



“ME & MY MONIES”

A Learning Experience for 4-6 Graders about Cooperative Missions/Giving

SESSION 1

SESSION TITLE: I Gladly Give Money at My Church

PURPOSE: To help children understand that God plans for them to give money as an offering of love for him.

BIBLE STORY: The Widow's Offering

BIBLE PASSAGE: *Mark 12:41-44*

MEMORY VERSE: Each man [person] should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. *2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV*

SESSION 2

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give at My Church Helps Others

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God can and will use the gifts of children.

BIBLE STORY: A Little Boy Helps Jesus Feed Others

BIBLE PASSAGE: *John 6:1-14*

MEMORY VERSE: Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right. *Proverbs 20:11 NIV*

SESSION 3

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give to My Church Helps God's Servants

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God uses in a special way every gift given in love.

BIBLE STORY: A Gift for Elisha

BIBLE PASSAGE: *2 Kings 4:8-11*

MEMORY VERSE: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. *Deuteronomy 6:5 NIV*

SESSION 4

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give to My Church Helps People Around the World!

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God counts on people to give money to church.

BIBLE STORY: The Church at Antioch Helps a Church Far Away

BIBLE PASSAGE: *Acts 11:19-30*

MEMORY VERSE: All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. *Acts 4:32 NIV*

UNIT Preparation

Preparing to Teach

INTRODUCTION

This unit will help girls and boys understand how monies are collected and distributed through their churches to fund God's work at home and all over the world. You will need copies of budgets, financial reports, and any other pertinent material your church provides to its members. You will need to become familiar with how your own church distributes its funds through salaries, building and grounds, and programs and ministries, including the money it sends to the association, the state convention, and the national convention. You will also need material from your state office, national office, and home and international mission boards. Throughout the unit, emphasize that the monies for everything that is accomplished at the local, state, national, and international levels comes from their own churches.

A wealth of material is available to supplement the unit. Mission stories are available on the websites given below. *Virginia Missions* magazine is available from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board. Check for copies in your own church. Stories written by missionaries are available for download from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board website, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship website, the Cooperative Program website, the North American Mission Board website (home missions), and the International Mission Board (foreign missions) website. When posters and other visuals are available on the websites, obtain them and use them in the appropriate session. Many items on the websites are free while other items are for sale. You may also call the appropriate agency and ask them to send you any material they have that would help in teaching the unit.

Be sure to check the websites. The material available there will considerably enhance teaching this unit.

Phone numbers and websites are given below that will help you obtain information from agencies that are included in the study. If you contact the agencies by telephone, ask for information related to the Cooperative Program as well as ministries and projects promoted and supported by the board you are calling.

Virginia Baptist Mission Board: 1-800-255-2428; www.vbmb.org

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship: 1-800-352-8741; www.thefellowship.info

Cooperative Program: 1-800-722-9407; www.cpmissions.net

North American Mission Board: 1-770-410-6000; www.namb.net

International Mission Board: 1-800-999-3113; www.imb.org

SHARING WHAT THEY LEARN

The children will learn a great deal about how money is used to accomplish God's work in our churches, states, and conventions. Plan to share the children's work with adult Sunday School classes, Wednesday night supper, during a prayer meeting or other gathering. They may learn something too!

ORGANIZATION

You will need one director or lead teacher and at least two teachers. Plan on one adult for every five to six children. The director will act as leader for the team, planning and guiding the work of each session. In each session, the director will be responsible for leading the group time and one of the closing activities, if needed. Teachers will be responsible for preparing and overseeing the introductory activities (many of the introductory activities are self-directed) and a closing activity at the end of each session as well as assisting during group time.

ACTIVITIES

Each session is divided into three parts: Introductory Activities (5-10 minutes), Group Time (25-30 minutes), and Closing Activities (30-35 minutes). All three sections together form a session. Use the shorter times if you have an hour of teaching and the longer times if you will teach for one hour and fifteen minutes.

Three *introductory activities* are offered each session. The activities are designed for five or six children. If you have more than 18 children, prepare the activities in duplicate.

Some of the *closing activities* may last for two or four weeks because of the amount of work needed. The children may choose to work on the same activity more than once or they may make other choices. Four activities are offered each session. Plan on choosing at least three of them unless you have more than 18 children. Then offer all four activities or duplicate one or two of them. Groups of five or six children are easier to guide.

The children will enjoy doing activities that last from week-to-week so be sure to include at least one in the options you offer the children. The activities that last for more than a week are easy to direct because once the children get going,

they do everything themselves. You have to provide the material and supplies and give direction as needed.

You may want to add a mission story in each session. If so, do that in place of the "Bible Application" portion of group time.

You may want to add or replace some of the activities suggested in the procedures with these activities.

Budget Allocation Charts. Children may prepare charts showing the different allocations of money in their church, in the state, and/or in the national organizations. You will need budget information from all the organizations. Check the websites given above. Children can make the charts themselves or use a computer program.

Word Puzzles. The children may create a variety of word puzzles using computer programs designed for that purpose.

ROOM PREPARATION

Plan to print the words of the unit title on several balloons and hang them up in one area of the room. Balloons filled with helium will work best and last longer.

Prepare session titles and memory verses for each session on construction paper. Display them during the appropriate session.

If possible, obtain teaching pictures of the four Bible stories and use them in the group time as part of the Bible story and Bible story review.

Use any posters you have received from the various agencies you contacted to make the room look interesting and exciting.

1 SESSION 1

SESSION TITLE: I Gladly Give Money to My Church

PURPOSE: To help children understand that God plans for them to give money as an offering of love for Him.

BIBLE STORY: The Widow's Offering

BIBLE PASSAGE: *Mark 12:41-44*

MEMORY VERSE: "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." *2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV*

Preparation

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

- 1.** *Make a Savings Bank* - You will need coffee cans or small-size oatmeal boxes, tape, scissors, and colored markers
- 2.** *Memory Verse Jump* - You will need a large sheet of plain plastic such as an inexpensive shower curtain or a drop cloth, construction paper, a colored marker, masking tape, and a Bible open to the memory verse. Using one sheet of construction paper for each word or phrase, cut the paper into a variety of shapes. Print on each shape one or two words of the memory verse. Tape the words to the shower curtain in mixed-up order.
- 3.** *Where Does Our Money Go?* - You will need a copy of your church's budget, a financial report, pencils, writing paper, and a highlighter.

