



NPC Children

FAMILY LESSON

October 10, 2021

Bible Story: The Widow's Offering (Mark 12: 41- 44)

Theological Application: God wants us to be close to him and we can do that by taking care of our hearts!

Memory Verse: Happy are the pure in heart, for they will see God! - Matthew 5:8

Lesson Objective: The objective for this lesson is to teach kids that God cares about what is in their hearts and that by taking care of our hearts, we can draw closer to God.

LESSON

Bible Story

What to do: Read the following short passage from the book of Mark to your family. Think of how what feelings are in the widow's heart.

The Widow's Offering

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Memory Verse Activity

What to do: Read the memory verse and go through the hand motions together. Once you have it, take turns repeating it to each other!



Happy are the...

This the ASL sign for happy...

(Brush your flat hand up and out from your heart a couple of times.) Easy to remember- feelings come from your heart!



Pure in heart

for they will see (point to eye)



God (point to the air)



Discussion Questions

What to do: Ask each other...

1. What does it mean to be pure in heart? Remember – we think of our hearts as where our feelings live.
 2. How can we know how God wants us to live and what he cares about?
 3. Why do you think the poor widow gave everything she had to Jesus?
 4. What does her offering say about her heart and what mattered to her?
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Faith Application Game

What you'll need: A happy heart (at the end of this lesson) for each player.

What to do: The leader will read each scenario out loud. Hold your happy heart high if this action would draw you closer to God. If it is something that would pull you away from God, keep your heart hidden.

1. The funniest kid in the class said something unkind about another boy's hat. It was hysterical so you laughed hard!
2. You got up early and went to church with your mom and dad.
3. The new girl at school was sitting all alone in the cafeteria. You sat down at the table with her and struck up a conversation.
4. You were sad that there are so many hungry people in our city, so you brought canned goods to the local mission.
5. At your soccer game this past weekend, another player kept getting in the way so you tripped him.
6. Your girl scouting troop is counting off numbers to break into smaller groups to do an activity. You do your best to get in your friend's group so you don't have to sit with the weird girl.
7. Your little brother broke your favorite toy when he wasn't even supposed to be playing with it. You forgave him anyway.
8. Your math teacher is so boring and going on forever so rather than sit and be bored, you talk with your neighbor at the table.
9. At recess, everyone wanted to play gaga ball—except you! – so you hid the ball so everyone would play freeze tag instead.
10. Your grandmother said she missed you, so you drew a card and sent it to her.
11. You read a bible story at night before going to bed.
12. Your mom asked you to clean up your room but that is boring so you ignore her.
13. You don't like the story a friend is telling to your group of friends, so to get her to be quiet, you call her a "liar!"

14. There is a little kid on the monkey bars that is taking too long, so you ask him to get out of the way.
 15. The teacher sends a note home in your Friday Folder that you don't want your mom and dad to see, so you take it out and hide it in your backpack.
 16. You and your family say a prayer before the family dinner.
 17. Your friend in your class is struggling to get his desk area cleaned up and everyone is waiting for your table to be called to line up. You help him get organized.
 18. Your teacher assigns you homework. This is so unfair because none of the other classes get homework. You ignore it and play video games instead.
 19. Your friend on the street says she has never been to Sunday School before, so you invite her to come with you.
 20. You are walking along the street and see a street person who looks hungry. You give them a granola bar.
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Craft Activity/ "Fill Your Heart"

