Preschool–Grade 6

The Widow's Offering

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: Jesus sees what I give to God.
Bible passage: Mark 12. Read Mark 12:41–44 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "this poor widow hath cast more in" *Mark 12:43 (KJV)*. **Cast** means put in.
You need: a Bible, two paper coins for each child, a basket, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Mark 12. Hide the paper coins around the room.

1. Opening game: Two Coins Hunt (5 minutes)

Kids hunt for the hidden paper coins. Each child finds two coins and brings them to you. Count them together: "One, two!" Then each child puts both coins in the basket. Say: "Good job! Today we will hear a true story about a woman who gave two little coins to God."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Mark 12. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Jesus sat down in God's house (Mark 12:35, 12:41). *(Sit down.)*
He watched people give money to God (12:41). *(Shade your eyes and look.)*
Rich people put in lots of money (12:41). *(Stretch your arms out wide.)*
Then a poor widow came (12:42). *(Walk slowly in place.)*
She had only two little coins (12:42). *(Hold up two fingers.)*
She put in both coins! (12:42) *(Pretend to drop two coins: clink, clink!)*
Say it with me: "Jesus saw her!"
Jesus called His disciples (12:43). *(Wave "come here.")*
Jesus said she gave more than all of them (12:43). *(Hold your arms up high.)*
She gave all that she had (12:44). *(Open both empty hands.)*
Say it with me: "I can give my best to God!"

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3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. How many coins did the widow have? *(Two, Mark 12:42)*
2. Who saw what she gave? *(Jesus, 12:41–43)*
3. How much did she give? *(All that she had, 12:44)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Jesus said, 'this poor widow hath cast more in.' That means she gave more." Teach the motions: hold up two fingers for "this poor widow," pretend to drop a coin for "hath cast," and raise your arms high for "more in." Say the verse with the motions three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Mark 12:43" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: Two Little Coins (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw two round coins, and then color them. While they color, ask: "How many coins did the widow give? Who saw her?" Kids who finish early can play Two Coins Hunt again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, Jesus, for seeing me.
Help me give my best to You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: let every child drop coins in the basket and say "clink, clink!" Keep the focus on Jesus seeing the widow and loving her gift. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child asks what a widow is: say, "A widow is a woman whose husband has died. She was poor, and Jesus saw her."

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