

Jesus Teaches Us

New Testament, Quarter D
Disciple Guide Sample (Lesson 3)



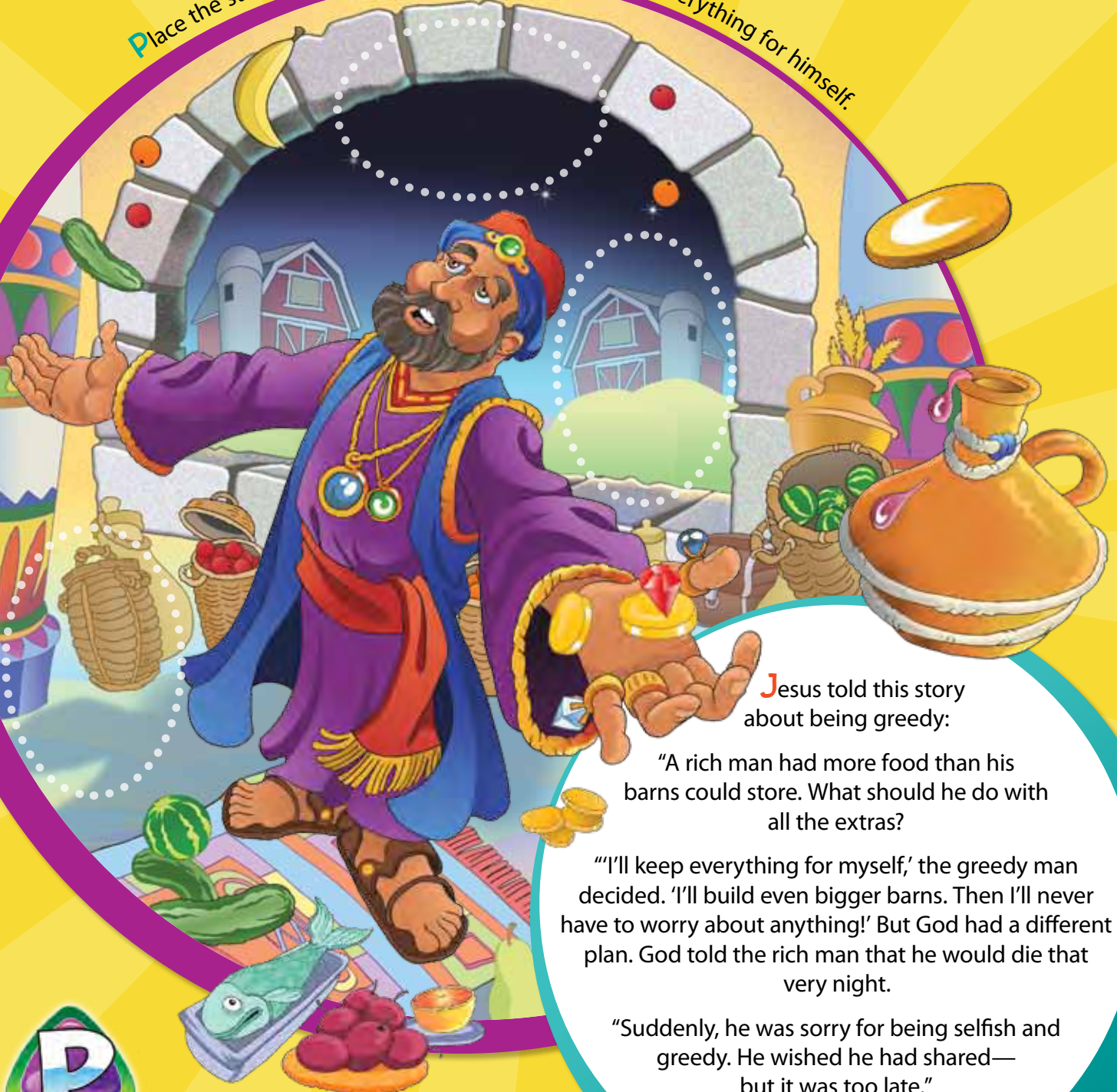
Greedy Guy

Jesus Talks about Sharing
Luke 12:13–21

Name: _____

DiscipleLand
Discipleship for Life

Place the stickers to show the greedy man who kept everything for himself.



