

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: The cure for the "gimmies" is being happy with what God has given you

Key Question: What does it mean to be greedy?

Memory Verse: *And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:19***

Overview: We're continuing in our series called, "How Stuff Works". It's important to know how stuff works so we don't make mistakes that can hurt us or those we care about. We've already learned how our feelings should work. God created us to have them but we need to know how to control them. Last week, we learned about friendship. God designed us to want to have friends but we need to choose the right kind of friends. Our friends will rub off on us, for the good or the bad. We become more like the people we hang around. So, we need to choose our friends wisely! Today, we're going to talk about greed. Greed is just a fancy word for when you have the "gimmies". You know, when you want something you don't really need. Here's how the "gimmies" work. You go to the grocery store with your mom and you see yummy chips or cereal and you say, "Mom! I want this or I want that!" Or, you go to your friend's house and they have the cool new game, so you go home and say, "Mom, I have to have it because everyone else has it!" See how that works? Greed, or the "gimmies", gets us in trouble because our focus is on stuff. We don't NEED stuff, but we might WANT stuff. It's important to know the difference. God doesn't want us to be greedy. He wants to cure us of the "gimmies". The cure is being thankful for what we already have!

CLASSROOM AGENDA

- 5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.
- 5 min **WARM UP:** Make a list of things kids really want. (cool games/gaming systems, clothes, phones etc) Why do kids want those things?
- 5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)
- 20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.
- 5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.
- 5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [Ecclesiastes 5:10-11](#). Why do people with money never think they have enough? What happens if we only chase stuff money can buy?
- 10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 5 min **CLOSE:**
 - Do you have a case of the "gimmies"? What are you going to do about it?
 - Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

Allow each kid to share. The point: We all want the latest and greatest stuff but our stuff doesn't make us happy.

Answer: A greedy person is always looking for more stuff and never happy with what they have. God doesn't want us to be greedy. Greed puts the focus on the wrong thing-stuff. Our toys, games, and clothes won't make us happy. There will always be something bigger or better. So, we need to put our focus on what does matter-God! He knows what we need and he will give us what we need.

Bonus Questions: How does greed get us into trouble? What are some things you want but don't need?

4-5th: Why doesn't our stuff really make us happy? What usually happens to greedy people?

It's just in our nature to want more. We want the newest game or the better gadget and that takes money. And, once you buy the game or gadget you want, a better one comes out. It's an endless cycle of wanting more. The Bible warns us that chasing stuff will never make us happy. Only God knows what truly makes us happy and he promises to give us what we **NEED**, not always what we **WANT**. Don't waste your time and money on stuff. Put your focus on God and what he's blessed you with already.

Allow each kid to share. Encourage them to be thankful for what they already have.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities **2nd-5th**

Option #1

Gimmie Heart vs. Happy Heart Game

- Draw a large heart on the whiteboard and draw a line to divide in half
- Write "Gimmie" on one side and "Happy" on the other
- Have kids take turns drawing a little heart saying (**pg 5**) out of a basket. Have kids read the saying to the class and decide if it belongs on the "Gimme" side or the "Happy" side. Have the kid tape it to the correct side
- Continue having kids pull a saying until all have been placed on the heart
- If time allows, have kids come up with a few examples of their own to include
- Remind kids that we should be thankful for what we have instead of wishing we had more

Supplies needed

- whiteboard
- whiteboard markers
- little heart sayings (pg 5) pre cut, one set per class
- tape

Bonus Activity:

Play the **True or False game**

See who is quickest to answer correctly.

1. Having the "gimmies" is a good thing. (F)
2. God doesn't give us what we need. (F)
3. We should be happy with what we have. (T)

Option #2

Gimmie Heart vs. Happy Heart Craft

- Give each kid a heart and a sayings template (**pg 6**)
- Have kids cut out the heart and sayings
- Using a black marker, have them write the word "Gimmie" at the top of the left side and the word "Happy" at the top of the right side
- Have them color the left side of the heart black and the other half red (don't color over the words at the top)
- As a class, read each little heart saying and decide if it goes on the "Gimmie" side or the "Happy" side. Then have kids glue each one on the correct side
- As a class, come up with another example for a "Gimmie" and a "Happy" statement. Have kids write them on the blank hearts provided. Have them glue those on the correct side, too
- Remind kids that the only cure for the "gimmies" is being happy with what you already have



Supplies needed

- heart and sayings template (pg6), one set per kid
- scissors
- crayons
- black markers
- glue
- pencils

Bonus Activity:

Play **Find the Book in the Bible**

Have class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the books below. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

Books: Exodus, Proverbs, Ephesians

1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

1. The "gimmies" are when you always _____ stuff you don't really _____.
2. The "gimmies" never _____.
3. The _____ for the "gimmies" is being happy with what God has given you.

