

Materials I Need:

Key for symbols:

- This symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow way down for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that can be used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.

Memory Verse:

2 Corinthians 9:7: God loves a cheerful giver.

Hook:

- Teacher Tip:** Keeping your classroom positive and cheerful takes a constant awareness of all activities going on in the room. Now that your preschoolers are getting familiar with the schedule, leader's faces, and classroom guidelines, they will be more comfortable in initiating their own activities. There will be times when you will need to intervene in a child's activity. Instead of saying "don't" words, give positive alternative suggestions such as, "Let's use this ball for rolling." Always acknowledge appropriate behavior with praise such as, "Thank you for being so patient while the snacks were being served."
- Cheerful Givers Center:** Provide three plastic containers (Cool Whip, cottage cheese or sour cream containers) with slots cut in the lids and red, white and blue poker chips. Mark the containers with red, white and blue markers. Put the chips in the center of the work area. One container can represent church, another the family and the third could be for savings. Where do the children want to put their money (chips)? The color of the chips can correspond to the color of the container or give each child a certain amount of chips and let him choose where he wants to spend them. "In today's Bible Adventure Paul tells the Corinthians there were poor Christians in Jerusalem who needed to feed their families. Paul asked the Corinthians to collect money to give to the Christians in Jerusalem."
- Wallet and Purse Center:** Provide some play paper money and coins, along with wallets that fold and purses that snap open and shut. Allow the children to move the money from one purse to another. Help them count how much they have. "In today's Bible Adventure Paul wants the Corinthians to be cheerful givers to the church and to other Christians who need money to feed their families."
- Coin Rubbings:** Place a foreign coin under a half sheet of paper and have the child rub an unwrapped crayon over the paper. (Give close supervision if small coins are used.) Ask him what coin he thinks is showing through. Quarter? Nickel? After he is done, show him the coin and tell him where it came from. "In today's Bible Adventure the Corinthians are asked to give money to the poor Christians in Jerusalem. It didn't matter that their money looked different. It could still buy food for the families that needed it."
- Feel in the Bag:** Place several items in a bag is something that could be shared with someone else. Include items like gum, toys, books, coins, candy, apple, etc. Have the children take turns feeling in the bag and trying to identify the objects. Then have them name someone to whom they could give this item or with whom they could share it.

- Coupon Pages: (2CO05ECGF6)** Color several coupon pages talking about ways we can give of ourselves and not be selfish or stingy. Use these with the "Giving and Singing Game" listed in the **Look** section.
- "Jesus Had No Bed!" Picture: (2CO05ECGF2)** Have the children color the GF2 picture and add star stickers in the sky. While the children are working, talk about Jesus being rich in heaven, but how He came to earth to be poor. He didn't have a house or bed. Jesus did this so we can be forgiven of our sins. He came cheerfully to give His life for us.
- Children's Book:** *Hey, That's Mine!* is a simple, hard-backed book for children published by The Standard Publishing Company. This book is especially appropriate for two-year-olds because there are few words on large, colorful pictures. Use the words "stingy" and "selfish" as you refer to the pages that say, "Hey, that's mine!" and the words "generous" and "cheerfully giving" with the pages that show children sharing. Read this book again next week as you review the Memory Verse. (Ask Marilyn for a copy of this book.)
- Postcard Review:** Blindfold a child and have him or her point to a picture on the wall Postcard. Review the picture together. For variety play "I Spy" asking a child to point to the picture you see. You might say, "I see a treasure box. What is the treasure that Paul preached about?" "Which picture shows a child praying and saying he is sorry for his sins?" "Which picture shows Jesus dying for our sins?"
- Play Dough:** Make things out of play dough that the children can give to others like money, cookies, toys, flowers and hearts for love. "When we are giving, we are not tempted to be selfish."
- Exercises:** Do several exercises with the children to get them ready to give unselfishly and learn what the Bible Adventure says today. Include jumping jacks, stretches, toe touches, jumping, hopping, skipping, or "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes."



Book:

Presentation Ideas -

- Color the **2CO05ECGF1**, **2CO05ECGF2**, **2CO05ECGF3**, **2CO05ECGF4**, and **2CO05ECGF5** pictures and glue them onto colored construction paper. Show these pictures as you tell the Bible Adventure. Save them for review in future lessons.
- Add the **2CO05ECGF13** Postcard review picture to the large Postcard on the wall.
- Offering Plate:** Borrow an offering plate from the church and show it to the children before the Bible Adventure. Who knows what it is? (A dish in which to give money to the church.) What is it used for? (It is passed around to all the people every Sunday morning so they can put money in it.) What does the church do with the money? (It pays the bills to run the building. It pays for the preaching staff. It is sent to missionary families. It goes to other Christians who need money to feed their families.) "Look for the offering plate in today's Bible Adventure pictures and see if it looks like the one we use in our church service."
- "Friends Far Away" Finger Play:**