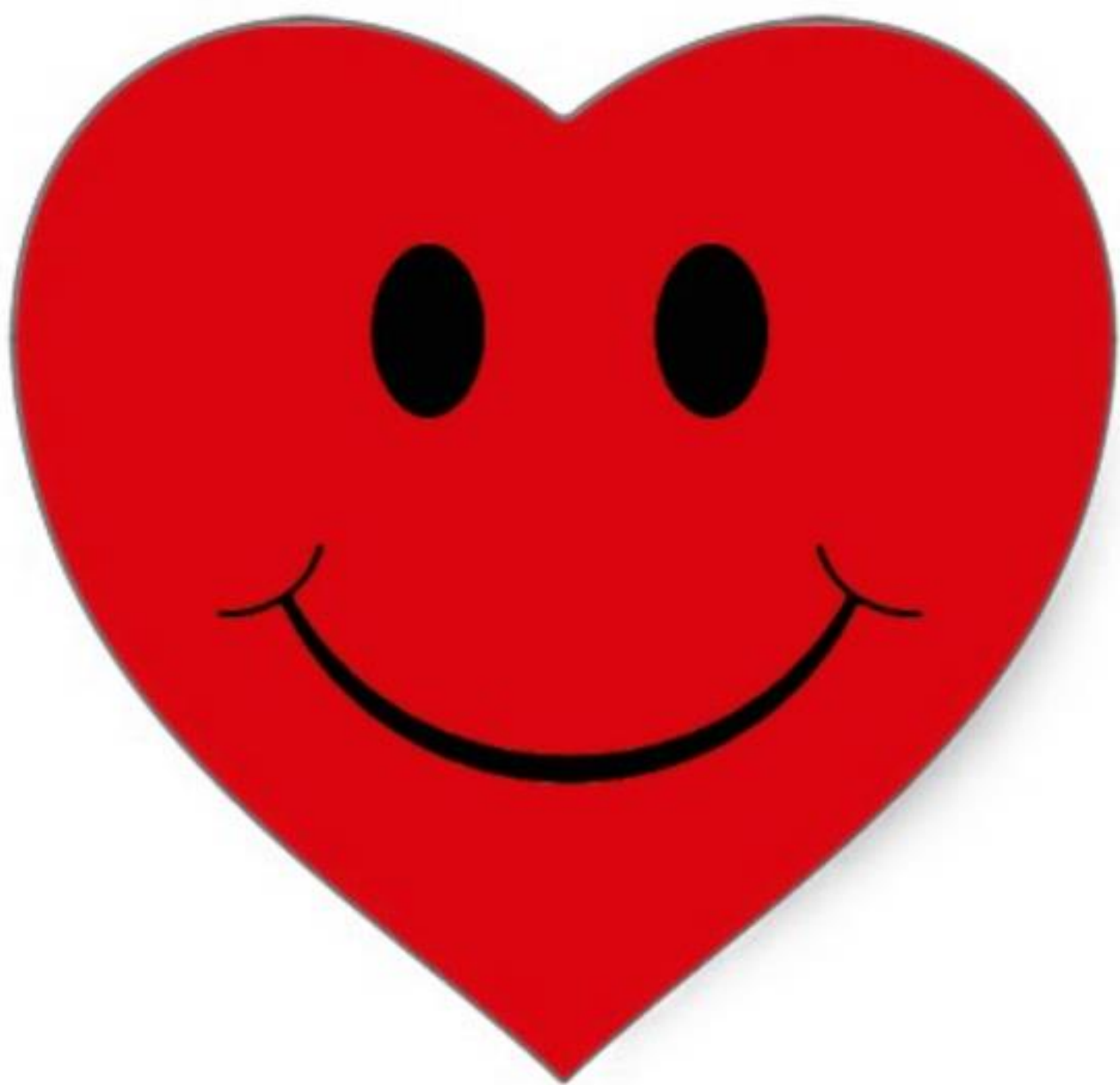
What You'll Need: Handout at the back of this lesson, markers or crayons

What to do: Write different ways that you can draw your heart closer to God. Younger learners may draw pictures.

Prayer

Praying together as a family strengthens your relationship with God and with one another. A family prayer journal where you record the things you pray about together is a great way to see God working in your lives and a wonderful habit to model for your children.

What to do: Ask: Does anyone have something they would like to ask God? Take turns talking to God or have one person to lead the family in a prayer. Remember to ask God to give you happy hearts, focused on all the things God cares about.



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