

Redeemer Lutheran Church

“At-Home” Sunday School Packet

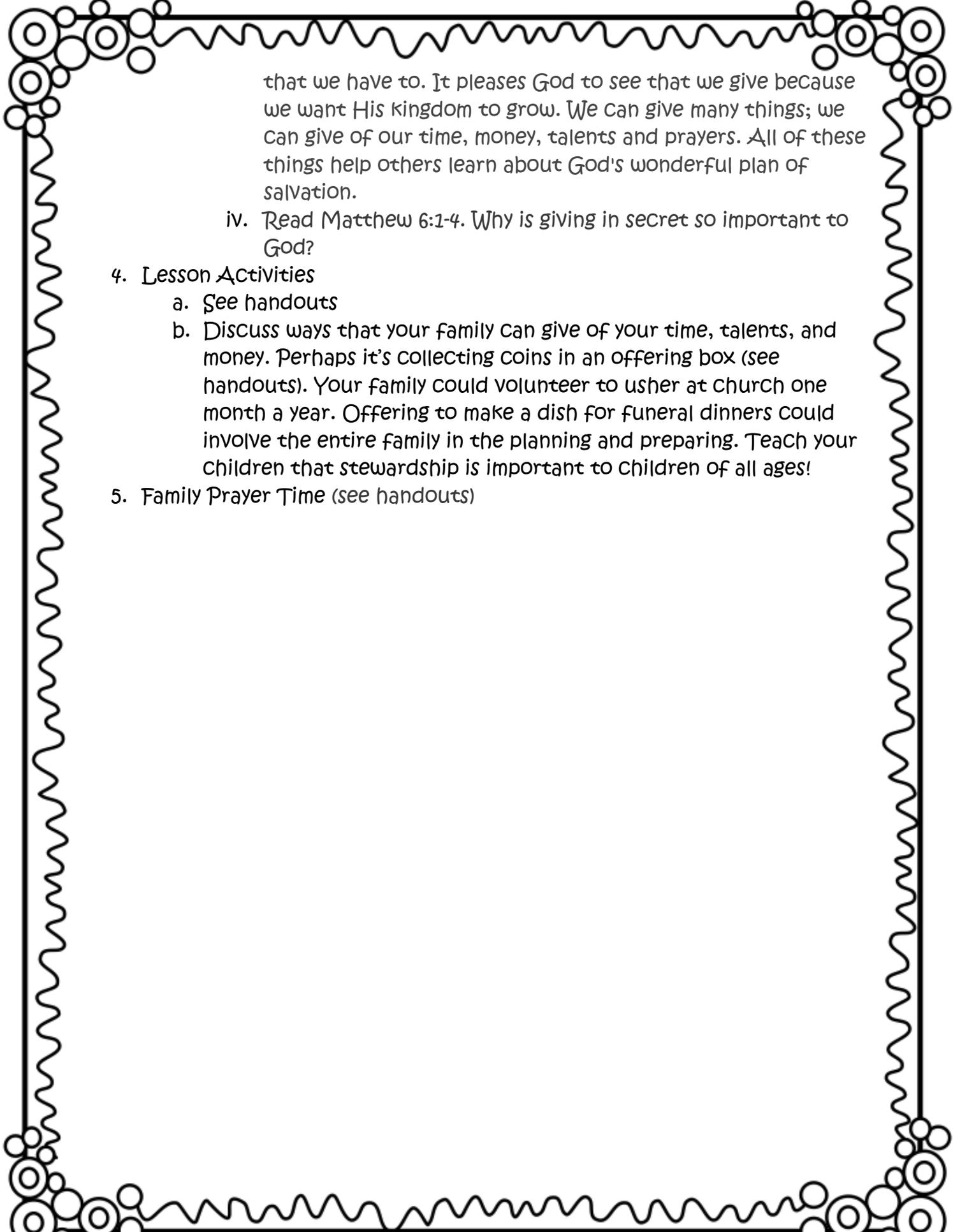
Sunday, October 18, 2020

Today's Bible Lesson: “A Generous Heart” Mark 12:41-44

Oftentimes we view generosity solely through the lens of finances. It is true that we are called to be generous financially; but we are also called to be generous with our time, with our talents and abilities, and with the other resources God has placed at our disposal. We practice a life of generosity most of all because we have a generous God who has given His all for us in the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ.