One, two, three little friends	<i>(Hold up one, two, three fingers.)</i>
Who live far, far, away	
Hear about the Lord's great love	<i>(Point up.)</i>
From God's Word today.	<i>(Hold hands like open book.)</i>
One, two, three little friends	<i>((Hold up one, two, three fingers.))</i>
Now know Jesus came	
So they can join God's family	<i>(Clasp hands together.)</i>
And sing and praise God's name.	<i>(Cup hands around mouth.)</i>
Many friends who live far from them	
Prayed and gave gifts one day	<i>(Hands in praying position.)</i>
So these friends they never met	
Could learn to grow God's way!	<i>(Point up.)</i>

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(Show the review 2CO03ECGF1 picture.) Paul said in Second Corinthians, "God loves a cheerful giver." God, Himself, is a cheerful giver. He gave His own Son, Jesus, as a gift to us.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF1 picture.) Jesus is a cheerful giver, too. Jesus gave up His rich home in heaven when He came to earth. In heaven Jesus had everything He could ever want. Heaven is a wonderful place, but Jesus left heaven to come to earth.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF2 picture.) Jesus came to earth to live and to teach people about God. He had nothing that He could call His own. He had no house. He had no warm bed. Often He slept outside with a rock for a pillow. He cheerfully gave up everything He had in heaven so that you and I can receive the blessing of eternal life.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF3 picture.) Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "You have been blessed by God's precious gift of Jesus. Now I want you to learn to be cheerful givers. Every week each family should save some money to give to the poor Christians in far-away places. Some of you will be able to give more than others. It doesn't matter the amount you give, but give with a cheerful and glad attitude.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF4 picture.) "You are acting like Jesus when you give cheerfully and generously. When Jesus' children love and give to others, it blesses and brings joy to the people who receive the gift. It also blesses the people who give the gift. The most important thing is it brings joy to God's heart and pleases Him when we love and give like He loves and gives."

(Show the 2CO05ECGF5 picture.) Just like the Corinthians, God wants us to give some of our money to poor Christians in far-away places. We can bring our money to church and put it in the offering plate. We can learn to be cheerful givers.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for Jesus who gave up His rich life in heaven for me. Help me to have His generous attitude and give cheerfully to others. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

(Show the 2CO05ECGF1 picture.) Paul said in Second Corinthians, "God loves a cheerful giver." God loves a cheerful giver because God, Himself, is a cheerful giver. God gave His own Son, Jesus, as a gift to us.

Jesus is a cheerful giver, too. Jesus gave up His rich home in heaven when He came to earth. In heaven Jesus was rich in everything; He had everything He could ever want. Heaven is a wonderful place, but Jesus left heaven to come to earth. Jesus didn't selfishly say, "This is My home. I want to stay here and enjoy this by Myself." That would be a stingy, selfish attitude. No, Jesus came to earth so that we could share His riches in heaven.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF2 picture.) While Jesus was living on earth, He had nothing that He could call His own. He had no house or warm bed that belonged to Him. He didn't even have a pillow of His own. Often He slept outside with a rock for a pillow. But Jesus never complained; Jesus was a cheerful giver. He cheerfully gave up everything so that you and I could receive the blessing of sharing His riches in heaven.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF3 picture.) Paul wanted the Corinthians to learn to be cheerful givers like Jesus. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "You have been blessed by God's precious gift of Jesus. Now I want you to learn to be a cheerful giver. Here is what you can do. Every week each family should save some money from their paycheck to give to the poor Christians in far-away places. The Christians in Jerusalem are very poor right now and need help with food for their families. Some of you will give more than others because you have more to give. It doesn't matter whether you give a little or a lot; what matters is your attitude when you give. Do you give cheerfully and gladly, or do you wish you could keep more for yourself?

(Show the 2CO05ECGF4 picture.) "When you give cheerfully and generously, you are acting like Jesus who gave Himself cheerfully and generously. When Jesus' children love and give to others like Jesus loved and gave Himself for them, it blesses and brings joy to the people who receive the gift. It also blesses the people who give the gift; it brings a big joy to their hearts. But, and this is the most important thing about giving like God gives, it brings joy to God's heart and pleases God when we love and give like He loves and gives.

(Show the 2CO05ECGF5 picture.) God wanted the Corinthians to set aside money each week for Christians who need help. He wants us to do the same. We can bring our offerings to church and put the money in the offering plate. We can learn to be cheerful givers.

