the country or the world?

The team was talking about The Salvation Army Sponsorship program or Sally Ann. I'm not sure if you've heard of them but these are some ways that you can help care of people around the world. You can give money to The Salvation Army and they will help to take care for people in challenging situations around the world. Through Sally Ann you can buy items made by people in other countries and the money they make would be used to help them to take care of their families.

4. They were joyful even though they didn't have much. Even in that, they gave generously. God gives us joy when we give. A toy might make us happy but that's temporary. God gives us joy, real joy!

Money Template

This week I will make some extra money by _____

_____.

I will give the money to _____

_____.

Signed _____

This week I will make some extra money by _____

_____.

I will give the money to _____

_____.

Signed _____

This week I will make some extra money by _____

_____.

I will give the money to _____

_____.

Signed _____