Jesus told this story
about being greedy:

"A rich man had more food than his
barns could store. What should he do with
all the extras?"

"'I'll keep everything for myself,' the greedy man
decided. 'I'll build even bigger barns. Then I'll never
have to worry about anything!' But God had a different
plan. God told the rich man that he would die that
very night.

"Suddenly, he was sorry for being selfish and
greedy. He wished he had shared—
but it was too late."

Jesus Talks about Sharing • Luke 12:13–21



Parent Partners

Lesson Focus: The greedy man missed his chance to share with others.

Ways to reinforce this truth with your child:

ASK:

- What was the rich man's big problem?
- What does 'greedy' mean?
- What happened to the rich man's money when he died?
- Why does Jesus want us to share what we have with others?

ACT:

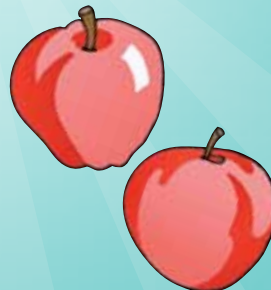
- Read the Bible story together (or read the summary on the front of this page).
- Learn the Bible words: Luke 12:15
"Jesus told the people, 'Don't be greedy!'"
- Prepare some popcorn and begin to eat it all yourself. Explain to your child that you were pretending to be greedy. Talk about sharing with others.

Sharing with Others

Name: _____

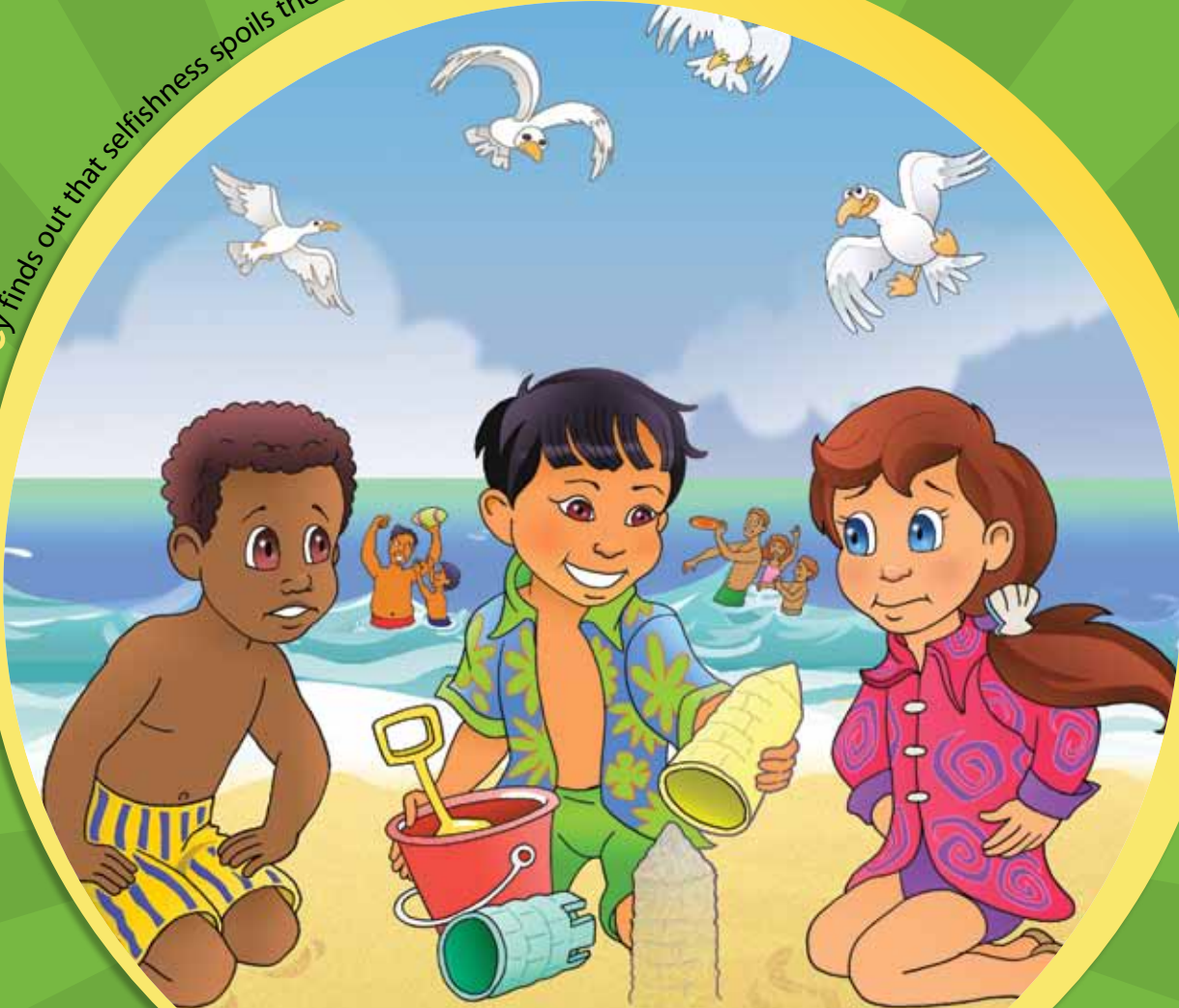
Draw a circle around the things you would share with others.