We can learn to be cheerful givers by sharing what we have with others who need something. (*Close your hand into a fist.*) Whenever we say, "That's mine! You can't play with it!" or "Give it back to me," we are showing a stingy, selfish attitude. (*Open your hand as though offering something to someone.*)

Whenever we share what we have with someone else, it shows a cheerful, giving attitude like Jesus. Let's ask God to help us learn to be cheerful givers.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for Jesus who gave up His rich life in heaven so that I could live in His heaven someday. Help me be a cheerful giver to other Christians in need. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Aim Questions

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. **Who wants us to be cheerful givers?** (*God, Jesus.*)
2. **What did Jesus give up to come to earth to teach people about God?** (*Heaven, all His riches.*)
3. **Who do we please when we are cheerful givers?** (*God, Jesus.*)

Aim Questions for 4's & 5's:

1. **What does God love His children to be?** (*"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*)
2. **Was Jesus a cheerful giver?** (*Yes. He gave up His rich home in heaven so that people could be blessed with eternal life.*)
3. **What did Paul tell the Corinthians to do with their money?** (*Give cheerfully to the poor Christians in Jerusalem.*)
4. **What happens to people who are cheerful givers?** (*God blesses cheerful givers with much joy.*)



Look:

- Aim Questions:** Write the **Aim Questions** on cards and place them in the offering plate used during the Bible Adventure. Each child can draw his question from the offering plate.
- Aim Questions Idea #2:** Tape a quarter to each question. Have the first child separate the money from the question and put the coin in the offering plate used during the Bible Adventure. He can then hand the question to the teacher to be read. Repeat with other children for the rest of the questions.
- Transition Idea:** Show the most cheerful face you can!
- Snack Suggestion:** Serve graham crackers or unfrosted cupcakes to the children. Very generously serve (or squirt) whip cream on the top. Tell the children that "generous" means willing to give and share a lot. "What are we being generous with at snack time today? Whip cream!"
- Snack Suggestion #2--Share Happily:** Materials needed: Candies or M&M's. Seat the children at a table and give a different amount of candy to each child. To some give five, some one, and to some seven. Ask the children to look at the amount of candy in front of them. "Is it okay that some only have one? How can we make it so that each child has the same amount?" Ask the children to share with a happy heart; and when they do, give them each one more candy for their generosity.
- Snack Suggestion #3:** Provide favorite snacks like pretzels, candies, raisins, fish crackers, popcorn, etc., in bowls for children to place in paper lunch sacks they have decorated. Take these sacks to another class to share. Talk about the joy we get when we share something we really like ourselves with others. (Arrange this activity with the other class ahead of time.)
- "Giving Is a Blessing" Activity Page: (2CO05ECGF4)** Give each child a GF4 page, rick-rack or ribbon to make a frame around the picture, and ribbon for the bow on the box and for the girl's dress and hair. As the children color their pictures and glue on the ribbon, talk about how we are blessed when we receive a gift. Then explain that it blesses the person who gives with a big joy in his heart. It also glorifies (blesses) God when His children are cheerful givers. Notice the happy look on the face of the boy in the picture. His eyes are facing upward toward God, knowing that He is pleased.
- Churches Share With Each Other: (2CO05ECGF7)** Provide ink pads, wipes and crayons or markers. Let the children place fingerprint people inside the various churches. Talk about the churches being in different parts of the world. Some churches have lots of people and some churches are small and still growing with new Christians. Have the children draw lines between all the churches to show that they are all connected by faith in Jesus.

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- “Generous or Stingy Giver” Activity Page: (2CO05ECGF8)** Let the children color their GF8 page as they talk about what it means to be generous and stingy--not only with money, but with possessions and work practices. “God loves a cheerful giver, not a grumbling, stingy person.” Give the children two pennies to tape to their page. “Each child is giving the same amount, but one has a cheerful attitude and one has a stingy attitude.” Sing one of the songs from the **Song** section that encourages cheerful giving.
 - Giving and Singing Game: (2CO05ECGF6)** Before class, decorate a box with hearts and smiley faces and place it and a basket along a wall. (Put coupons colored by children in **Hook** time in the basket.) Children stand in a line and sing the Memory Verse Song together for practice. Then one at a time, while everyone is singing and marching in place, the first child in line picks a coupon out of the basket, says what it is, and places it in the heart/smiles box and returns to the end of the line. Do this several times. When done, count the papers in the box and be glad together that they could share all those things. Talk about the joy we have when we cheerfully give of ourselves, help others or share our money.
 - “Let's Take Our Gifts to Jerusalem!” Activity:** Tell the children they will be carrying their gifts to Jerusalem to give to the poor Christians. Divide the class into two or three sections. Each section will get one large spoon, a pile of chips (or peanuts, marshmallows, etc.) and a measuring cup. Set the measuring cup in front of each team about twenty feet out and clearly tell them which cup is theirs to fill. Give the first child in each team a large spoon with a chip on it and tell him to carefully carry it to the cup and drop it in. If a chip is dropped, the child picks it up and gets it balanced again before continuing to the cup. He brings his spoon back for the next child on his team to do the same thing. Keep working until one cup is generously overflowing. Who got their gifts to Jerusalem first?
 - Bean Bag Toss: (2CO05ECGF2, 2CO05ECGF3, and 2CO05ECGF4)** On the floor place a GF2 picture of Jesus, a GF3 picture of the Corinthians and a GF4 picture of children. Line the children up along a line on the floor and let them take turns tossing a bean bag onto a picture. Then ask one of the following questions, “How was Jesus a cheerful giver? What did He give? How could the Corinthians give to others? How can we be cheerful givers?”
 - Coin, Coin, Who Has the Coin?** Ask one child to turn his back to the group and face the wall while the other children sing the Memory Verse Song and pass a coin around the circle. When you wave your hands, they stop singing; and the child turns around and tries to find out where the coin is. Resume singing the verse song, getting louder when he is close and quiet when he is farther away. When the coin is found, they exchange places for the next turn.
 - Sharing Relay:** Materials needed: two hoops, mats, or rope circles on the floor; stuffed animals; books; articles of clothing; balls; dishes. Divide the class into two groups. A hoop is placed directly in front of each team about twenty feet away. Place all the items to be shared into one hoop. Two players from the first team go out to their hoop, gather everything in their arms, carry it to the other team's hoop and put it in, and then go back and sit down with their team. The second team sends out two players who gather everything out of their hoop, carry it back to the first hoop and put it there, and go back to their own team and sit down. Repeat until everyone has had a turn helping to share the toys.
 - Taping Coins Game:** Place a generous number of pennies on the floor at one end of the room. Wrap masking tape around the palm of each child with the sticky side out. When you give the signal, the children see how many coins they can get to stick on their tape. When the coins are all picked up or the children hear another signal, they return to their chairs. Count how many coins each child picked up. Share these coins with the missionary bank happily!
 - Johnny Shares with One Hand:** Sing this song to the tune of “Johnny Works with One Hammer.” Sit on the floor and wiggle the part you are singing about. Place children's names in this song as you sing and change the words to “___ shares (gives) with one hand!” etc.

