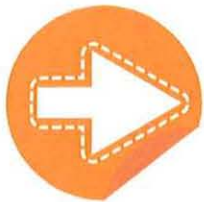




Meeting 13 Money Management



Here are three fun ways to teach Builders about being good stewards. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Builders or create your own activities.





The following activities partially fulfill the requirement for My Family III: My Family Helps Me Care for Myself, which is to complete the Wise Steward award. See the Builder Activity Book for accompanying worksheet(s).

ACTIVITY

1

Chopstick Relay

20
MINUTES

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Chopsticks, two per child
- Ping pong balls (if you think your Builders will have a hard time balancing these, use large marshmallows instead)
- Two boxes per team
- Large container to hold ping pong balls, one per team



WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: For each team, label one box with the words “good steward” and another box with the words “bad steward.”

Read Psalm 24:1 (NET): “The Lord owns the earth and all it contains, the world and all who live in it.” Then discuss that God wants the Builders to be good stewards of His world. Explain that a wise steward is a person who carefully takes good care of the things God has given them. Ask for examples of good stewardship. Some examples might include caring for the environment, animals, our bodies, families, friends, and money.

Divide the children into teams of five or six and have each team line up. At the back of each line, place a bowl filled with ping pong balls. About 10 feet ahead of the front of each line, place two boxes, one labeled “good steward” and one labeled “bad steward.” Give each child a set of chopsticks. Explain that you will give an example of either being a good steward or a bad steward. The child at the back of the line will place a ping pong ball on his or her chopsticks with help from an adult and hand it to the next child. Each child then passes the ping pong ball to the child in front of him or her until the first child in line has the ping pong ball. The first child in line then uses their chopsticks to carry the ping pong ball to the boxes and drops it into the box that correctly matches the example given. After the child drops the ping pong ball in the box, he or she runs to the end of the line and each child moves up a place. Repeat until all the ping pong balls are in the boxes.

Examples of good and bad stewardship:

Good

- Recycle
- Care for a garden
- Walk or bike to school
- Build a bird feeder to invite birds to your yard
- Give tithe to God on the money you earn
- Hang up your coat instead of dropping it on the floor

Bad

- Litter
- Waste food
- Ride in the car when you could walk
- Leave lights on when you leave a room
- Leave your bike lying in the yard instead of putting it away
- Spend all of your money as soon as you get it

The Widow's Small Offering

10
MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Invite a guest who is a good storyteller and who can relate to the Builders. You might ask the pastor, church treasurer, or other church leader. This person will tell the children the story of the widow and her small offering (see Luke 21 and *Counsels on Stewardship* by Ellen White). Then she or he will give examples of how the children's tithes and offerings are used.

Have the children sit on the floor in a semi-circle around you. Introduce the speaker. Have him or her tell the story of the widow and her small offering and give examples to the children of how their tithes and offerings are used.

2 ACTIVITY

MATERIALS NEEDED

- None





ACTIVITY

3

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Cans with plastic lids (stackable potato chip cans work well), two to three cans per child
- Construction paper, variety of colors
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Stickers
- Stencils
- Craft glue
- Rubber bands

Bank Craft

15

MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Cut a slit in the top of each lid. The slit needs to be large enough to insert coins and paper money. Pre-cut the construction paper so one piece will wrap around the outside of the can and completely cover it.

Read Malachi 3:8-10 (NET): “Can a person rob God? You indeed are robbing me, but you say, ‘How are we robbing you?’ In tithes and contributions! You are bound for judgment because you are robbing me—this whole nation is guilty. Bring the entire tithe into the storehouse so that there may be food in my temple. Test me in this matter,’ says the Lord who rules over all, ‘to see if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until there is no room for it all.” Briefly discuss what this means.

Tell the children that they are going to make banks to help them be good stewards. Show the Builders a completed set of banks you’ve made. (You can make two, one for tithe and one for savings. Also, you can add a third bank for offerings.) First, have the children label a sheet of precut construction paper as either tithe or savings. They can decorate it any way they want using the materials you’ve provided. Next, have the children cover the back of the construction paper with glue and then wrap the paper around the can. If the glue won’t hold the paper onto the can, place two or three rubber bands around the can until the glue is dry. Repeat this process with the remaining cans.



Award: Wise Steward

To complete this award, check the requirements on p. 148 and add activities as needed.

Requirement: My Family III