*To find links to the videos mentioned, go to the church website (redeemerlutheran.us). Under Ministries, go to Youth and then Children's Ministries.

1. Begin with Luther's Morning Prayer (see handout)
2. Family Sing-A-Long videos*
 - a. “Step by Step”
 - b. “Our God”
 - c. “A Gift to You”
3. Today's Lesson
 - a. Watch video* “The Widow's Mite”
 - b. Read the lesson (see handout)
 - c. Read the three handouts from “Kids in the Divine Service”.
 - d. Questions for Family Discussion
 - i. What does it mean to be generous? Who is the most generous person you know?
 - ii. Read Psalm 50:7-11. Generosity begins with the idea that everything we have is a gift of God. How does this affect the way you use the resources entrusted to you?
 - iii. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-9. What does this teach us about giving? God wants us to give with a cheerful heart and a generous spirit. God doesn't want us to give because we feel



that we have to. It pleases God to see that we give because we want His kingdom to grow. We can give many things; we can give of our time, money, talents and prayers. All of these things help others learn about God's wonderful plan of salvation.

iv. Read Matthew 6:1-4. Why is giving in secret so important to God?

4. Lesson Activities

- a. See handouts
 - b. Discuss ways that your family can give of your time, talents, and money. Perhaps it's collecting coins in an offering box (see handouts). Your family could volunteer to usher at church one month a year. Offering to make a dish for funeral dinners could involve the entire family in the planning and preparing. Teach your children that stewardship is important to children of all ages!
5. Family Prayer Time (see handouts)



Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



The Widow's Offering

⁴¹ And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the “Offering”?

This is the time during the service when we offer gifts to God with the rest of the congregation. The Offering is concluded with the *Offertory*, which is the song that we sing while these gifts are being presented at the altar.



Why do we give some of our money to the Church?

The money that we give goes to help support all the work of the church. If you think about it, all that we have is a gift from God. When we give an offering, we are saying thanks to God for all of His wonderful gifts. As

Christians, we give to God in response to what He has given to us: life; food; family; and, most important, our Savior Jesus! We don't give because we have to, we give because, in faith, we want to!



Parents: Before the Divine Service, remind your children what giving to the Offering means. Help them to think of all the things that they have and how they are really gifts from God. Encourage them to set aside a certain amount of their own money each week to give.



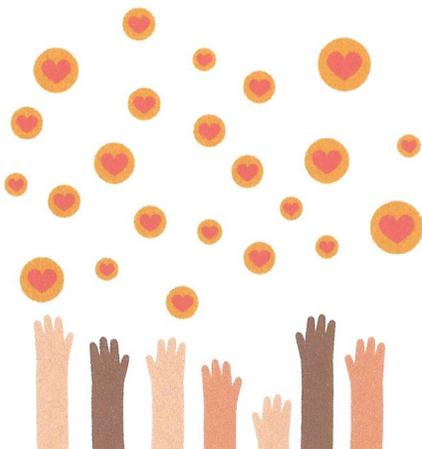
KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the “Offertory”?

The word “offertory” comes from the Latin word “offerre,” which means “to give, or to present.” The Offertory is sung by the congregation during the Divine Service as the gifts and offerings are presented to the Lord.

Why do we use the Offertory?

Take a look at the words from the following Offertory: **“What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? ... I will take the cup of salvation and will call upon the name of the Lord.”** These words from Psalm 116 tell us that the greatest way to praise and thank God for all of His goodness is not the offerings and gifts that we give, but that in faith we continue to receive what He gives us in His Word and Sacraments. Receiving God’s gifts isn’t just a part of worshipping God, it is the greatest worship of God! Wow! What a wonderful and giving God we have!



Parents: Encourage your children to listen to the words of the Offertory as it is sung. Notice that such words are sung right before the Lord’s Supper is prepared and distributed. Here we are receiving the “cup of salvation” full of the Father’s grace through the precious blood of His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.



KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is a “steward”?