Songs:

- 2 Corinthians 9:7, Memory Verse Song** (tune: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas")
God loves a-a cheerful giver.
God loves a-a cheerful giver.
God loves a-a cheerful giver.
Second C'inthians nine, seven.
(Repeat.)

- If I Love You** (tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It")
1. If I love you and I show it, I'll share my toys.
If I love you and I show it, I'll share my toys.
If I love you, I will show it; here's the way that you will know it:
If I love you and I show it, I'll share my toys.
 2. If I love you and I show it, I'll cheerfully give.
 3. If I love you and I show it, I'll be generous.

- Generous and Giving** (tune: "Ring Around the Rosie")
Generous and giving, generous and giving,
Cheerful, cheerful, we love to give. (Twirl around.)
- Stingy and selfish, stingy and selfish,
Grumbling, grumbling, we all fall down. (Fall down.)
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Took:

- Missionary Map:** Materials needed: Map of any or all of the mission fields that our church is supporting (materials are available if requested), glue sticks and coins. Ask the children to bring in a few coins each week to glue onto the mission spot of their choice. At the end of studying 2 Corinthians, write a letter to each of the missionaries and send the map (and money) to them.
- Happy Piggy Bank: (2CO05ECGF9)** Materials needed: GF9 picture of the pig copied on cardstock, pipe cleaner, moving eyes, red yarn for mouth, button for nose, coins, glue stick. Help the children construct their little piggy bank. Each week the children can tape coins to their pig's belly (give them a penny to start them out). When Second Corinthians is over, take the pigs down from the wall and ask the children what they would like to do with their piggy bank now that they have learned what Jesus says about giving to the church. They might want to send their money to missions or donate it to other areas in the church. An alternative idea would be to send the pigs home with the children with the idea of adding to them at home.
- Pick-Up For Church Game:** Purchase a small, white church bank (at a Christian supply store). Talk to the children about looking for pennies and nickels that are dropped on the ground. When they find a penny, save it for the little church bank. During the next few months, collect the pennies every Sunday, allowing the children to drop their coins in the church bank. Decide what the children would like to do with their collection--help a family in need or send it to the class missionary. If you haven't chosen a class missionary, now is a good time to do so. Introduce the missionary to the class with materials requested from the Children's Office.
- Jesus Is the Best Gift:** Show the children a nicely wrapped gift, and ask them how they feel when they get a gift at Christmas or birthdays. Gifts are exciting and fun. Jesus is a gift--the best gift that anyone could ever receive. Do we get excited about Jesus? We should because nothing is as important as the gift of Jesus. Let's pray that we can receive the everlasting gift of life with Jesus.
- Giving Happily Necklace: (2CO05ECGF10 and 2CO05ECGF11)** Cut or tear out the GF10 heart and hands (one set per child). Punch a hole in the top of each. Draw a happy face on the heart and glue a GF11 paper coin to the hands. Lace them onto a yarn along with colored macaroni, cut straws, or Cheerios. Talk about giving to people with a happy, cheerful heart.

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- **Coupons to Share: (2CO05ECGF6 and 2CO05ECGF12)** Cut along the mouth line of each GF12 happy face before class. Children may glue the half-page happy face around the edges to a half piece of colored construction paper. The mouth now serves as a pocket for the GF6 coupons. Place the coupons in the happy face mouth as you talk about the ways the children can give to others this week. Share this with their parents as a reminder to do these things this week. "When we are generous and giving and not stingy and selfish, then we are very happy and please God."
 - **Preschool Page for Parents: (2CO05ECPPP)** Send a page home with each child, encouraging parents to reinforce the Bible truths at home. Spend a few minutes before the children go home creatively reviewing the song and Memory Verse.