2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

1. Make a list of things kids really want. (cool games/gaming systems, clothes, phones etc) Why do kids want those things?
2. Make a list of stuff you care about. Why do you like those things?
3. Why do we always want more and more stuff?
4. Why can't our stuff make us happy?
5. What are some things God has given you. How can you show your parents (and God) how thankful you are for those things?
6. Read [Ecclesiastes 5:10-11](#). Why do people with money never think they have enough? What happens if we only chase stuff money can buy?

3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

"And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Bonus: Read these additional passages as a family this week

- Read [James 4:3](#). Give an example of something you asked for but didn't get. How did you react?
- Read [Luke 12:15](#). What are some potential dangers of focusing too much on stuff?
- Read [Proverbs 11:28](#). What happens when we trust money over God? What happens when we trust God?

Parent Signature _____

Learn the 3 basic truths of the Christian faith in the [Foundations for Kids](#) series.



ACTIVITY PAGE #1

2nd-5th Grade

Kids

ACTIVITY #1

Q G T H A D D E U S D
J A M E S A L P H E U S S
G M A T T H I A S T H O M A S
Y P I K J U D A S Q D P U F T
Z L G G H Q X P
G T M Z I K I W
G W M Q L F G J
B T Q Y I V L A
J U C B P W K M
E S I M O N P E T E R V L S E
S P C D C Q T A N D R E W S
V A U L V R Y C V I V Z
I Q Q J V H Z G T D A D G M
E X R W P F C P R C Z I F A
E D I B A R T H O L O M E W T
M H G G S I J T
E H W Y I B O H
Q P N S M V H E
P H H I O T N W
Q I J W N W B Y

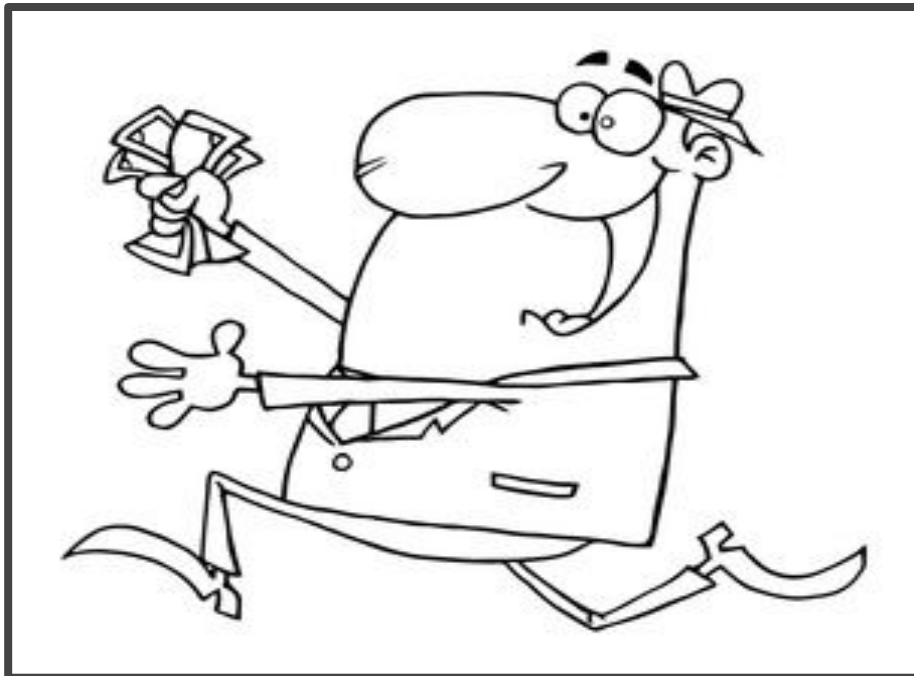
Andrew
Bartholomew
James
James
Alpheus
John
Judas
Matthew
Matthias
Philip
Simon
Simon Peter
Thaddeus
Thomas

