

ACTIVITY #2

GIVING TO OTHERS

In the Gospel this week, we heard the story about a young man who approached Jesus and asked how he could live forever with God. What did Jesus tell him was the first thing he must do? He told him he must live by the ten commandments. When the young man said that he had always lived by these commandments, what else did Jesus say he must do? Jesus told him to sell all his possessions and give the money to the poor. Now this young man was very rich, and he loved his possessions very much, so he left Jesus sadly.

Jesus isn't asking us to give all of our things away, BUT he does want us to make sure that we love HIM more than we love our STUFF. Our love for God, and following Jesus, is more precious than anything we could have or own.

Jesus is also calling us to be generous with the gifts that God has given us. These gifts could be giving of our time to help someone, using our talents to cheer up someone sad, or giving some of our treasure to help those in need.

Here are some ideas for ways that your family can share the gifts that God has given you. How many can you come up with on your own? Keep a running list, and make it a priority to share Jesus' love with others on a regular basis!

Ideas for sharing your gifts:

- Pick up one or two extra items each time you go grocery shopping. Donate them to St. Vincent de Paul, or another food pantry in town.
- Save a portion of your allowance or money you receive as gifts and donate it to a cause that is important to your family.
- Make greeting cards for people who live in nursing homes or rehabilitation centers. Many of these people have no one to visit or send them cards.
- Do something helpful for a friend, family member, or neighbor, without expecting anything in return.
- Make some bird feeders and hang them outside for our feathered friends, especially during the winter months. God made and loves all creatures, so they deserve our love, too!
- Use one of the recipes on this website: <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipes/176/soups-stews-and-chili/soup/dry-soup-mixes/> (or do a Google search for "soup recipes in a jar" for a lot of other ideas) and make some jars of soup to have on hand to give away to a friend in need, or someone under the weather, or just to brighten someone's day!