Jesus left the riches of His heavenly home to come to earth.



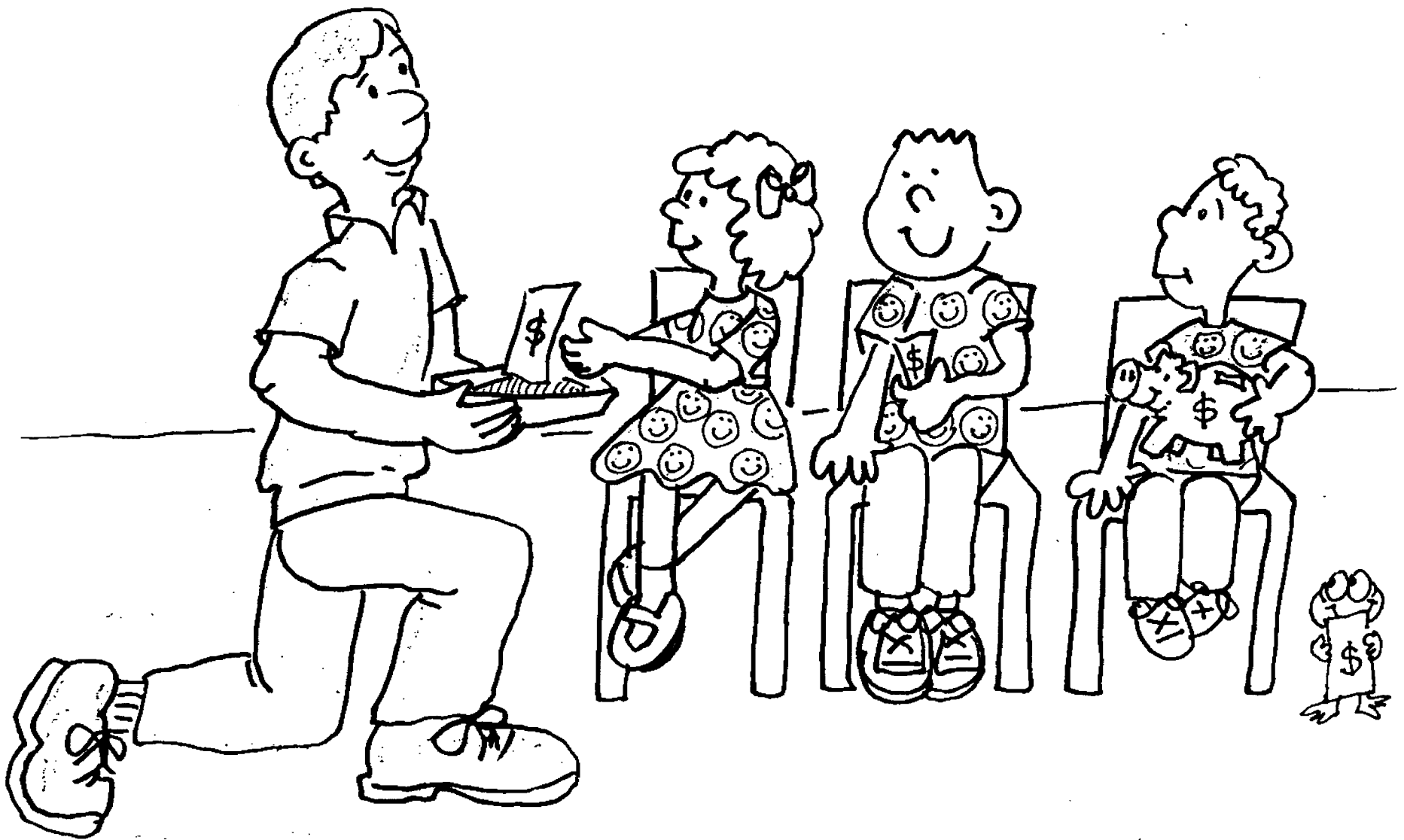
Jesus often did not have a bed or pillow to sleep on.



Paul wanted the Corinthians to be cheerful givers like Jesus.

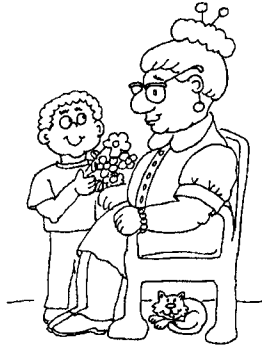


When a Christian gives cheerfully, it blesses the person receiving the gift, the person who gives the gift, and the Lord as well.



God wants all of His children to learn to be cheerful givers.