BIG IDEA

KEY QUESTION

MEMORY VERSE

COLOR



DON'T BE GREEDY

LITTLE HEART SAYINGS TEMPLATE

PAGE 5

What I
have is
old

My
friend
got a
better
game

I don't
like what
I have
anymore

I want it
now

Stuff
won't
make
me
happy

What I
have is
fine

I want to
go to
cool
places

I never
get what
I want

I'm
happy
for my
friend

I want
name
brand
clothes

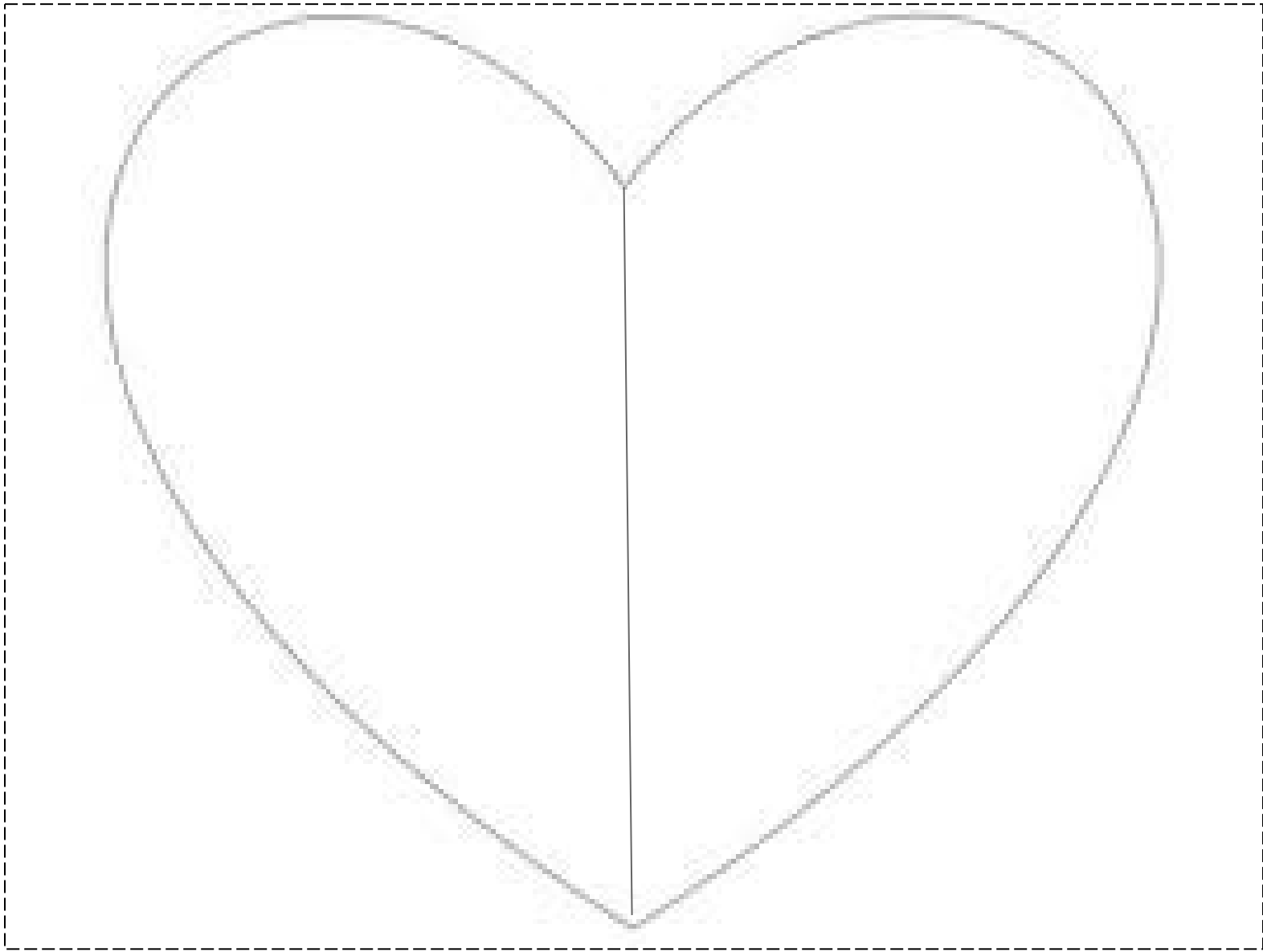
My
friend's
room is
better

I'm
thankful
for what I
have

God has
been
good to
me

I wish my
house
was
bigger

I need
more
stuff



I want it
now

My
friend's
is better

What I
have is
old

What I
have is
fine

Stuff
doesn't
matter

God
gives
what I
need

