



150TH ANNIVERSARY CHILDREN'S FIVE



Title:

With All My Mite!

On Your Mark:

Bible Truth: God is happy when you give Him your best.

Bible Story: Mark 12:41-44

Get Set:

Materials - chocolate covered 'coins', a collection plate, a jar filled with loose coins, two pennies

Go:

Thank you for joining me! Today we're going to talk about what it means to give God your very best. Before we do that, I have here some delicious, chocolate covered coins. (Give each child a small handful of coins) I want you to run back to your seats and give these coins to your family and friends. Go, now! (Children run back to their seats and give the chocolate coins to their family members. Presumably, they will keep some coins for themselves.)

(After children reassemble)

When you're at school, should you give your teachers your very best work and effort? (yes)



When you're at home with your family and someone asks you for your help, should you say, "I don't want to do that", or, should you say, "Yes, of course I'll help you mom and dad"? (yes)

That's right. And since we've already decided that we should give our teachers our very best, and our families our very best, who here thinks that we should give God our VERY best? (raise your hands). That's right friends, we should give God our very best.

The Bible tells us that one day Jesus saw a big crowd of people who were very rich, putting lots of money in the collection plate. Next he saw a very poor woman; she put in two small copper coins. These copper coins were called a 'mite'. Can you say that word with me, mite? (children repeat word)

This woman was poor because her husband died, and she had very little money to buy food, to buy clothes, or to buy the things she needed to live. She was very, very poor, and times were very, very tough. The Bible tells us that the two copper coins, or her mite, was the last bit of money she had. But do you know what she did? She gave it all to God.

I'm going to ask you a question. Who do you think gave more? To help you answer, we're going to recreate this story. I have in my hands a big jar of coins (hold up jar of coins) This represents what the rich people gave. We're going to compare the sound of this jar of coins being dropped into the collection plate, versus, the sound of the widow's two coins (hold up two pennies), and you're going to tell me which sound is louder, okay?

(Ask one child to come up and hold the collection plate. Ask another child to pour only half of the large jar of coins into the plate.)

Wow, that made a big sound, didn't it? Next we're going to listen to the sound of the widow's mite being put in the collection plate. (Ask another child to drop two pennies into the collection plate).



It wasn't very loud, was it? (no) So who gave more, the widow, or the rich people? (the rich people) Actually, it was the widow, do you know why? Jesus said that this widow pleased God more because even though her offering was smaller, even though it didn't make as loud a sound as the jar of coins going in the plate, her offering was EVERYTHING she had! She didn't have anything left except those two coins, and she gave them all to God. The rich people (hold up jar half-filled with coins), they had lots of money left. Even though they gave more, it was the widow's mite that made God the happiest.

God wants us to give the very best we have to offer. He wants us to be kind; he wants us to love one another; and He wants us to be obedient. When we give our best to our teachers, our parents, and our corps leaders, we're actually giving our best to God.

When I gave you all some yummy chocolate coins and asked you to give them out to your family, did anyone keep one for themselves? Or maybe even more than one? (Children reveal how many coins they have) Remember the widow who made God happy by giving all she had? She didn't keep anything for herself, did she? Well you can keep the coins you already have and I'm going to give you one more chocolate coin, but this coin is to give to someone. It could be to a friend at school, it could be a neighbor, it could even be a cashier at a store when you're out shopping with your parents. My challenge to you is to give away this coin and say, "God loves you!" Can you do that? It may not seem like big thing to do, but when you say "God loves you" to a person and you give them something nice like a piece of chocolate, you're actually performing a mighty token of love. Ephesians 3:20 says, "God is able to do much more than we ask or think through his MIGHTY power working in us."

If everyone did one nice thing for another person, with all their might, in Jesus' name, that would be worth more than all the coins in the world. Let us pray.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, help us to see that the most valuable thing is serving you with all our might. We thank you for this opportunity to show your



love to someone else. Help us to always give you our very best in everything we do. In Jesus' name, amen.