Coupon
good for
an act of
sharing



Coupon
good for
a job
at home



Coupon
good for
a job
at home



Coupon
good for
an act of
kindness



Coupon
good for
a job
at home



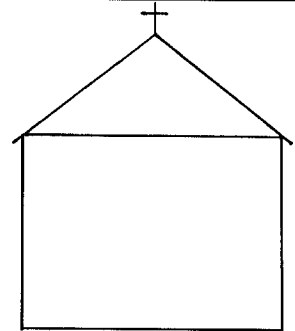
Coupon
good for
a good
attitude



Coupon
good for
reading
Bible stories



Coupon
good for
going to
church



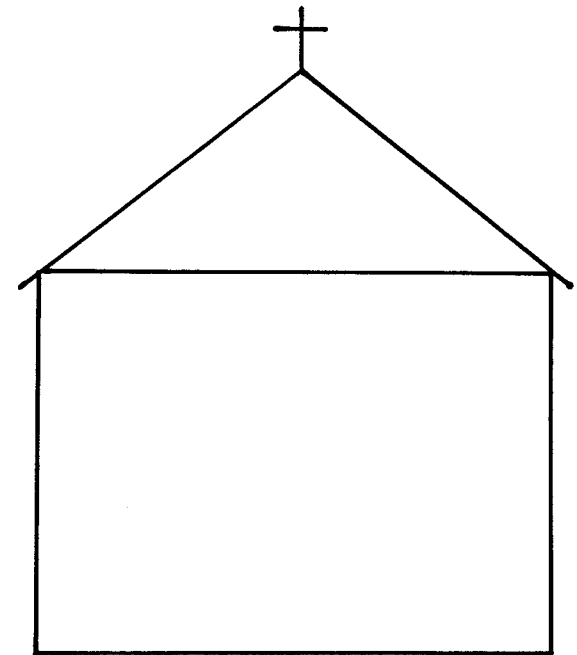
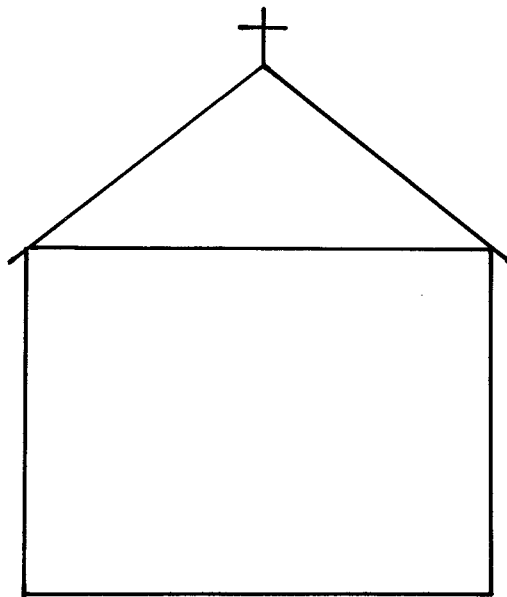
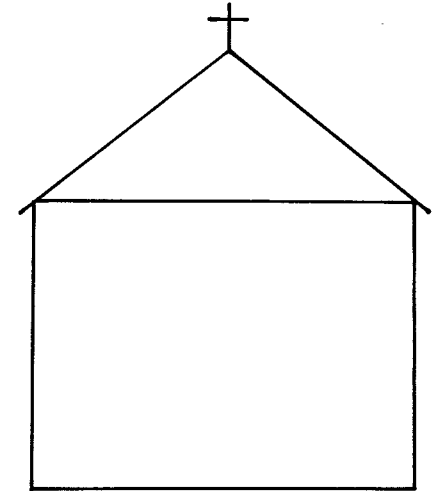
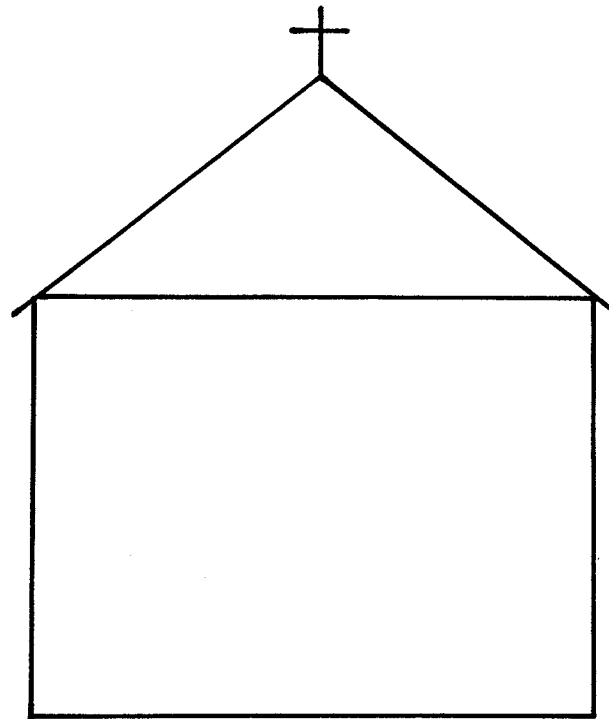
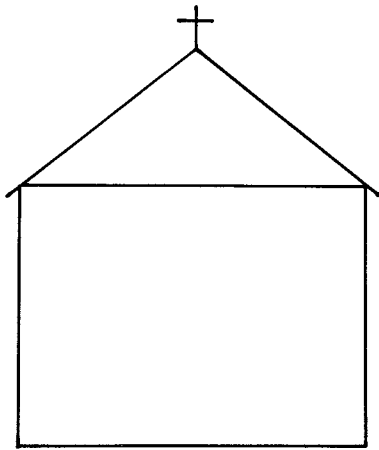
Coupon
good for
giving
cheerfully



