

## Children's Church at Home 21 March 2021

### Luke 21: 1-4 the widow's offering

**Craft:** card, preferably corrugated (the type used for packaging), kitchen foil, pens, pritt stick and scissors.

**First:** ask your family to find their coin purses and tip the contents out. Who has the most coins? Who has the most money? Is there a big difference? In today's story, there are some people with huge piles of money and one with very little. Let's see what happens when they go to the temple.

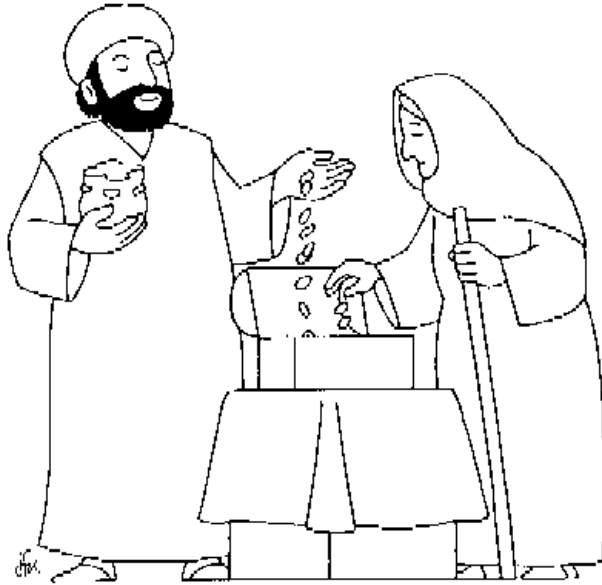
**Read** Luke 21: 1-2 [Luke 21:1-2 ERV - True Giving - Jesus looked up and saw - Bible Gateway](#)

The temple in Jerusalem was an enormous place. Only the priests could go into the most special holy place, but there were lots of other areas where ordinary Jewish people and other people could go. That was where Jesus was taken when he was a baby, do you remember, and an old lady called Anna rushed over to see him, because she knew that he was God's son. (Simeon did too: he sang a lovely song which we still sing in Church sometimes.)

Now Jesus is grown up and he and some of his friends are standing in the 'Women's Court' in the temple. This was the furthest point that women were allowed to go into the temple. One of the things people did when they went to the temple was to give money. There were boxes to drop your money into, and you could tell from the sound whether people were giving a lot or a little. Hmm. Some rich people gave huge amounts, and then one poor lady just gave two coins, all she had to live on. Who do you think Jesus was pleased with?

Now read Luke 21: 3-4. [Luke 21:2-4 ERV - Then he saw a poor widow put two small - Bible Gateway](#). Did you guess right?

What a generous lady! She gave all her money! I expect she was generous in all sorts of ways, don't you? She probably stopped to play with the children in the street, she probably took supper round to her neighbours when they were ill, she probably gave away her old clothes. And probably she always had time to listen when someone was worried or sad, and she always had a smile to share. She was a widow, which means her husband had died.



What can we do so that Jesus is pleased with us? Let's share anything we can, like the lady in the story. Start by sharing a smile wherever we go! Then think about doing things to help other people. When the teacher asks for a volunteer to do a job for him or her, put your hand up. When your mum or dad wants help with the washing up, say, 'I'll help!'. When your little brother or sister needs help getting shoes on, ask if they'd like your help. (best to ask first, they may be working hard on being independent!) Best of all, do something kind without being asked. Pick up a glove that someone has dropped, offer your last chocolate to your friend, ask someone who looks lonely to play with you in the playground. Be kind when someone falls over.



I can follow Jesus by sharing.

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/vW-uWMZB23o>

And this brilliant song. If you have a kazoo, you can join in. if not, just sing! I'd love to see a video of you singing it!

<https://youtu.be/mXDqX8DztiQ>



Art and original design by My Wonder Studio. Featured on [www.freekidstories.org](http://www.freekidstories.org)

**Craft:** make a loving coin to remind you to be generous.

**Activity:** make some cookies to take round to a neighbour. Ask how you can help at home. Is there any rubbish outside your house? You could pick it up and put it in the bin. (check with parents first!)

**Prayer:** Lord God, show me ways to be cheerful and generous every day so that I know that I'm doing just what you'd like me to do. Bless all my family and friends near and far, bless all the teachers at school. Amen.

**The Grace:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.