DiscipleLand
Disciples for Life®



Sharing in the Sand

Cy finds out that selfishness spoils the fun.



- Dee, Cy, and Paul went to the beach to swim and build sand castles. *(Do you like to play in the sand?)*
- Cy did not share his new toys with Paul and Dee. *(Do you like to share your toys with friends?)*
- A giant wave came up and ruined Cy's sand castle. *(How do you feel when something you've made gets broken?)*
- After Cy apologized for being selfish, they built a new sand castle together. *(When you don't feel like sharing, ask God to help you do the right thing!)*

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Greedy Guy

Big Idea *The greedy man missed his chance to share with others.*

Bible Passage *Jesus Talks about Sharing—Luke 12:13–21*

Lesson Summary

One day, a man approached Jesus with a personal favor. He hoped that the Lord would use His influence to convince his brother to share the family inheritance. But Jesus made it clear that He had not come to settle civil disputes (12:14).

Christ saw beyond the man's desire for his family inheritance. Jesus realized that he struggled with an unhealthy desire to be wealthy. The man's greed for earthly possessions was clear evidence that he was neglecting his heavenly welfare.

Jesus saw the opportunity to help the man face his real problem—covetousness. His passion for temporal things had erased his interest in making eternal investments. Jesus wanted to free the man from his selfishness and wrong thinking—issues that were pulling him away from God. To help this man realize his need, Jesus told a parable about a rich man who was consumed with earthly wealth. The man realized too late that he was ultimately accountable to God.

Covetous people are deluded—thinking that the more they get, the happier they will be. But greed never leads to happiness and contentment. Instead, Jesus offers His children a dynamic relationship with Himself. When we

seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness, we receive so much more!

Most preschoolers are inherently selfish and greedy. "Give me that! I want more! You can't have that—it's mine!" Young children easily fall prey to the lie that the rich man embraced. They think that the more they get, the happier they will be. Help your children discover that greed is another form of selfishness—which leads to misery, not happiness.

Pray for Wisdom

Heavenly Judge, please reveal areas where I am covetous and greedy. Convict me of selfish thinking and living. Strengthen my desire for a rich relationship with You.