Coupon
good for
praying
together

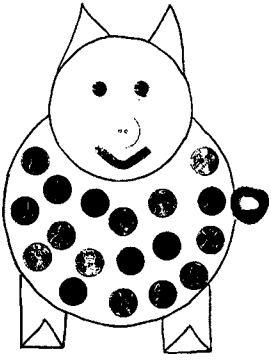


Fill your churches with fingerprint people who believe in Jesus.
These people want to give and share with each other.

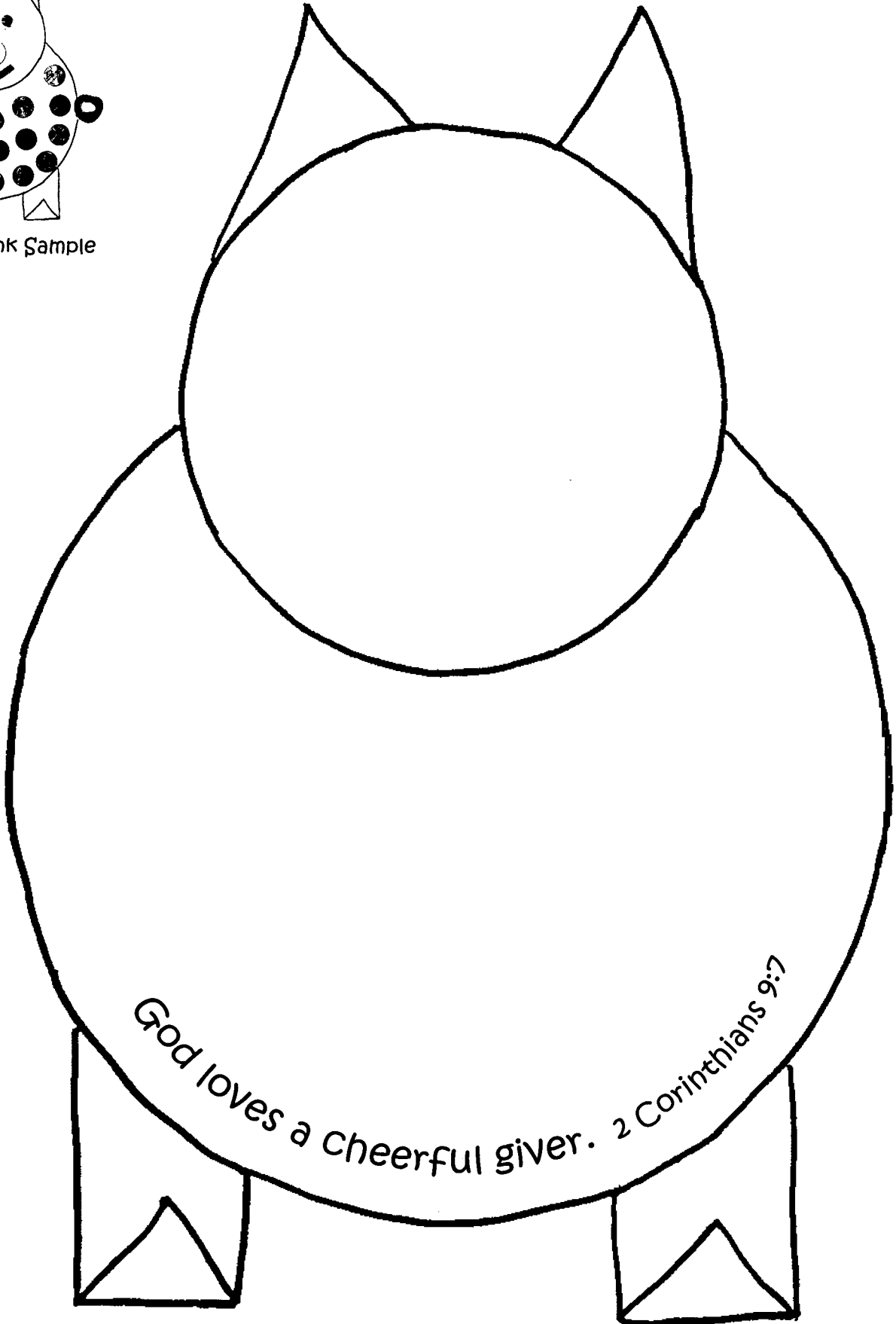




God wants His people to have a cheerful attitude when they give.



