

Choose Your Own Story—Paul's Choice

Paul had saved up five dollars to give to his church's "Toys for the Needy" program. The money would buy toys for kids whose families couldn't afford nice gifts at Christmas. The same day that Paul was going to take the money to the church, he saw a commercial on TV for a new toy truck—the Monster Masher. That truck looked fun! Choose for Paul. Does he take the money to his church, or go to the toy store and buy the Monster Masher? If children choose the church, read #1. If they choose the truck, read #2.

Mark 12:17

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Choose Your Own Story—#1

Paul knew that God wanted him to give the money to the toy drive. While Paul was walking to the church he saw old Mrs. Brown across the street. She was carrying two grocery bags that looked very heavy. Paul knew if he helped her, he would have to go to the church another day. Should he offer to help her, or keep walking to the church? If children choose to help, read #3. If they choose to keep walking, read #4.

Matthew 25:37-41

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Choose Your Own Story—#2

Paul wanted that truck! He could save more money for the church later. He was walking to the toy store when he ran into his friend, Cy. Cy was going to play baseball with friends in the park and they needed one more player on the team. Should Paul go play baseball with Cy, or keep walking to the toy store? If students choose baseball, read #5. If they choose to keep walking, read #6.

Romans 12:10

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Choose Your Own Story—#3

Paul offered to help Mrs. Brown with her groceries. She was very grateful. As they walked together, she asked Paul where he had been going. He told her about taking the money to his church for the toy drive. When they got to Mrs. Brown's house, she gave Paul some chocolate ice cream to thank him for his help. She also gave him three more dollars for the toy drive!

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Choose Your Own Story—#4

Paul kept walking to the church, but he felt guilty. He gave the money to the toy drive, but as he walked home he kept wondering if Mrs. Brown had made it to her house without any trouble. That night he prayed, asking God to forgive him for not helping her and to use the money he donated to truly help someone else.

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Choose Your Own Story—#5

Paul had a great time playing baseball—he even hit a home run! After the game, he saw a little boy playing in the dirt with an old plastic car, and he thought about the toy drive again. He decided he didn't need the new truck to have fun. He would donate the money to the church tomorrow.

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Choose Your Own Story—#6

Paul went to the toy store and bought the Monster Masher. A few days later he was playing with the truck and a wheel fell off. It broke! Now he didn't have a new toy *or* money to give to the church. He prayed to God to forgive him for being selfish, and now he is saving up more money to donate to the toy drive.

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