A steward is someone who has been put in charge of something. For example, if you are a babysitter, you are a steward for the parents of the child you are watching. We have been entrusted as stewards, or keepers, of God’s creation. That means that He has given us everything we have, and out of love for Him, we use all things for His will. This includes giving of our time, talents, money and all that we have in service to Him.

Why do Christians give?

Like everyone else, we belong to God because He created us and sustains us. As Christians we belong to His kingdom of salvation through our Baptism. God’s love motivates us to give of what we have. We don’t give because we owe God for all He has done for us in Jesus. Instead, we give because of the powerful Gospel that is working within us! Wow! God really strengthens us for wonderful service!



Parents: Before or after the service, discuss stewardship with your children. Remind them why we give. Help them to discover how they might give of what they have. Encourage them to set aside a certain portion of their own money each week to give. They will experience the joy of giving first-hand.



The Widow's Mite

But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Mark 12:42

Based on Mark 12:38-44



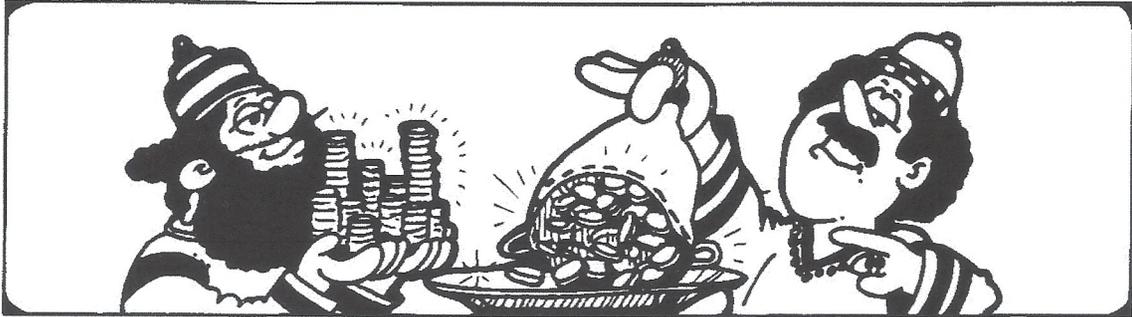
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PENNY	PLACE	TRUTH	DISCIPLES	TEMPLE
JESUS	TREASURY	MONEY	POVERTY	AMOUNT
MORE	WIDOW	COINS	RICH	OFFERING
LARGE	WEALTH	EVERYTHING	COPPER	POOR

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

Mark 12:41-44

Find out what the widow put in the offering by placing the correct letter in the blank. Check your answer by reading Mark 12:41-44.



1. ____ You'll find me once in *snake* and twice in *elephant*.
2. ____ You'll find me in *vanilla*, but not in *chocolate* or *lemon lime*.
3. ____ I'm once in *ears* and twice in *eyes*.
4. ____ I'm a consonant in *treasure* but not in *stadium*.
5. ____ You'll see me in *yard*, but not in *lard*.
6. ____ Look for me twice in *tight* and *little*.
7. ____ I'm a consonant in *house* and also in *heart*.
8. ____ I'm a vowel in *Illinois* but not in *Oregon*.
9. ____ I'm a consonant found once in *bean* and twice in *banana*.
10. ____ I'm a consonant in *green*, but not in *brown*.

