

Gifts That Keep on Giving





Group Time Guide

Supplies Needed: “The Right Word” mad-lib page.

1. Time to Talk

Look Up and Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:11. This is a verse about encouraging others because of what Jesus did for us.

Discussion Questions:

- When is a time you’ve been encouraged by someone else?
- Can you think of an example of why our words are “powerful”? (Could mention when words inspire others, or how a leader uses words to tell others how to build buildings, play music, and almost everything else.)
- Who is someone who might need encouragement this week?

Ask: What is going great right now? Is there something that’s not going great right now?

Pray: Talk to God, mentioning things the kids talked about if appropriate.

2. Activity

Do This: Before reading the story, ask kids to think of something to fill each blank on the mad-lib page. Then, read the entire story to them and enjoy laughing at the (probably ridiculous) story you’ve created.

Discuss: Would you have chosen those words if you were actually telling that story? Probably not. Can you think of a time when words made a difference in your life?

Discuss: What are some encouraging things we could say to others? (“Great job!” “I’m glad you’re my friend.” “I’m glad you’re here.” “You are great at ____.”)

Discuss: What are some encouraging things we could do for others? (Let them go first. Pass the ball to them. Give them a chance to try something. Say good things about them to others.)

The Point: We can encourage others with the things we do and the things we say. When we do, it can really change someone’s day, week, month, and even their year.