

Stewardship Sabbath Children's Story
November 4, 2018

Of Assets and Attitudes

By Jackie Bishop

Preparation: Bring some pictures (or even the items themselves) of things that kids typically "love," such as toys, food, people, clothes, etc.

Say: "I have some pictures/things with that I'm sure many of you will really like. You might even say that you will *love* them. (Show pictures or items)

"Why do you love that? How did you come to love that? (Wait for answers)

"Some may have cost lots of money, and other gifts or treasures you may have found. Is there a difference in your love for those things that you bought versus those things that you found or made?" (Wait for answers)

Share a memory of when *you* acquired an object and share with the kids why you loved it.

Say: "When we love something or someone, we are motivated to respond differently than when we don't. Jesus loves us so much that our behavior even on bad days doesn't change that. Why do you think He gives us things, special people in our lives, and a home in Heaven? Do you think it's because He feels obligated? Or because He thinks it will benefit Him somehow? No. He gives because He loves us. He sacrificed His heavenly home to come to earth so He could take us back with Him someday. No price was too much—even His life.

"Jesus asks us to give from a heart of love. His word tells us in Second Corinthians 9:7, "You shouldn't give because you are forced to. God loves a cheerful giver," (NIRV). So, whether it's our time, our affection, our possessions, He wants us to give them to others from a heart of love.

I want you to hear a song about *how much fun* it is to be a cheerful giver! (Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5usc1gnPbE> and share the kids' song by Steve Green about giving.)

Say: "God has so much fun giving to us, and He wants us to have that same kind of fun and joy by giving to others.

"There are many ways to give. Can you think of some? (Wait for answers. What about giving to (show a particular church project)? Or giving to people in other parts of the world (show a picture of a mission need)? Or even giving to kids you know who don't have enough food or clothing or toys (show a picture of a group of kids sharing with each other).

So, let's pray and ask Jesus to help us find ways this week to be a generous giver with our time, our possessions, our forgiveness, and our kindness." (Pray)