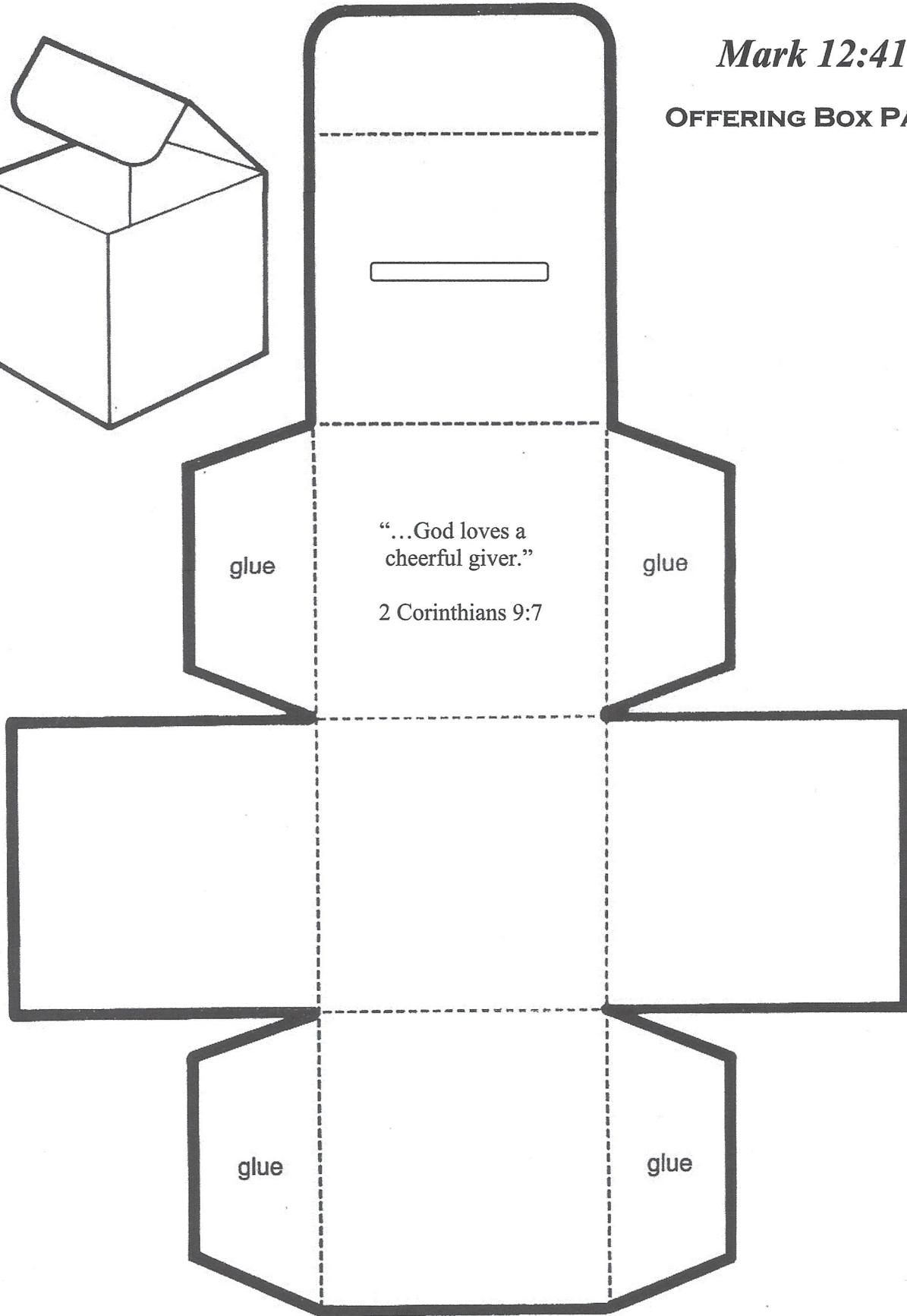
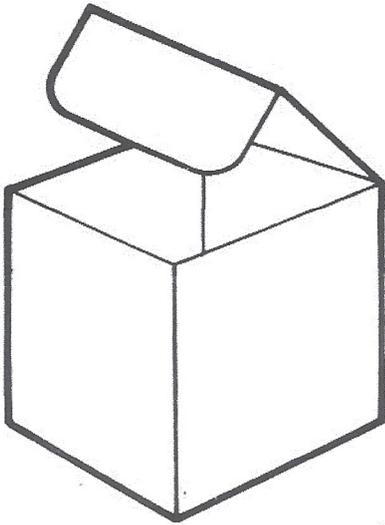
The widow put in _____.



THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

Mark 12:41-44

OFFERING BOX PATTERN



The 5 Finger Prayer

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.



MY WORLD:

MONDAY

This month, I will pray for the country of _____

These are some of the things I will pray about:

MY COMMUNITY:

WEDNESDAY

This is what I will pray about for my community:

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR THIS MONTH:

SATURDAY

MY COUNTRY:

TUESDAY

I will pray for my own country! These are some of the things I will pray about this month:

MY FRIENDS:

THURSDAY

This month I will pray for _____

These are the things I will pray about:

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT GOD THIS MONTH:

MY FAMILY:

FRIDAY

This month I will pray for:

SUNDAY