

Elementary and Preschool
Week 1: The Matter of Money

Lesson Overview:

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Key Passage to Memorize: “But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out. If we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.” 1 Timothy 6:6-8 *Preschoolers will memorize the underlined portion while elementary-aged children will memorize the whole passage above.*

Main Point: We should be content with what we have. God owns everything.

Who created everything? God created everything.

Who owns everything? God owns everything.

Lesson time: 60 Minutes

Ice Breaker: 10 minutes while students arrive.

Introduction: 10 minutes to get students' attention and to introduce the topic.

Bible Reading: 5 minutes, read verses from the Bible and explain how to find them.

Application Activity: 10 minutes

Review and Pray: 15 minutes

Closing Activity: 10 minutes

Items Needed:

Ice Breaker: Week 1 Coloring Sheet and crayons.

Introductory Activity: What do you do with money activity. Enough copies for each child to have a dollar from the dollar page and two copies of the item page all cut out.

Application Activity: Elementary- *Code Breaker activity page* and one pencil per child. Preschool-*What did God Make?* Activity page. A sensory bin, large bowl, or plastic shoe box filled with uncooked rice.

Review and Pray: Elementary- *Reflection page for week one sheet*, pencil, and crayons—preschool-letter *tracing activity sheet* one per child, playdough, and dab-and-dot markers.

Closing Activity: A ball, preferably a beach ball.

Ice Breaker-10 minutes: *Designed to get kids ready to learn, create a welcoming atmosphere, get their attention, and allow them to focus while others arrive. The icebreaker activity begins when your classroom opens, not when class officially starts. Do this activity as the children arrive.*

- Before children arrive, put out the *Week 1 Coloring Sheet* (elementary and preschool) at each seat and some crayons in the center of each table.
- As children arrive, greet them and ask them to find a spot at each table. Then, have them choose a place to sit and begin coloring their coloring sheet.

After about 5-6 minutes of coloring, say: **God created everything, and everything belongs to Him!** Let kids continue to color and keep welcoming new arrivals. Walk around and admire each child's work.

Say: **You all did a great job working on your coloring sheet. Today we are learning that God made everything and everything belongs to Him.**

Ask: **Who created everything?** God created everything.
Who owns everything? God owns everything.

Say: We should be content with what we have. God owns everything.

Introduction- 10 minutes: *The introduction is designed to lay the foundation for what you teach and where you will be in scripture.*

- (Elementary and Preschool) Lay the item cards from the *What do you do with money activity sheet* face down on the table like you are setting up the game memory, and mix them up. There are two of each item. Give each child a dollar.

Say: **For this activity, we are playing the game of memory. You will each have a turn to flip over a card and then see if you can flip over its match. If you successfully get a match, you can use your dollar to buy the item (the cards); if you do not get a match, flip your two cards over and let the next person try.**

- Facilitate gameplay until all the matches are bought. If you need to play more than one round so everyone gets a turn, you can do that. When a child gets a match, act like a cashier and say the item's name and how much it costs. For example, "Oh, you got a video game controller that will be one

dollar, please. Thank you! Here is your game controller; thanks for shopping with us.”

Explain: Today, we are reading in the New Testament about the matter of money. We may think that we own all of our money and everything we have bought with it, but the truth is that God created everything and owns everything.

For Preschool, say: **Let’s read from the Bible, God’s special book, and see what it says about money.**

For Elementary-age kids, Let’s **look at God’s Word, the Bible and see what it says about money.**

Bible Reading- 5 minutes:

Hold your Bible and say: **This is God’s special book, the Bible. When we read from it, we get to hear what God is saying to us. Today we are reading from 1 Timothy 6:6-10. The Bible is divided into two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament has 39 books, and the New Testament has 27 books. The Bible is made up of 66 books that tell one big story about how Jesus came to save people. 1 Timothy is a book of the Bible in the New Testament. 1 Timothy is called a Pastoral Epistle. That means it is a letter for pastors or church leaders written by Paul. You don’t have to be a pastor or church leader to learn something from this letter. Today we are going to learn a lot about money.**

Find 1 Timothy in your Bible, and explain how 6 is the chapter. It is the big number, and after you find the big 6, you read the verse. The verses are the sentences after the little 6. Ask elementary-aged kids to get their Bibles out and find the passage (help them as needed) and have them follow along as it is read. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10 out loud. If you are teaching elementary-aged kids and someone wants to read out loud, give them that opportunity.