Teach the children to be content with what they have. May the students see Your generosity reflected in the way I live. In Jesus' name, amen.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 9-12), Lesson stickers
Pencils, markers, crayons, puppets (optional)
Paper, scissors, tape, glue

Welcome & Worship Time

• PLAY DOUGH: play dough

Bible Time

Teaching Picture—Greedy Guy
• SNACK—grapes
• IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT: none

Disciple Time

Teaching Picture—Sharing in the Sand
• WHAT CAN I SHARE?: magazine pictures, glue sticks, construction paper



DISCIPLE TARGETS

In this lesson, children will...

KNOW (knowledge)

- A rich man foolishly kept everything for himself

FEEL (character)

- Glad to share with others

DO (conduct)

- Share their possessions with other people around them

Welcome & Worship Time

Teacher—Welcome each child warmly. Encourage children to bring their offerings to the Lord.

Learn By Doing—Play Dough

Supplies: play dough

(For alternate ideas to introduce this lesson, refer to the *Additional “Learn By Doing” Activities* on page 27.)

As children come to the table, consider showing them what it means to be greedy by keeping the play dough all to yourself without sharing. Tell them that God does not want us to be greedy, but to share what we have with others. Give each child some play dough and encourage them to share with each other as they play.

Sing With Joy

Move the children to worship with a favorite song. Select one below or use a preschool songbook or recording.

- *This Little Light of Mine* (traditional)
- *Ho-Ho-Ho Hosanna* (traditional)
- *His Banner Over Me is Love* (Wee Sing)
- *Everybody Ought To Know* (traditional)

Rehearse the Verse

Use the suggested idea below to help your children learn the Bible words. The preschool-friendly paraphrases are based on the Bible verse. Decide which will work best for your children, or use a verse of your choice from the Bible version you prefer.

Lesson Memory Verse: Luke 12:15

“Jesus told the people, ‘Don’t be greedy!’”

Monthly Memory Verse: Mark 4:2

“Jesus the great teacher told people many stories. He said, ‘Listen to Me!’”

Quarter Memory Verse: Mark 4:2

“Jesus the great teacher told people many stories. He said, ‘Listen to Me!’”

Seek God's Blessing

Talk with God about your time together with the children today, about the Bible story, and about any special needs.

As you pray, use meaningful and simple words from your heart. The children will learn to pray by listening to you.

Bible Time

Teacher—Bring your preschoolers to Jesus. Encourage them to apply Biblical truths in practical ways.

Tell the Truth



Open your Bible to the passage and place it on your lap. Show the Teaching Picture—*Greedy Guy* as you tell or read the story. (The Bible story is printed on page 24 and on the back of the Teaching Picture.)

The story, *Greedy Guy*, is based on Luke 12:13–21. It captures the interest and attention of older preschool children. If you are teaching younger preschoolers, you may want to use the shorter *Summary/Review*.

As you read this story, let the children join in with the refrain. You may wish to explain that “being greedy to the core” means “being greedy deep down inside your heart.”

Disciple Guide—page 9

Place the appropriate stickers (from the sticker page) on the picture as you reinforce the Bible story.

Talk and Snack

Consider serving grapes to practice sharing. Holding a bowl of grapes tell the children that, instead of being greedy, they are to share the grapes. Show them how to take one grape and pass the bowl to the next child. The bowl can go around as many times as you’d like. Praise the children for sharing with each other instead of being greedy.

While you eat, talk about the Bible story. These questions will help you get started.

- What does “greedy to the core” mean?
- The rich man had a big problem. What was it?
- Did the rich man share with anyone?
- Does Jesus want us to share what we have with others?

Play and Move

Act out words that portray the rich man in today’s Bible story such as making animal sounds, gathering crops, knocking down a barn, building a bigger barn, sharing your food, etc. Act out what the man should have done by sharing his crops with others.

Disciple Guide—page 11

Have the children look at the pictures in each row and draw a circle around the things they would share with others.

Learn By Doing—If You're Happy and You Know It

(For alternate ideas to reinforce the Bible story, refer to the Additional "Learn By Doing" Activities on page 27.)