GROUP TIME

- 1.** *Tell the Bible story.* You will need construction paper, yarn, colored markers, several coins, and a large container for offerings, such as a chest. Prepare signs to indicate each Bible character. Punch two holes in each placard for a strand of yarn. The children will wear them around their necks. The children can wear costumes if they are available, but they are not necessary. Ask a teacher to read the part of the narrator. Then you will be free to help the children.
- 2.** *Review the Bible story.* Use the teaching picture if you have one. Children will need their Bibles.
- 3.** *Application to life.* Learn about ministries in your own church that receive money from the budget. Tell the children that there are several ways in their own church that they could help. If you want to, choose a mission story to tell in the session.
- 4.** *Learn the memory verse.* You will need the shower curtain with the memory-verse word shapes.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

CHOICE 1.

Read All About It! (Two-session activity)

Girls and boys will put together a newspaper using information from the financial reports of your church. You will need a copy of your church's budget, a financial report, information on ministries your church offers, any other pertinent financial information, several large sheets of newsprint, black and colored markers, glue, scissors, and a camera. Check in your church for specific ministries on which the children could report. Ministries include choirs, Sunday School classes, a food closet, a clothes closet, and so on.

CHOICE 2.

Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)

Girls and boys will use a variety of financial information from your church to put together a computer presentation. You will need a copy of your church's budget, a financial report, information on ministries your church offers, and any other pertinent financial information.

You will need a computer with a program designed for computer presentation. Check with your media director or a church member. A notebook computer would work well unless you can bring a computer setup into the classroom or go to a computer located elsewhere in the church.

The presentation software is simple to use. The program is designed to lead the user right through a presentation. Formats are pre-designed and only the information for the presentation needs to be entered. Some of the children may already be familiar with the program. Music and video clips can also be entered into the presentation although that is more sophisticated. Check if there is someone in your church who would enjoy helping the children to prepare the presentation.

CHOICE 3.

Where Does Our Money Go? (Mural)

Girls and boys will use words and pictures to make a mural showing how the money in your church is used. You will need a copy of your church's budget, a financial report, other financial information, information on ministries in your church, a long length of paper such as that used to cover the tables or several large sheets, colored markers, scissors, old magazines or quarterlies, and glue.

CHOICE 4.

"A Giving Song"

Girls and boys will write an original song about cheerfully giving money to God. You will need a piece of poster board, construction paper, writing paper, colored markers, pencils, a cassette recorder and a cassette tape. On the construction paper, print these words: happy, cheerful, glad, joyful, delighted, thankful.

1 SESSION 1

Introductory Activities

(5-10 minutes)

Greet children as they arrive and point out the three activities. Guide each child to make a choice.

ACTIVITY 1 - *Make a Savings Bank*

Guide the children to use the materials provided to make banks. They will cover the containers with construction paper and tape the lids to the container. They will make an opening in the top for the money. Suggest they decorate the containers in any way they wish. As they work, tell them that the banks will remind them to save their money to bring to church to give to God.

ACTIVITY 2 - *Memory Verse Jump*

Show children the shower curtain with the words to the memory verse. Guide them to read the memory verse from the Bible and then take turns hopping onto the words in the correct order. For example, one child might read the words aloud and a second child will hop. The other children doing the activity will check that the child jumping on the words is doing it correctly.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Where Does Our Money Go?*

Show the children the financial materials from your church. Guide them to determine how the money is distributed. Point out the amount of the budget and the amount of money that has already been received. Suggest that they highlight the figures that interest them (salaries, Sunday School supplies, missions, etc.). This information will be used in activities later in the session.

Group Time

(25-30 minutes)

Introduce the unit. Point out the unit title display and ask someone to read it aloud. Tell the children that we will learn about Bible people who gave money to God. We will also learn about how God uses the money we give to accomplish many things in the world. Ask the children who worked on the "Where Does Our Money Go?" activity to tell something interesting they discovered.

Pray. Say: *"God has given us so many things, hasn't he? He wants us to share what we have been given with other people here, in our country, and in the rest of the world. Let's thank God now for all He has given. Let's ask Him to help us learn a lot about His work in our world as we study this unit."* Invite a child to pray.

Tell the Bible story. You will need construction paper, yarn, colored markers

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

Characters needed: Narrator, Jesus, three or four disciples, one or two rich people, some Sadducees and Pharisees, other people, and a poor woman.

[[Scene 1: Jesus is teaching a group of people in the court of the Temple. Several people are listening respectfully. The Pharisees and the Sadducees are looking scornful. They laugh and point at Jesus.]]

NARRATOR: Jesus was teaching the people in the courts of the temple. Many people were listening to Him. The Pharisees and the Sadducees were scornful. Sometimes they laughed at Him.

Many people came and went through the temple courts. Some people came to bring sacrifices to God. Some people came to worship God. Others came to hear Jesus teach. Still others came to question Jesus about God and they tried to trick Him with their questions.

[[Scene 2: Pharisees and Sadducees stand in front of Jesus. They are asking a question.]]

NARRATOR: The people who wanted to trick Jesus were the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Those leaders hated Jesus. They were very afraid of Him. They knew that He was teaching things against them; they wanted to get rid of Him. They kept asking Him trick questions so they could catch Him in a wrong answer. Then they planned to arrest Him.

But Jesus could not be fooled. He was able to answer correctly every time. So He continued to teach the people in the courts of the Temple.

[[Scene 3: Jesus walks to a chair and sits. He is opposite the area where people are giving offerings. There is a large container such as a chest located there. People are giving offerings in this order—a rich person, an average person, another rich person. They are all putting large offerings into the container. Then the poor widow comes forward, limping slightly and walking slowly. She drops two coins into the container, one at a time.]]

NARRATOR: After a while Jesus sat opposite the place in the Temple where people placed their offerings. He watched the people giving their offerings. A rich man put a large amount into the chest. The man looked around to make sure the people saw the large gift he gave to God.

Then another man approached the chest and put a smaller amount into the chest. He, too, looked around to see who was watching. Jesus watched them carefully.

