



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

S.H.I.F.T.

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

January 17 - God loves a cheerful giver

Sing with me:

God loves a cheerful giver by Miriam Therese Winter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYmsJyGBipo>

Medical Mission Sisters - God Loves a Cheerful Giver Lyrics

Chorus:

*God loves a cheerful giver, give it all you've got
He loves to hear you laughing when you're in an awkward spot
When the odds add up against you, it's time to stop and sing
Praise God to praise Him is a joyous thing*

1. Peter always made a fuss, Peter was impetuous
He knew hard times when he denied his Lord
But hardly had he fallen when he got right up began again
Christ named him His successor as his reward

Chorus:

2. Jonah was a gloomy sort, he always had a sad retort
He ran from God. He ran and he set sail
His journeys end was quite abrupt. A fish came by and
Swallowed him up
He spent three dark and dreary days inside the whale

Chorus

3. Holy Job was richly blessed. He lost it all but stood the test
For Job was steadfast in his misery
God gives to me, He takes away. Blessed be the name of God this day
And he was doubly blessed for his fidelity

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He loves to hear you laughing when you're in an awkward spot
When the odds add up against you, it's time to stop and sing
Praise God to praise Him is a joyous thing
Praise God to praise him is a joyous thing.*

Memory verse:

2 Corinthians 9: 6,7

6 Here is something to remember. The one who plants only a little will gather only a little. And the one who plants a lot will gather a lot. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give. You shouldn't give if you don't want to. You shouldn't give because you are forced to. God loves a cheerful giver.

Scripture

St John 6:1 – 15 NIRV

Read with me

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

1 Some time after this, Jesus crossed over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. It is also called the Sea of Tiberias. 2 A large crowd of people followed him. They had seen the signs he had done by healing sick people. 3 Then Jesus went up on a mountainside. There he sat down with his disciples. 4 The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

5 Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him. So he said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?" 6 He asked this only to test Philip. He already knew what he was going to do.

7 Philip answered him, "Suppose we were able to buy enough bread for each person to have just a bite. That would take more than half a year's pay!"

8 Another of his disciples spoke up. It was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He said, 9 "Here is a boy with five small loaves of barley bread. He also has two small fish. But how far will that go in such a large crowd?"

10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down. About 5,000 men were there. 11 Then Jesus took the loaves and gave thanks. He handed out the bread to those who were seated. He gave them as much as they wanted. And he did the same with the fish.

12 When all of them had enough to eat, Jesus spoke to his disciples. "Gather the leftover pieces," he said. "Don't waste anything." 13 So they gathered what was left over from the five barley loaves. They filled 12 baskets with the pieces left by those who had eaten.

14 The people saw the sign that Jesus did. Then they began to say, "This must be the Prophet who is supposed to come into the world." 15 But Jesus knew that they planned to come and force him to be their king. So he went away again to a mountain by himself.

Let us talk about it

The passage we have just read is entitled Jesus feeds the five thousand. Today we are going to give it another title – We will call it "A little boy gives up his lunch". Image all those people went to hear Jesus, and no one thought they should bring lunch! Didn't they expect to get hungry? This little boy's mother was very thoughtful. She gave her son lunch. How did Andrew know the boy had lunch? Perhaps the little boy had taken out his lunch with the intention of eating, when Andrew saw him. Whatever Andrew said to the boy, we know the boy gave up his lunch of two fish and five loaves. We can believe that there was no hesitation from the boy. He was a brave boy indeed. Did he have to give up his lunch? Jesus did not ask the boy if he wanted to give up his lunch. The story just said Jesus told Andrew to bring the lunch, and to make the people sit down. Not even the disciples knew what Jesus could do with two fish and five loaves for all those people. Do you think that you would have given up your lunch?

Last week, we talked about giving freely and willingly. Today, we want, not only to give, but to give cheerfully. We just never know what God will ask of us. We never know when He will ask it. We never know ahead of time what will happen when He does. We never know how the Lord will use our lunch and use it to give grace to the hungry. Just think about it. Wouldn't you be really excited to know that you were a part of the great miracle just because you cheerfully gave up your lunch?

What do you have to give? It may not be your lunch, but what about your time? Or your talents? How often does your mother have to ask you to do something? How cheerful are you about your household chores? How willing are you to share the remote with your younger sibling? Are you willing to help your young neighbour with his/her homework? Today, we are all restricted by COVID-19 protocols. Most activities are now virtual. Did you cheerfully help your

grandparents log on to the streaming of the church service last Sunday? After all, you have the use of the device all week for school, so why can't you give it up on Sunday so that your family members can use it, but they need your help. Then you also can be at church with them.

In our memory verse we read in verse 6 "Here is something to remember. The one who plants only a little will gather only a little. And the one who plants a lot will gather a lot. " This should take us back to our memory verse last week "The same amount you give will be measured out to you." (Luke 6:38). God really wants us to give, not only because we are asked to give, but because we want to give. We never know when we will be called by God to give. We do not know what we will be asked to give. God knows us all, where we are, who we are, and what we can give. When you go to church, do you cheerfully give your offering, or do you hold back some to spend? We never know what God will do with our giving, but we know that God loves a cheerful giver. Please give cheerfully.

Let us pray

O Lord, I thank you for what you have given me. You have given me so many blessings which I cannot begin to count. Dear Lord, I pray that you would develop in me a giving heart to glorify you. Also, a cheerful heart with the desire to give back to you a small measure of the over-abundance that You have given to me.

I ask you, Lord, to give me wisdom to know what to give, when to give and whom to give to. Change my attitude towards giving I pray, knowing that all things come from you. Give me a giving heart, a generous heart, a grateful heart. Develop in me a heart filled with thanks and praise to you, for all that You have done for me.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, I ask in Jesus' name,

Amen.

Activity

The Cheerful Giver Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be right to left, up and down or diagonally.

P A T A M E T S S C I I Q U E
A C E C H E E R F U L G R I T
F T M O R N W I D O W E U I S
S T P U D M O C E T P C A E S
D U L L A M E H E U M O N E Y
O I E E Q U A T Q U I N L U T
L L S A D J E S U S E T I U S
N P L C G R T I E E S R C T E
L L U T I A T V E L G I V E R
U P E C O P M O L O R B E T U
R O T T C E L O S E T U T A D
P O A T O E S E E D T T E R C
I R I N I E L U S A T I T A L
F E O H N Q U A T I O O S E D
T R E A S U R Y L A F N C I B

CHEERFUL
COINS
CONTRIBUTION
DISCIPLES

GIVER
JESUS
MONEY
POOR

RICH
TEMPLE
TREASURY
WIDOW

THE PERSON WHO
gives with a smile
is the best giver
because God loves
a cheerful giver.

Mother Teresa

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