Sing *If You're Happy and You Know It* with the children. Change actions and facial expressions with each verse.

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.
(clap hands)

If you're mad and you know it, stomp your feet,
(stomp feet)

If you're greedy and you know it, you won't share.
(grabbing motion)

If you're sad and you know it, wipe your tears.
(pretend to cry)

If you're loving and you know it, you will share.
(pretend to share)

Bible Story—Greedy Guy

(based on Luke 12:13–21)

"Watch out!" Jesus warned. "Don't be greedy. Instead, share what you have with others."

To help everyone remember to share, Jesus told this story about a very rich man:

"A man owned many goats, sheep, and cattle. He owned fields of wheat, barley, and oats. He also owned a great big house and many barns. But the rich man wasn't happy. He had a big problem:

*He didn't share with others. He was greedy toward the poor;
His very favorite words were "bigger" and "more."
Bigger—more! Bigger—more!
Bigger—BIGGER! More—MORE!*

"One year, the rich man's crops grew more than ever before. He had more wheat, barley, and oats than his barns could store! But still...

*He didn't share with others. He was greedy toward the poor;
His very favorite words were "bigger" and "more."
Bigger—more! Bigger—more!
Bigger—BIGGER! More—MORE!*

"The man wondered: *Now what should I do? I don't have enough room for all this food. Should I give some away?—No. Should I help feed hungry people?—No. Should I share what I have?—No, no, no! It's all mine—mine—mine!*

"I know what I'll do," decided the greedy man. "I'll knock down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have more than ever before. I'll keep all the food and eat it myself!"

Pray for People

Ask for prayer requests. Pray for each personal concern. Pray for each student individually asking God to help them gladly share what they have with others.

"But God had a different plan. That very night, the rich man died. Then he realized that he had been very foolish. He finally learned that...

*No one should be greedy; we should share with the poor.
Give your things to others; share and give them more.
Share—give! Share—give! Share and give some MORE!*

"After the rich man died," Jesus explained, "he was very sorry for being so selfish. But then it was too late. The greedy man missed his chance to share with others. He had treasures on earth—but he was very poor in heaven."

*No one should be greedy; we should share with the poor.
Give your things to others; share and give them more.
Share—give! Share—give! Share and give some MORE!*

Greedy Guy (Summary/Review)

Jesus told this story about being greedy:

"A rich man had more food than his barns could store. What should he do with all the extras?

"I'll keep everything for myself," the greedy man decided. "I'll build even bigger barns. Then I'll never have to worry about anything!" But God had a different plan. God told the rich man that he would die that very night.

"Suddenly, he was sorry for being selfish and greedy. He wished he had shared—but it was too late."



Teacher—This special application story complements the Bible story. Select either the narrative or the puppet script on the following page.

Think and Share

After the Dee-Cy-Paul story, talk with your children using these or similar questions.

- Did Cy want to share his sandcastle toys?
- What happened to Cy's sandcastle?
- Did Cy finally decide to share his toys with Paul and Dee?

Review the Bible Story

Read the Bible Story *Summary/Review* or creatively revisit the Bible story with drama, flannelgraph, or one of your own ideas.

Learn By Doing— What Can I Share?

Supplies: magazine pictures, glue sticks, construction paper

(For alternate ideas to reinforce the Bible story, refer to the *Additional "Learn By Doing" Activities* on page 27.)

Before class, cut pictures from magazines that show things that can be shared with others (toys, food, clothes, books, etc.). Write on each paper, "What I Can Share." Give the children a piece of paper and a glue stick. Let them glue the pictures they want onto their paper.

Pray for Life-Change

Thank God for what He has given us. May we gladly share what we have with others.

Dee-Cy-Paul Story "Sharing in the Sand"

When Cy's mother offered to take Cy and his friends to the beach, Cy was excited!