Then a poor widow, limping slightly and walking slowly, took two tiny coins out of her robe. She walked to the chest where the offerings to God were given. She dropped the two coins in, one at a time.

Jesus turned to His followers and said,

"This poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Based on Mark 12:41-44

Review the Bible story. Use the teaching picture to review the story. Ask the children to tell you the most important thing that happened in the story (The poor woman gave everything she had to God.). Discuss the problems that Jesus had with the Pharisees and Sadducees. Guide the children to look up Luke 20:45-47 and Mark 11:38-40 and read what Jesus said about the leaders.

Application to Life. Ask the children who made banks to share them now. Say: "In the days when Jesus lived, God counted on people to give some of their own money to help the work of the Temple and to help others learn about Him. Jesus told the story of the widow who gave what she had to God because she loved God and wanted to follow His commands."

Point out that children may also give what they have even if amount is small. Encourage the children who have not done so to make banks at home and start tithing their own money to God.

Learn the memory verse. Show the children the memory verse on the plastic sheet. Guide some children to look up 2 Corinthians 9:7 in their Bibles. Ask for volunteers to jump the memory-verse words in the correct order. The children who are waiting a turn may check the work in their Bibles. Repeat the activity a few times. Finish the activity by having the children repeat the memory verse together.

Choose activities. Talk a little about each activity to the children. Guide the children to make their choices.

Closing Activities

(30-35 minutes)

ACTIVITY 1 - *Read All About It!*

Show girls and boys the financial materials you have gathered that relate to your church. Tell them that they will be the reporters and photographers on the newspaper. Tell them that reporters gather facts and write stories. The photographers take pictures.

Tell the children that in order to do all the above successfully, they will have to look over the material, make some notes on what they want to put in their newspaper, and assign responsibilities. Suggest the following.

- Give the newspaper a name.
- Write articles on the church's budget such as "Our Church Passes Budget Needs!" "More Money for God's Work!" "Our Church Helps Build a House!" "Youth Minister to Shut-Ins!" and so on.
- Take pictures of some ministries in the church. Children may draw the pictures or take them with a camera. If they take pictures, they may have to stage them. For example, they could put a table and a few chairs together to portray a Sunday School class. You may be able to arrange for the children to take actual pictures on Sundays or at other times.

When the articles and pictures are ready, guide the children to fasten them to the large sheets of newsprint. Comment to the children on how well they are learning about how money is used in their church.

OPTION: Use digital camera for picture taking. Children may compose the new articles on the computer. Blend the pictures and articles for a computer-generated newspaper.

ACTIVITY 2 - *Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)*

Show girls and boys the financial materials you have gathered that relate to your church. Tell them that they will choose information and put together a computer presentation using the presentation software on the computer. Help them know that the project may go slowly at first as they learn to use the presentation software. Explain to them that the presentation will have four parts-church work, state work, national mission work, and international mission work.

Guide the children to follow this procedure.

- Determine what information they want to share and make notes.
- Determine the order in which they want to present the information.
- Look at the software program to determine which format they want to use.
- Begin entering the information.
- Determine if they will be able to add music or video clips.

As the children work, comment to them on how well they are learning about how their church functions financially. Encourage them as they learn how to use the software program.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Where Does Our Money Go? (Mural)*

Show girls and boys the financial materials you have collected from your church. Guide them to look over the material and decide how they will use the information to make the mural. Suggest that they use words and pictures (either from magazines or drawn) to illustrate how your church uses its money. Remind the children as they work that money given to the church is actually given to God. God accomplishes His work in the world through the money church people give.

ACTIVITY 4 - "A Giving Song"

Show the children the items you have gathered. Tell them that they will write a song called "A Giving Song" that will be used for the rest of the unit. When they have written it, they may make a tape of themselves singing it. Then during the next session they will teach the song to the group.

Show the children the word cards. Encourage them to write a lively song that is fun to sing. They may want to clap the rhythm.

Guide children to write the song using the following steps.

Think of several things they want to say to God about cheerfully giving money at church. Write them on a piece of writing paper.

- Choose the specific things they want to include in the song.
- Choose a tune to a song they already know. Suggest that they choose a lively tune.
- Put the words in the order they want to sing them. Assure the children that the words do not have to rhyme and words and entire lines may be repeated throughout the song.
- Fit the words to the tune they have chosen. Make any adjustments that are needed.
- Sing the song several times.
- Print the final words on the poster board.
- Make a tape of their new song.

As children work, compliment them on their hard work. Help them know that they have learned a lot about cheerfully giving money at church. Remind them that God is pleased when people worship Him using music.

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give to My Church Helps Others

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God can and will use the gifts of children.

BIBLE STORY: A Little Boy Helps Jesus Feed Others

BIBLE PASSAGE: *John 6:1-14*

MEMORY VERSE: Even a child is know by his actions by whether his conduct is pure and right. *Proverbs 20:11 NIV*

Preparation

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

- 1.** *Reminder Bracelet* - You will need colored embroidery thread, scissors, tape, and craft foam cut into small shapes to hang on the bracelets. Cut the embroidery thread into 24-inch pieces (strands). Print the following instructions on a card. Place it and the supplies in the activity area. Open a Bible to Proverbs 20:11 and place it in the activity area.
 1. Take six strands and match them up. Hold them together and tie a knot one inch from the end.
 2. Tape the knot to the top of the table.
 3. Print the memory-verse Bible reference on a piece of foam. Slip it onto the threads of the bracelet.
 4. Twist the threads over and over until they make a tight band.
 5. Fold the band in the middle. Hold the ends together and the band will twist back on itself.
 6. Slip the ends through the loop and tie a knot. Now tie another knot.
- 2.** *What Does the Bible Say?* - This activity will help children understand what the Bible says about giving to God. You will need several Bibles with concordances, colored markers, and a piece of poster board.
- 3.** *Where Does Our Money Go?* - You will need material from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, a piece of poster board, and colored markers. You may download the Mission Board's budget from the web site. Several news items and stories are available on the website illustrating how the money the state receives from the churches is used.

If you have the capability, let the children go to the website and see what they can find about ways the money from the churches is used in the state.