Piggy Bank Sample

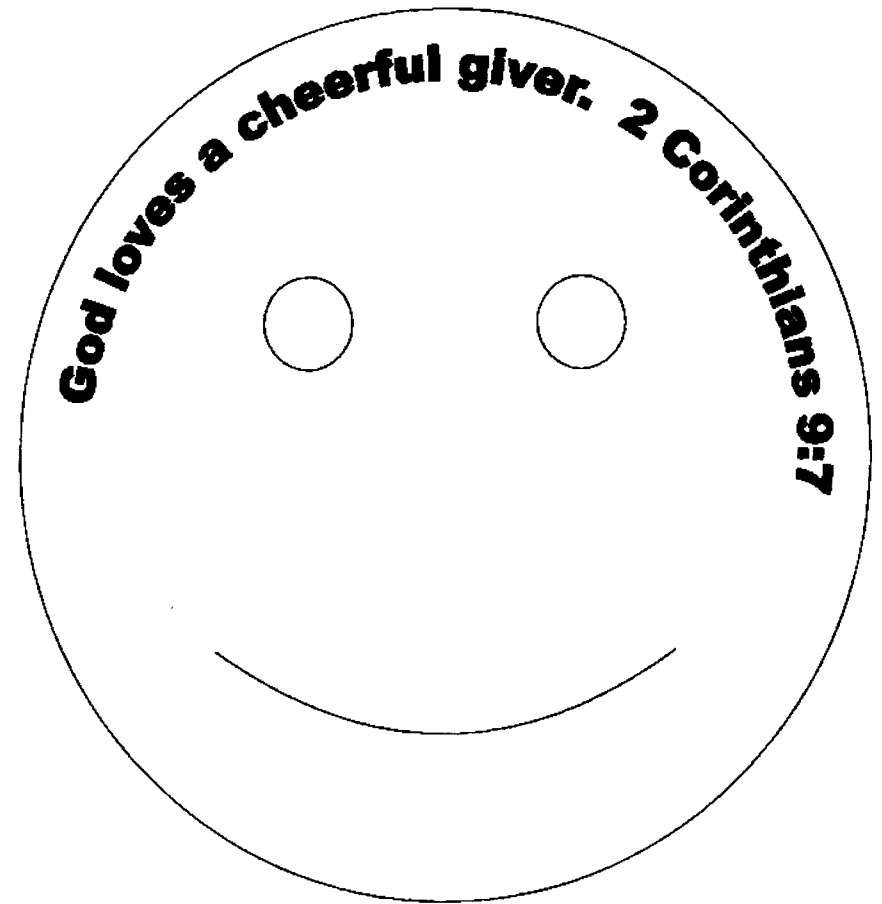


God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

"Giving Happily" Necklace

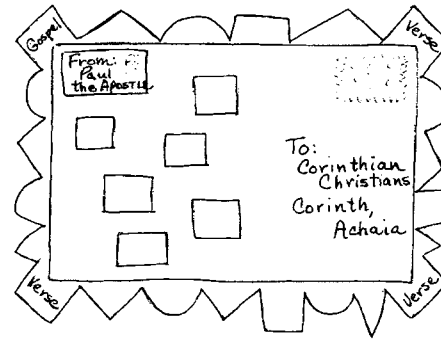


Cheerful Giver with Coupons to Share



Second Corinthians Postcard Picture for Lesson #5

Cut out picture and glue on
large poster board postcard.



Postcard sample

2 Corinthians Lesson #5:

Paul wanted the Corinthians to be
cheerful givers like Jesus.



2 Corinthians Lesson #5:

Paul wanted the Corinthians to be
cheerful givers like Jesus.



October 6, 2002
Second Corinthians Chapters 8-9



This is what I learned today!

God cheerfully gave His own Son as a gift to us. Jesus gave up His rich home in heaven so that we can receive the blessing of eternal life. Paul wanted the Corinthians to be cheerful givers like Jesus. Every family was to save some money to give to the poor Christians in far-away places. The Christians in Jerusalem were poor and needed help to buy food for their families. It didn't matter how much money the Corinthians gave, but it was their attitude that mattered. They were to give cheerfully and gladly. Cheerful giving blesses people who receive the gift. It also blesses the people who give the gift. But the most important thing about giving is it brings joy to God's heart.

Today's Memory Verse

God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

It is
better to
give than
receive



We teach our young children the joy of giving rather than receiving by regularly doing it with enthusiasm. Include them in the practice of drawing pictures, making cookies, sending a simple card, and taking flowers to a neighbor, sick friend, grandparent or elderly person. Saying words of thankfulness and kindness are also gifts that bless other people. Don't forget to thank God in prayer with enthusiasm.

Teach your child to regularly give back to God with a cheerful attitude a part of the blessings He has given him. Saving coins to take to church is a good habit to start early. Cut out the picture above and tape it to a small milk carton or box to collect coins for the church offering.

2 Corinthians 9:7, Memory Verse Song
(tune: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas")

God loves a-a cheerful giver.
God loves a-a cheerful giver.
God loves a-a cheerful giver.
Second C'inthians nine, seven.

* For tunes to songs, ask about the preschool tape.



Paul wanted the Corinthians to be cheerful givers like Jesus.