Two weeks earlier she'd bought him a whole set of sandcastle toys for his birthday. There was a shovel and a bucket and little plastic molds for making sandcastle towers. But he hadn't been able to play with them yet.

Now he could!

And besides, Cy loved the beach! He was thankful that God was willing to share the waves and the sand and the sunshine with everyone!

When they parked the car, Dee asked if she could help Cy carry some of the toys.

"No, thanks," said Cy. He scooped up the shovel and put everything else in the bucket. Paul and Dee followed him to the shore.

When they found a nice spot, Cy dumped everything out on the sand and started to dig. Dee grabbed the plastic molds and Paul took the bucket down to fill it with water. After a little while, Cy took the plastic molds from Dee and she had to sit and watch him play.

"Hey, can I have the bucket back?" asked Cy when he saw Paul playing with it.

"Umm, sure," said Paul, handing it over.

Cy set it on the ground beside him but he did not use it.

Paul and Dee watched Cy play for a few minutes. Then, they ran down and splashed in the water and came back. "Can we help make the castle?" they asked.

"No, I think I'll make this one by myself," said Cy.

"C'mon, Cy, share some of your toys with us," said Dee. "It's not fun for us if you don't share!"

"But my mom bought these things for me! They're mine!" said Cy without looking up. "You can use them when I'm done."

Dee took a big breath and said, "But I don't think you'll ever be done!"

When Cy didn't look up, Dee just shook her head and followed Paul to the water. One at a time, the waves came crashing in, washing over their feet. Then, the two friends paddled in the water and tried floating on their tummies whenever a big wave came.

They could hear Cy on the shore talking to himself. "I'm gonna have the biggest and best sandcastle in the whole wide world!"

Just then, a giant wave came crashing up on shore. Dee and Paul giggled with delight as it carried them up toward the beach and dropped them off on the sand.

That's when they noticed what had happened. The wave had covered Cy's sandcastle! It washed the whole castle away and nothing was left except a round mound of wet, dark sand.

"Oh, no! My castle is gone!" yelled Cy. "All my hard work is wasted!...Well, aren't you two gonna say anything?"

Paul looked at Dee. Dee looked at Paul. Finally Dee spoke. "Um...Cy...I'm sorry you lost your sandcastle...but..."

"What Dee is trying to say is that we don't feel that bad because you weren't letting us play with you," said Paul. "You were being...selfish."

Cy stood staring at the shore. Slowly, he nodded. "I guess you're right. I'm sorry. Look—God is sharing His beach with us. The least I can do is share my toys with you guys! C'mon!"

Cy and his friends worked on an even taller sandcastle. And this one was far enough up the shore that even the biggest waves wouldn't wash it away.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Sharing in the Sand"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.

You'll need a plastic bucket, shovel, and assorted beach toys. You may wish to have the puppets wear dark sunglasses, beach hats, and swimsuits.

INTRODUCTION

Paul: I remember one time you acted very selfishly, Cy.

Cy: Me? When?

Paul: At the beach...last summer...remember?

Cy: *[shaking his head "no"]* Uh, uh.

Dee: I remember! Are you sure you don't remember, Cy?

Cy: *[nodding his head "yes"]* Uh, huh.

Dee: Well, maybe today's story will help you remember...

[Puppets exit and then reenter. Or, play some transitional music as they reposition themselves onstage and pretend to be in a car driving to the beach.]

SCRIPT

Dee: It sure is great that your mom is taking us to the beach today, Cy!

Paul: Yeah! I love the beach! How about you, Cy?

Cy: Are you kidding? I love the beach! I'm thankful that God is willing to share the waves and the sand and the sunshine with everyone! And it's gonna be even better than ever because I can use my new beach toys to build the biggest and best sandcastle in the world!

Dee: Wow! When did you get those toys?

Cy: Two weeks ago for my birthday. But today is the first day that I'll get to use them!

Paul: Look, we're pulling into the parking lot! We're almost there!

Dee: Hey, Cy, can I help carry some of your toys?

Cy: No, thanks, I'll get them by myself.