GROUP TIME

- 1.** *Introduce the session.* You will need the material from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board.
- 2.** *Sing.* You will need "A Giving Song" the children wrote last session, the cassette tape recording, and a cassette tape player.
- 3.** *Tell the Bible story.* You will need the teaching picture, a paper napkin, construction paper, scissors, and markers. Draw and cut out five small round loaves and two small fish. Or obtain two small fish such as sardines and small, flat bread such as pita bread. Cut the pita bread into five triangles. Place the loaves and fish in the napkin.

- 4.** *Application to life.* You will need the budget or mission material from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board. If some children did the “Where Does Our Money Go?” activity, they can share. If you want to, choose a mission story to tell in the session.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

CHOICE **1.**

Read All About It! (Two-session activity)

Girls and boys will complete the newspaper during this session. You will need materials from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board related to the cooperative program, other projects and programs, several large sheets of newsprint, black and colored markers, glue, and scissors.

CHOICE **2.**

Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)

Girls and boys will continue working on the computer presentation. If the children did not begin the activity last week, use the directions in session one.

You will need *Virginia Missions* magazine and financial and mission information you feel would be interesting to the children from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board and website.

CHOICE **3.**

Door Cover

Girls and boys will use words and pictures to make a door cover showing how the money given through their church is used by the state. You will need a copy of the budget from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board (available on the website), information on ministries, projects, and programs in the state, a length of paper long enough to cover the door of the room, colored markers, scissors, pictures from *Virginia Missions* and the website, and glue.

CHOICE **4.**

Bumper Stickers

You will need colored markers, adhesive-backed drawing paper, and scissors. Plan on enough paper for each child to make at least two bumper stickers.

Introductory Activities

(5-10 minutes)

Greet children as they arrive and point out the three activities. Guide each child to make a choice.

ACTIVITY 1 - *Reminder Bracelets*

Ask a child to read aloud the memory verse. Tell the children that today they will be learning about a child who helped Jesus.

Show children the Bible and the bracelet supplies. Tell them that they can make a bracelet to remind them that God values children and what they do for Him. Guide the children as they work giving help where needed. Tell them that God is pleased when they learn about how to serve Him.

ACTIVITY 2 - *What Does the Bible Say?*

Point out the Bibles and other supplies. Guide children to look up the word “give” in the bible concordances. They will first count the number of references under “give, giving, gave, giver, given, gives.” They will write the total number of references on the poster board. Then they will choose some of the references to look up and read. They will choose a few of the references to share with the others during group time; write the references on poster board. Help children understand that God is pleased when they learn things about Him by using the Bible.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Where Does Our Money Go?*

Guide the children to look over the material and determine five interesting facts they have learned about how the money is used. Guide them to write the facts on poster board and be ready to present the material during group time. Comment on how well they are learning about stewardship. Tell them they will share what they have learned in group time.

Group Time

(25-30 minutes)

Introduce the session. Ask the children who did the “Where Does Our Money Go?” activity to share what they learned. Tell the children that when the money they and others give to their church reaches the convention, it is used to fund a variety of needs. Tell them that during this session they will be talking about how the state convention uses the money it receives from the churches.

Sing. Show the children the poster board with the song the children wrote last session. Tell them that this will be the song they will sing through the unit to remind them how important it is to give money to God through the church.

Play the cassette once for the children to become familiar with the tune. The children who wrote the song may also help teach it. Sing the song together.

Pray. Say: “We are so fortunate to have our church, aren’t we? We can learn here about God. We can bring our gifts to Him and He will use them in ways that we cannot even imagine. Let’s thank God for those things now.”

Tell the Bible story. Place the teaching picture and the loaves and fish on the floor in front of you. Open your Bible to John 6 and tell this story.

A BOY HELPS JESUS FEED OTHERS

Jesus had been teaching the people. He told them many things about God and how He loved them. The people loved to listen to Jesus. They followed Him everywhere.

Then Jesus decided that He and His disciples should go to another place. They all got into a boat and sailed across the Sea of Galilee.

When they got to other side of the sea, Jesus saw a huge crowd hurrying toward Him. The people had also heard of all the wonderful things Jesus could do to help sick people. They wanted to find Jesus to see if He could help them, too.

“Let’s go up into the mountain,” Jesus said to His disciples. So they all started to climb. When they had walked up the mountain for a while, Jesus sat down with His disciples.

But the huge crowd followed Jesus and His disciples. Everyone, men and women and children, more than five thousand of them, followed Jesus and His disciples all the way up the mountain.

Jesus knew that the time of the Passover was near. When He saw the huge crowd of men, women, and children following them up the mountain, He said to Philip, one of His disciples, “Where will we buy bread so these people can eat?”

Jesus already knew what He would do but He wanted to see what Philip would say.

Philip looked at Jesus. “Why, two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for everyone to have even a tiny piece,” Philip commented.

Philip knew that one denarius was the amount of money a person would get paid for working at a job all day. So two hundred denarii was what someone would earn after working for several months!

Then Andrew, one of Jesus’ disciples, came to Jesus.

“A boy is here who has a lunch of five barley loaves and two fish. But that won’t feed thousands of people,” Andrew said. Perhaps Jesus asked Andrew to talk to the boy about his lunch. Anyway, the boy gave his lunch to Andrew and Andrew brought the lunch to Jesus.

“Tell the people to sit,” Jesus said.

There was plenty of grass on that part of the mountain so all the people did as Jesus asked and sat. Some people sat on the ground; some people sat on the hard rocks; and some people sat on little hills.

Then Jesus took the five barley loaves and the two fish from the boys' lunch. [*Hold the loaves and fish in your hand.*] He thanked God for them and began to distribute the food among all the people. The people all took as much of the barley loaves and the fish as they wanted. They must have been hungry because they ate and ate. They ate the food until they were full and couldn't eat anymore.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Gather up all the food that is left over so none of it will be wasted."

So Jesus' disciples began to gather up the food. There was so much food left over from the barley loaves and fishes that the disciples filled 12 baskets full!

When the people saw what Jesus had done for them with a lunch that was meant for a child, they could hardly believe it.

"This really is the prophet that was supposed to come into the world," all the people said to one another.

