



THE STORY @ HOME

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-21
Mark 12: 28-44

THIS WEEK

Jesus teaches in the temple about loving God and loving neighbor. He then criticizes those who make a show of their giving and praises the widow who is willing to give all that she has to God's kingdom (Mark 12:28-44).

STORY SUMMARY

The Widow's Gift

Today's story centers on the widow who gives her few coins to the temple treasury with a faithful spirit of generosity. The temple treasury was a collection of thirteen chests in the temple where worshippers would give money to the glory of God. Jesus and his disciples watched rich men give many coins to the treasury, but it is when Jesus sees the widow offer her few coins that he is most affected. Because of the generous and selfless nature of her gift, Jesus holds her up as an example for us all to follow.

Today I Learned....

THE POINT

We respond to God's love and faithfulness by giving our lives to God.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

What Was the Temple?

According to the Bible, King Solomon built the temple as a replacement of the tabernacle, a portable worship tent created while the Israelites wandered the wilderness. Solomon wanted the temple to be a permanent and central place of worship. The temple was built around 950 BCE. This temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BCE. The temple would eventually be rebuilt, only to be destroyed again by the Romans in 70 CE. The temple was very different from Christian churches. The temple was not just a religious building. It was also a cultural and political place. The temple was seen as God's house and was treated with utmost respect. The temple also served as a financial center for Jerusalem, similar to a bank. It provided loans, money-exchanging services, and helped in collecting taxes.

Family Discussions & Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Day 1 —Read Mark 12:41-44

The widow's gift.

Find change in your room, car, or pocket. Put it all in a pile, and donate it the next time you are at church.

Day 2 —Read Daniel 7:9-14

The Son of Man has dominion.

Draw a picture of this passage. Keep it for tomorrow.

Day 3 —Read Mark 13:24-27

The Son of Man comes.

Draw a picture of what it might look like when Jesus comes again. Compare it with yesterday's drawing. How are they the same? How are they different?

Up & Coming @ Hope...

March 13 & 17 - No Hopetots or Hopekids (No Youth Programming)

March 20 Youth Registration Opens!

March 20 & 24—Palm Wednesday/Sunday

**ALL CHILDREN will parade in worship during their Hopekids' Hour
2-5 Grade Children will sing in worship during their Hopekids' Hour

March 27 & 31—Youth Programming on Break! Attend one of our Worship Services here at Hope as a family!

March 28—Maundy Thursday: 5th Grade First Communion

April 3 & 7

Preschool—1st Grade Children will sing in worship during their Hopekids' Hour

April 5

Family Event—

Location: West Campus

Time: 6-8

Ages: 6 weeks—Adults!

More Information? Visit: fargohope.org/children/