[Cy carries the bucket and toys across stage to the "beach." Paul runs with him. Dee looks a little sad following along

behind. Cy and Paul are playing on the other side of the stage when Dee arrives.]

Dee: Hey, Cy, remember we're not supposed to swim in the water. Your mom said it's okay if we just waded in the shallow water, though.

Paul: Okay!

[Cy dumps his toys onto the sand and starts to dig. Dee grabs the plastic molds and Paul takes the bucket to fill it with water. After a little while, Cy takes the plastic molds from Dee and she has to sit and watch him play. The "water" is offstage. If you wish, you can use a spray bottle to simulate splashing waves.]

Cy: *[to Paul]* Hey, can I have the bucket back?

Paul: Umm, sure.

[Cy puts the bucket on the ground next to him but does not use it. Paul and Dee watch him and wait for their chance to use the toys. Then, they run down and splash in the "water" and come back.]

Paul: Can we help make the castle?

Cy: No, I think I'll make this one by myself.

Dee: C'mon, Cy, share some of your toys with us. It's not fun for us if you don't share!

Cy: But my mom bought these things for me! They're mine! You can use them when I'm done.

Dee: *[taking a big breath and sighing]* But I don't think you'll ever be done!

[When Cy doesn't look up, Dee just shakes her head and follows Paul to the water. Cy keeps playing by himself as they talk. They are on their tummies, bobbing up and down as if they are floating on the waves.]

Dee: It sure is fun floating on these waves!

Paul: Yeah! And you don't even need to go out into the deep water to do it!

Dee: Watch out! Here comes a giant wave!!!

Cy: *[to himself]* I'm gonna have the biggest and best sandcastle in the whole wide world!

[Cy isn't watching as the big wave carries

Dee and Paul back toward him. The wave drops them off on the sand and totally destroys Cy's sandcastle.]

Cy: Oh, no! My castle is gone! All my hard work is wasted! Well, aren't you two gonna say anything?

[Paul and Dee look at each other. Finally Dee speaks.]

Dee: Umm...Cy...I'm sorry you lost your sandcastle...but...

Paul: What she is trying to say is that we don't feel that bad because you weren't letting us play with you. You were being...selfish.

Cy: *[looking at them for a moment, finally, he nods and hangs his head]* I guess you're right. I'm sorry. Look, God is sharing His beach with us. The least I can do is share my toys with you guys! C'mon! Let's get to work. We still have the world's biggest sandcastle to make!

[They begin to work together as the curtain closes.]

APPLICATION

Cy: Okay, I guess you guys were right. I was being a little shellfish in that story.

Dee: Did you say shellfish or selfish?

Cy: Shellfish.

Dee: You weren't being a selfish shellfish at the seashore, you were being a selfish Cy in the sand!

Cy: *[to the audience]* Try saying that five times fast!

Paul: Everyone acts selfish sometimes. But God is there to forgive us.

Cy: And sharing what we have isn't just a nice thing, or the right thing to do...

Dee: It's the same thing God would do.

Cy: And does do!

Dee: For each of us.

Paul: Every day!

Cy: So remember not to be a little shellfish—

Paul: Or selfish—

Cy: —this week!

Dee: Bye-bye everyone! See you next time!

[Curtain.]

Additional Learn By Doing Activities

All three sections in this lesson include a suggested *Learn By Doing* activity. However, you may want to substitute one or more of the activities below to capture the specific interests and needs of your children.

Select activities based on the ages of your children, their learning style preferences, and their developmental needs.

Coloring Page

Provide copies of the reproducible Bible story picture for this lesson (#3) for children to color. (See page 90 of this Teacher Guide.)

Musical Instruments

Supplies: CD player, children's music, handmade or store-bought instruments such as wrist bells, drum, rhythm sticks, triangle, sandpaper blocks, tambourine, etc.