Based on John 6:1-14

Review the Bible story. Ask, "How much food was there to start with?" Show the children the loaves and fish you have. Say: "Can you imagine a lunch this size feeding at least 5000 people?" [*Start distributing the bread and fish to the children.*] Say: "My five loaves and two fish are not going very far, are they? But do you know that God can *still* take the smallest gift and do wonderful things with it."

Application to Life. Ask the group who participated in the "Where Does Our Money Go?" activity earlier to share the information they learned. Add any information you think is necessary. Remind the children that every thing they do for God counts. Nothing or no one is too small or insignificant.

If you have a mission story, tell it now.

Learn the memory verse. Invite the children who made the "Reminder Bracelets" to show them to the others. Ask a child to locate the verse in a Bible and read it to the group. Guide the children to say it two or three times. Tell them to remember that the work of a child is important to God.

Choose activities. Talk a little about each activity to the children. Guide them to make their choices. Remind the children to return to the newspaper or computer activities. The newspaper activity will finish in this session. Encourage others to try something they have not tried before. Guide the children to the groups.

Closing Activities

(30-35 minutes)

ACTIVITY 1 - *Read All About It! (Two-session activity)*

Remind the children that this is the last session for the newspaper activity. Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Remind them that they are the reporters and photographers on the newspaper.

Guide the children to look over the material and decide on what they want to add to their newspaper. Suggest the following sequence.

Write articles on the state budget and program information. Include mission facts and stories. Children may draw the pictures using the information they have. They could also use pictures from magazines or downloads from the website.

When the articles and pictures are ready, guide the children to fasten them to the large sheets of newsprint and add the pages to the newspaper from the last session. Comment to the children on how well they are learning about how the money from their church is used in the state.

ACTIVITY 2 - *Computer Presentation*

Show girls and boys the financial and program materials you gathered. Remind the girls and boys that they are to choose a variety of information and put together a computer presentation using special software in the computer.

Guide the children to follow these procedures:

Study the materials and determine what information they want to add.

Determine the order in which they want to present the information.

Begin entering the information.

Determine if they will add music or video clips (check the website for downloads).

As the children work, comment to them on how well they are learning about how their state functions financially.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Door Cover*

Show girls and boys the financial materials you have collected. Guide them to review the material and decide how they will use it to make the door cover. Suggest that they use words and pictures to illustrate how the state uses its money. Remind the children as they work that God accomplishes His work in the state through the money church people give Him.

Children will make a list of words and phrases they want to use. Then they will decide what pictures (photos and illustrations) they will use. They will print the words and draw or glue the pictures on the door cover. When the door cover is finished, they will mount it on the door of the room.

As the children work, talk to them about what they are learning. Lead them to understand that God will use everything that they give Him to make sure that people everywhere will learn about His love.

ACTIVITY 4 - *Bumper Stickers*

Guide the girls and boys to think of a variety of words and phrases that will express how they feel about giving gifts to God. They will make a list of them; then they will choose one or two to put on individual bumper stickers. Help them not to rush through this part of the activity. Encourage them to think of meaningful words and phrases.

The children will need to cut out the bumper stickers from the adhesive-backed paper and print the words or phrases on them. As children work, tell them that God is pleased when they honor Him by giving Him their gifts.

3 SESSION

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give to My Church Helps God's Servants

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God uses in a special way every gift given in love.

BIBLE STORY: A Gift for Elisha

BIBLE PASSAGE: *2 Kings 4:8-11*

MEMORY VERSE: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. *Deuteronomy 6:5 NIV*

Preparation

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

- 1.** *Refrigerator Magnets* - You will need craft foam or construction paper, fine-tip colored markers, several small magnets, scissors, and glue.
- 2.** *Make A Memory-Verse Wall* - You will need six or seven (or more) shoe-type boxes, red or gray construction paper, colored markers, glue, and a Bible. Use a highlighter to mark Deuteronomy 6:5 in your Bible. If you have enough boxes (20), the children may print one word on each box.
- 3.** *Where Does Our Money Go?* - You will need five balloons, a permanent marker, and material from the North American Mission Board and/or Cooperative Baptist Fellowship websites. Several news items and stories are available illustrating how the money NAMB receives from the churches is used. The children may be particularly interested in disaster relief stories and the birthdays of the missionaries.
If you have the capability, let the children go to the website and see what they can find themselves about ways the money received from the churches is used in natural missions.

GROUP TIME

- 1.** *Learn the memory verse.* Use the memory-verse bricks the children made in the "Memory-Verse Wall" activity.
- 2.** *Sing.* You will need the words to "A Giving Song," the cassette tape, and a cassette player.
- 3.** *Tell the Bible story.* Make a word card for the words in the story that are underlined (cloak, prophet, poor, miracle, grateful, good, kind loved, rich, holy, room, gift, offering). If a word is repeated, you will only need one card. Place the teaching picture on the floor.
- 4.** *Review the Bible story.* You will need the word cards from the Bible story.
- 5.** *Application to life.* You will need the balloons from the "Where Does Our Money Go?" activity. If you want to, choose a mission story to tell in the session.
- 6.** *Sing and Pray.* You will need the words to "A Giving Song," the cassette tape, and a cassette player.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

CHOICE 1.

TV News Program (Two-session activity)

You will need materials from the North American Mission Board and/or Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and website, drawing paper, poster board, colored markers, and, a video camera and a videotape.

CHOICE 2.

Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)

You will need materials from the NAMB and/or CBF and website. Plan to review the presentation before the session starts to see if any sections may need additional work.

CHOICE 3.

Where Oh Where in North America? (Map Study)

You will need a large map of the United States and Canada, colored markers or push pins, and a variety of materials from the NAMB and/or CBF or downloaded from the website.

CHOICE 4.

Giving to God Reminder Pens

You will need the bricks from the “Memory-Verse Wall” plain ballpoint pens, a skein of multi-color yarn, tacky glue, and these letter beads—I, L, G, A, G, T, H (I Love God And Give To Him.) Cut the yarn into 7-foot lengths. This much yarn will cover a small pen. You will need additional lengths of yarn for the braids. You may want to wrap one of the pens you will use to know how much yarn you will need for each child.

3 SESSION

Introductory Activities

(5-10 minutes)

Greet children as they arrive and point out the three activities. Guide each child to make a choice.