Reread verse 6 and talk about contentment. Ask what they think contentment means. Explain that contentment means being happy and satisfied with what you have or where you are.

Reread verse 7 and explain that we cannot take money or things when we die. Money is not forever. It is temporary. A relationship with God is forever and eternal; it is essential to understand that everything belongs to God.

Reread verses 8 and 9. God provides us with what we need. He takes care of us. When people want to be rich and care about money more than people and what God wants, they are more likely to do the wrong thing and fall into destruction.

Reread verse 10. Money is not evil or wrong. The Bible says that the love of money is what causes wrongdoing. We cannot love money or things more than we love God or taking care of people.

Application Activity- 10 minutes: *Designed to get your kids thinking, moving, and driving the main point home.*

Elementary: Pass out *code breaker pages* and pencils to each child. Explain that they will use the key at the top of the page to write the corresponding letter above the line so they can decode the message.

After they all decode the message, explain that this is part of the verse you will memorize this week. Then, say it together a few times.

Preschool: Cut the squares from the What Did God make activity pages before class—one copy per group. Then hide the squares in your sensory bin. It is okay if they poke out and are partially visible.

****To make a sensory bin take a Rubbermaid container, premade sensory container, a large bowl, or plastic shoebox and fill it with uncooked rice. Your preschoolers will love to dig and play in it on their turn.****

Have your group meet you on the rug and explain that each child will get a turn to pull out a card from the sensory bin and get to tell you what is on their card. Each item on a card is something God made because God made everything and owns everything!

Play until every child has had a turn, or continue to play and dig until they lose interest.

Review and Pray- 15 Minutes: *Designed to review the main point, reflect on the lesson and spend time talking to God.*

Elementary- Pass out *reflection pages for week 1*, pencils, and crayons. Explain that you will do a weekly reflection page to help each child process what you are learning and help them spend a little time talking to God. Explain that they will retell or draw what they learned from God's word today on their paper. Then they will write out or illustrate how what they learn applies to their lives and write or draw a prayer to God. Then, finally, they will use the word bank at the bottom of the page to finish the memory verse.

After everyone has finished their reflection page, gather their pencils and crayons and tell them you will pray together as a group.

Dear God, thank You that You created everything. Thank you that you own everything. Please help us to trust that you will meet all of our needs. Please help us always to put you first and not to love money, toys, or belongings more than you and more than loving others. You are the most important. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Preschool- Give each child a copy of the letter *tracing activity sheet*, a ball of playdough, and dab-and-dot markers (crayons or markers if dab-and-dot markers are unavailable).

Explain that each child will get a sheet of paper, and it says everything is God's! First, have your group trace each letter with their finger, saying it out loud if they can, and then when they finish, have them say, "Everything is God's!"

Second, have your group take their playdough and form each letter on the page with the playdough, saying the letter out loud if they can, and then when they finish, have them say, "Everything is God's!"

Third, have your group take their dab-and-dot makers and dot out each letter saying the letter out loud if they can, and then when they finish, have them say, "Everything is God's!"

You can do this as many times as your group wants to. Then take up the playdough and makers and pray together as a group.

Say: We will talk to God now; that is called praying. God can hear us all the time. Let's get our bodies ready to pray. Ask: Are you sitting down on the ground? Are your feet still? Are your hands where you can be still and focus on God? Then ask

if their eyes are closed so they can focus on God. Then tell them you will pray out loud, and they can talk to God in their head and hearts.

Dear God, thank You that You created everything. Thank you that you own everything. Please help us to trust that you will meet all of our needs. Please help us always to put you first and not to love money, toys, or belongings more than you and more than loving others. You are the most important. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Closing Activity: 5 minutes

As children prepare to be picked up, have them sit in a circle, pass the ball to each other for preschool, and stand in a circle and toss the ball to each other for elementary.

You will throw the ball to a child and say **the first word of the verse**, then the child who catches the ball will say **the following word in the verse**, then they will throw it, and the next child who catches it will say **the following word**, then continue until you have said the whole thing. Then, word by word, say the verse together a few times in a row until everyone is picked up. Remember, Preschool only says the underlined part of the verse below, and elementary-aged children say the whole thing.

“But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out. If we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.” 1 Timothy 6:6-8

Send the take-home page with each child. Copy it front and back and cut the sheets into fourths. Each child will take a 1/4th sheet home. Please point out the memory verse to their parents.