Give each child an instrument and tell them that when the music stops, they will need to give their instrument to someone else. Start the music and let the children march around the room while playing their instruments. Stop the music and have the children trade instruments. Remind them that God wants us to share what we have with others.

Build with Blocks

Supplies: lightweight blocks or small cardboard boxes

Have the children stack the blocks or boxes and then knock them down. Make sure children are at a safe distance away when blocks come down. Remind them of the man in the Bible story that knocked down his barns and built bigger ones.

Sharing with You

(for younger preschoolers)

Have the children sit down in a circle with you and sing this song to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*.

*I'll roll the ball to you.
You'll roll the ball to me.
When I share the ball with you,
God's pleased with you and me.*

Think of other ways to share with each other, such as "give a block to you," "give a hug to you," "shake hands with you," "jump rope with you" and "give food to you."

Greedy to the Core

(for older preschoolers)

Supplies: two or three apples, paring knife, cutting board, napkins

Have the children sit at the table with you while you tell them of the man in the story that was "greedy to the core." Let them know you are going to cut up an apple so they can see what a core looks like. Explain that being greedy to the core means to be selfish in their heart. God does not want us to be greedy. He wants us to share what we have with others. After cutting the apples, encourage the children to share them with one another. Thank them for not being greedy!

Rice Play

Supplies: a large plastic tub filled with rice, plastic scoops, cups, spoons

Let the children take turns playing with rice and sharing the tools with each other. Remind them of the grain that the rich man had in his barns and how he should have shared it with his friends instead of keeping it all for himself.

Going on a Picnic

Supplies: a picnic basket filled with plastic food, blanket, and umbrella

Tell the children you will be going on a pretend picnic. As the teacher, you carry the umbrella, the blanket, and the picnic basket. Walk with the children around the room and say that it is beginning to rain. Open the umbrella for yourself, but do not offer to share it with the children. As you continue walking around the room, tell them you are looking for a good place to have a picnic. When you find the right spot, put the blanket down and sit on it, but don't let the other children sit on the blanket with you. Tell them it is your blanket and they will have to find their own spot to sit down. Next, talk about how hungry you are and ask the others if they are hungry too. Proceed to unpack the pretend food but do not offer to share it with the children. Tell them you want to keep the food all to yourself.

Stop and ask the children how they felt when you didn't share the umbrella, the blanket or the food with them. Remind them of the greedy man in the Bible story who wanted to keep everything for himself instead of sharing with his friends. Repeat the activity and this time share the umbrella, the blanket and the pretend food with the children and talk about how glad Jesus is when we share what we have with others.

See *Learning Centers* on pages 86-87 for ideas that can be used as additional "Learn By Doing" activities.

Discover God

Old Testament Building Blocks

Introduce children to God's greatness and plan.



Witness God's power and pleasure as He creates the entire universe!

Observe the patriarchs of the faith who learn to trust God through challenges and opportunities.

Join Moses as he leads God's people from captivity in Egypt to freedom at Mt. Sinai.

Follow the adventures of the men and women who conquer and settle the promised land.

See God shape leaders to shepherd His people through everyday situations and supernatural events.

Share the experiences of anointed kings who lead God's people wisely.

Watch in amazement as prophets like Elijah and Elisha demonstrate God's mighty power.

Celebrate God's greatness in the Psalms and through the lives of devout prophets like Daniel and Jonah.

Discover Jesus

New Testament Building Blocks

Guide preschoolers to become Jesus' friends.



Celebrate the momentous event when God sends His special Son, Jesus, to join His people.

Watch as Jesus calls together twelve special friends and teaches them to trust His Father.

Worship Jesus as He performs magnificent miracles and serves people in need.

Eagerly listen to Jesus' messages and respond to His life-giving words.

Rejoice as Jesus dies to forgive sins and rises victoriously from the grave!

Join Jesus' friends who see Him ascend to heaven and who receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Discover Jesus' love for people everywhere as early missionaries tell others about Jesus.

Experience Jesus' indwelling power as Christians trust God to accomplish His great plan.