ACTIVITY **1** - *Refrigerator Magnets*

Show children the materials you gathered. Tell them that they will need to think of some phrases about giving to God that they may print on refrigerator magnets. Guide them to make thoughtful choices. When they have chosen what they want to say on the magnets, they will cut shapes such as dollar signs, and print the phrases on the shapes. They will fasten the magnets to the backs of their shapes with glue. Tell the children to ask their families to think about giving to God every time they see the magnet at home.

ACTIVITY **2** - *Make A Memory-Verse Wall*

Show the children the boxes and the Bible. Tell them that they will cover the boxes with the construction paper to make bricks. Then they will write the words of the memory verse in phrases on the bricks. When they have finished, they will mix up the bricks and build a wall by putting the bricks in the correct order. Tell the children that God is pleased when they learn verses from the Bible.

ACTIVITY **3** - *Where Does Our Money Go?*

Place the materials related to the mission board in the activity area. Guide children to look over the material and write on the balloons five facts they have learned about how the money is used. Tell them to be ready to present the material during the group time. Comment on how well they are learning about being good stewards of God's money.

3 SESSION

Group Time

(25-30 minutes)

Introduce the session. Ask the children to tell you what they have learned so far in the unit about how their money is used (First, Christian [adults and children] give money to the church. The church uses some of the monies to pay salaries and fund ministries. Then the church office sends some of the money to the state agencies.)

Ask the group who did the “Where Does Our Money Go?” activity to tell what agency (home missions) the children will be learning about today. Point out the balloon title display. Ask the children if they are beginning to understand how God uses their money. Compliment the children on how well they are learning about how the system works.

Learn the memory verse. Ask the children who made the “Memory-Verse Wall” to show the bricks now. Explain to the children that the words to the memory verse are on the bricks. They will build a wall by putting memory-verse bricks in the correct order. Ask the children who made the bricks to put the bricks in order first. Then give other children a turn. Children may work in groups of two or three.

Sing. Lead the children in singing “A Giving Song.” The children may want to add another verse to the song using new information they have learned.

Tell the Bible story. Say: “You have just built a memory-verse wall with bricks. Now we will hear a story about a family who built a room on their house as a gift for a special man of God.”

Show the children the word cards. Tell them to listen carefully and raise their hand each time they hear you say one of the words as you tell the story. As you tell the story, emphasize the underlined words. Open your Bible to 2 Kings 4.

A GIFT FOR ELISHA

Elijah knew that soon he would go to heaven. He also knew that someone would have to take over the work he had done for God. Elijah was grateful that he had been able to do so many things for God. He knew that soon God would lead him to the right person to become his successor and carry on his work.

One day Elijah was walking along the road when he saw a man plowing a field with twelve yoke of oxen. The man’s name was Elisha. Elijah knew that this was the man who would succeed him in God’s work. So he went over to Elisha in the field and threw his cloak around Elisha’s shoulders. Both men knew this was a sign that Elisha would be God’s new prophet. He immediately stopped plowing, left the oxen and the plow right there in the field, and followed Elijah.

The two men of God worked together for quite a while. Elijah taught Elisha everything he knew about being a prophet. As soon as God took Elijah to heaven, Elisha started immediately to do God’s work. He traveled around the country telling people about God and pointing out where the people, including the rulers, needed to change their ways to God’s ways.

Elisha did many good things for people, too. One day he performed a miracle for a poor woman who had no money when he made a lot of oil come out of an almost empty jar. In fact, the oil filled many other jars as well! When the poor woman told Elisha what had happened, he said,

“Sell the oil and pay your debts. That will keep your sons from being taken into slavery. Then use the rest of the money for you and your sons to live on.”

The poor woman was very grateful. Because of this miracle and many others, Elisha became known as a good and kind man who loved God very much.

One day Elisha was in the town of Shunem where he met a rich woman. She spoke to Elisha and invited him to her house for a meal. Elisha went with her that day and ate the meal with the woman and her husband.

After that, each time Elisha was in the town of Shunem, he ate with the kind woman and her husband. One day the woman said to her husband,

"I know that this man who often comes our way is a holy man of God. Let's build a room on the roof for him. We can put in it a bed, a table and chair, and a lamp. Then he can stay there whenever he comes here."

So that's what they did. They called in contractors and builders and built a perfect room for Elisha. What a wonderful gift! Now Elisha, who had given so many gifts to other people, received a gift for himself. He had his own room where he could rest and talk to God when he was in the town of Shunem.

Elisha must have been very grateful to the woman of Shunem and her husband. She had not only given him a wonderful gift; yet, she had made an offering to God by helping one of His servants.

Based on 2 Kings 4:8-11

Review the Bible story. Place the word cards in a row on the floor. Point to one card at a time and ask the children to tell that part of the story. The cards do not need to be in the correct order. Commend them on how well they listened and learned about Elisha's gift.

Bible application. Ask the group who did the "Where Does Our Money Go?" activity earlier to share the information they learned. Before they share each fact, they may burst that balloon. Add any information you think is necessary.

Remind the children that every thing they do for God counts. Nothing is too small or insignificant. Point out how the woman of Shunem honored God by giving a gift to one of His servants to help him do God's work.

If you have a mission story, tell it now.

Sing and Pray. "God is so good to us, isn't he? Let's sing our song again. Then we'll pray and thank Him for His gifts to us."

Choose activities. Talk a little about each activity to the children. Guide them to make their choices. Remind them that they may continue their work on the newspaper or computer activity or choose something different. Suggest that some of the children who have not done these activities choose one or the other. Guide the children to the groups.

3 SESSION

Closing Activities

(30-35 minutes)

ACTIVITY 1 - *TV News Program (Two-session activity)*

Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Tell the children that they are the reporters and newscasters on the television news program. Tell them that in order to do all the above successfully, they will have to look over the material, make some notes on what they want to air, and assign responsibilities. They will need one or two camera people, two or three newscasters, and a couple of people for interviews. Suggest the following sequence.

Choose a name for their television news program. Write stories based on the information they have from the mission board. Include one or two mission facts and stories.

Practice broadcasting their stories before taping.

Comment to the children on how well they are learning about how money is used for home missions through the national board.

ACTIVITY 2 - *Computer Presentation*

Discuss the work that has been done on the presentation up to now. Point out any areas that may need work. Give the children any help they may need.

Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Tell them that they will continue to use the presentation software in the computer for the presentation.

Guide the girls and boys to use these procedures.

Determine what information they want to add.

Determine the order in which they want to present the information.

Begin entering the information guided by the computer program.

Review the work to make sure they have included everything they want to.

As the children work, comment on how well they are learning how the convention uses the money given to them through the churches.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Where Oh Where in North America? (Map Study)*

Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Guide them to read through the materials identifying as many locations as they can where there is mission work. Encourage them to find at least one location in each state.

If pictures of missionaries are available, the children may want to put the pictures on the map. If they have time, the children may want to print on the map the type of mission work in each location.

As they find the locations, direct them to find those spots on the map. They will then put colored pins in the map or draw small circles on the map. Emphasize that the mission work in these locations is possible because of the money given to the convention through their churches.

4

SESSION

SESSION TITLE: The Money I Give to My Church Helps People Around the World!

PURPOSE: To help children realize that God counts on people to give money at church.

BIBLE STORY: The Church at Antioch Help a Church Far Away

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 11:19-30

MEMORY VERSE: All the believers ere one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. Acts 4:32 NIV

Preparation

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

- 1.** *What Does the Bible Say?*
You will need several Bibles, poster board, and pencils. Across the top of the poster board print, "What Should A Christian Be Like?" Print the following Bible references underneath the title: Acts 2:44-5; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 5:1-2; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 John 3:16-18. Leave enough space between each entry for the children to write three or four words.
- 2.** *Memory-Verse Balloons*
You will need eight or nine balloons, small strips of paper to insert in the balloons, and two or three Bibles. Use a highlighter to mark Acts 4:32 in a Bible.
- 3.** *Where Does Our Money Go?*
You will need five pieces of construction paper, several markers, and a variety of material from the International Mission Board and/or Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and website. Several news items and stories are available illustrating how the money received from the churches is used. The children may be particularly interested in mission stories about other children.
Again, if possible, let the children go to the website and see what they can find about ways the money received from the churches is used in international missions.

GROUP TIME

- 1.** *Learn the memory verse.* You will need the memory-verse balloons prepared by the group who did the activity.
- 2.** *Sing.* You will need the words to "A Giving Song", the cassette tape, and a cassette player.
- 3.** *Tell the Bible story.* You will need to make a copy of the Bible story to cut apart into the group sections.. Several groups of children will silently act out portions of the story. The story is divided into a narrator and six groups.
- 4.** *Review the Bible story.* You will need a large sheet of plain plastic such as an inexpensive shower curtain or a drop cloth, twelve circles of construction paper, masking tape, and a permanent marker. Number the construction paper circles from 1-6 so you have two sets. Tape the circles randomly on the shower curtain. Leave enough room between the numbers for the children to jump. Make up six questions from the Bible story.

5. *Application to life.* You will need the balloons from the “Where Does Our Money Go?” introductory activity. If you want to, choose a mission story to tell in the session.
6. *Choose activities.* Remember to arrange presentations with some adult groups in the church such as Sunday School classes, prayer meeting, and Wednesday night supper.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

CHOICE 1.

TV News Program (Two-session activity)

You will need the materials from the International Mission Board and/or Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and website, drawing paper, poster board, colored markers, a video camera, and a videotape.

CHOICE 2.

Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)

You will need materials from the IMB and/or CBF and website. Plan for the children to review the presentation before the session starts to see where they need to do some more work.

CHOICE 3.

Where Oh Where in the World? (Map Study)

You will need a large world map, colored markers or push pins, and a variety of materials down loaded from the IMB and/or CBF or website.

CHOICE 4.

Look What God Does with Our Money! (Poster)

Girls and boys will use words and pictures to make a poster showing how the money given through their church is used for international missions. You will need information on international missions from the IMB and/or CBF and website, one or two pieces of poster board, colored markers, scissors, pictures, and glue. A variety of pictures and stories may be available from global missions department of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

4

SESSION

Introductory Activities

(5-10 minutes)

Greet children as they arrive and point out the three activities. Guide each child to make a choice.

ACTIVITY **1** - *What Does the Bible Say?*

Point out the Bibles and poster board. Guide the children to look up the Bible references and determine which characteristics of Christians are described in each passage. Tell the children that many of the Christians in the early church are models for us to follow.

ACTIVITY **2** - *Memory-Verse Balloons*

Show the children the balloons the Bibles and the poster board. Tell them to look up the memory verse and divide it into several small phrases. They will need one phrase for every balloon. When they have made the divisions, they will print the words on the strips of paper, roll them up, and insert one strip of paper into each balloon. Then they will blow up the balloons. The balloons will be used during group time.

ACTIVITY **3** - *Where Does Our Money Go?*

Place the materials you gathered in the activity area. Guide children to look over the material and write the facts on the pieces of construction paper. Tell them to be ready to present the material during the group time. Comment on how well they are learning about being good stewards of God's money.

4

SESSION

Group Time

(25-30 minutes)

Introduce the session. Ask the children to tell you the name of the agency they learned about last week. Tell them that today they will learn about one more area of mission work—international missions.

Learn the memory verse. Ask the children who did the memory-verse activity to present the balloons now. Each child from that group will burst a balloon, remove the strip of paper, and read it aloud. Then the entire group will put the strips in the correct order. One child may look up the Bible reference to check the work of the other children.

Pray. Say, “We have had a good unit, haven’t we? It is always amazing to discover how God accomplishes what He wants to through ordinary people, isn’t it? Let’s pray now and thank God for all He does for us each day of our lives.” Ask for a volunteer to lead in the prayer.

Sing. Remind the children that this will be the last time they will sing the song. Ask them to listen carefully to the words and think about how God uses people, even girls and boys. Lead the children in singing the song.

Tell the Bible story. Tell the children that they will all participate in telling the Bible story. Assign the children to six groups. Give a section of the story to each group. Tell them that one child will read what is written on the card and the other children will silently act it out. Give the girls and boys three or four minutes to read their sections and plan how their group will present it. Give them help and suggestions if needed.

Remind the children to listen as each group presents its part. When the children are ready, begin reading the part of the “Narrator.”

THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH HELPS A CHURCH FAR AWAY

NARRATOR: After Jesus died, He sent the Holy Spirit to help His followers teach others about Him and tell everyone what He had done for people. The church in Jerusalem grew with many people every day believing in God and Jesus. In fact, on one day, afterward called the Day of Pentecost, many Jewish people heard Peter preach. Three thousand of them believed what he said and joined with the other believers that very day!

The disciples preached everywhere they went. They told everyone who would listen about God and His great love for people.

GROUP ONE

God continued to do many miracles through the followers of Jesus. The disciples healed many sick people. People heard about them and even brought sick people into the street, hoping Peter’s shadow might fall on them and they would be healed.

NARRATOR: The Bible tells us that, “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had” (*Acts 4:32*).

GROUP TWO

The believers shared everything they had so none of them went hungry or lacked anything they needed. If they needed money, one of them would sell his house or some land he owned and give the money to the apostles. They believed mightily in God and did anything they could do to make sure everyone learned about Him.

NARRATOR: Things, however, were not always that easy for the believers in the first church. Many of them were persecuted. Some went to prison for a while. Others were laughed at. Still others were even stoned.

GROUP THREE

Stephen, a kind and wonderful man who loved God very much, was stoned to death when he preached to the people about God. As he died, he called out to God and said,

“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Do not hold this against them.”

Saul, whose life would soon change drastically as he experienced one of God’s miracles in his own life, stood and watched approvingly as Stephen was stoned to death.

NARRATOR: After that terrible day, the persecution against the believers became much worse. The believers were so terrified that they all left and went to other towns and areas where they would be safer. Only the apostles stayed in Jerusalem to carry on God’s work.

The believers who went to other places continued to preach and witness about Jesus. Up until then the believers had preached about God only to Jewish people. But some of the believers who left Jerusalem began to preach to the Gentiles.

GROUP FOUR

A group of believers who had left Jerusalem because of the persecution went to a city called Antioch. Antioch was a city of Greek people who were Gentiles. The Jewish believers preached to the Greek people and they, too, believed what they were hearing. Then they told others and soon many people believed.

NARRATOR: The church at Jerusalem heard about the large group of believers in Antioch and wanted to learn more. They sent Barnabas to check them out. Barnabas was impressed by what he saw, and he began to preach to the people in Antioch.

GROUP FIVE

The people in Antioch welcomed Barnabas because he was a godly man and full of the Holy Spirit. Barnabas realized that there was too much work for one man. So he went to Tarsus to find the apostle Paul (formerly the persecutor Saul who had been miraculously saved) to come and help him.

NARRATOR: For two years Barnabas and Paul taught the people in Antioch and many more became believers. In fact, the believers in the church at Antioch loved God so much and followed His commandments so well that they were the first believers to be called Christians, “followers of Christ.”

GROUP SIX

During the two years that Barnabas and Paul taught, a couple of teachers came from Jerusalem to Antioch and prophesied that a great famine would come to the Roman world. Such news made the Christians in Antioch very sad and unhappy. Even though they did not know any of the people in the church far away in Jerusalem, they decided to help their Christian brothers and sisters anyway.

The Antioch Christians gathered together as much money as they could within their own fellowship. Each of them gave as much as he could, depending on how much money he had. They gathered all the money and gave it to Barnabas and Paul to take to Jerusalem for them.

NARRATOR: Thus God used the believers in Antioch to give aid to other believers far away who needed a lot of help.

Based on Acts 11:19-30

Review the Bible story. Explain the review game to the children. Assign the children to two groups. Tell them that each group will choose one person to “jump the answers.” The groups may help the jumpers with the answers. If there is time, the children may choose two different jumpers and play again.

Bible application. Ask the group who did the “Where Does Our Money Go?” activity earlier to share the information they learned. Guide them to stand in a row and hold their cards in front of them. Add any information you think is necessary.

If you have a mission story, tell it now.

Choose activities. Talk a little about each activity to the children. Guide them to make their choices. Remind the children that this is the last chance they will have to complete the activities. If you have arranged for a presentation to adult groups in the church, tell the children about them now. Guide the children to the groups.

4

SESSION

Closing Activities

(30-35 minutes)

ACTIVITY 1 - *TV News Program (Two-session activity)*

Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Remind the children to look it over, make notes on what they want to broadcast, and assign responsibilities. Suggest the following sequence
Write stories based on the information they have from the mission board. Include one or two mission facts and stories.

Practice broadcasting their stories before taping.

If the group needs more guidance, refer to the instructions in session three.

Comment to the children on how well they are learning about how money is used through the convention.

ACTIVITY 2 - *Computer Presentation (Four-session activity)*

Remind the children that this will be the last opportunity they will have to complete the presentation. Guide them to review the entire presentation. Ask them to identify any areas that may need additional work.

Give the girls and boys the new materials for international missions that you have gathered.

Remind the children of the process.

Determine the information they want to add.

Enter the information.

Review the work to make sure they have included everything.

Guide them to run it through one final time.

As the children work, comment on how well they are learning how the convention uses the money given to them through the churches.

ACTIVITY 3 - *Where Oh Where in the World? (Map Study)*

Show girls and boys the materials you have gathered. Guide them to read through the materials identifying the locations around the world where there is mission work.

As they find the locations, direct them to locate those spots on the map and put colored pins in the map or draw small circles on the map with a colored marker.

If pictures of missionaries are available, the children may add them on the map. If they have time, the children may want to print on the map the type of mission work in each location.

Remind the children that the mission work in these locations is possible because of the money given to the convention through their churches.

ACTIVITY 4 - *Look What God Does with Our Money! (Poster)*

Show girls and boys the materials. Guide them to look it over and decide how they will use it to make the poster. Tell the children that the poster will be displayed in an area of the church where many church members will see it and learn about missions. Suggest that they use words and pictures to illustrate how the mission board uses its money.

Children will make a list of words and phrases they want to use. Then they will decide what pictures (photos and illustrations) they will use. They will print the words and draw or glue the pictures on the poster board.

As the children work, talk to them about what they are learning. Lead them to understand that God will use everything that they give Him to make sure that people everywhere learn about His love. Remind them that God accomplishes His work in international missions through the money church people give Him.

If there is enough time and material, encourage the children to make a second poster.