GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

The Widow's Two Coins

Mark 12:41-44



YOUR BIBLE READING

Jesus noticed the widow and the great personal cost of her small gift.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Watching the Gifts and the Givers

Mark 12:41-44



Jesus sat opposite the treasury at the temple and watched people putting money into it. The treasury was a place for offerings. Many people came, and many who were rich put in large amounts. The scene could have been described only by counting money, but Jesus' attention went beyond totals. He saw the people who gave and the very different circumstances in which their gifts were offered.

Then a poor widow came. A widow is a woman whose husband has died. Mark tells us that she was poor, so her need is part of the story from the beginning. She put two small coins into the treasury. They were worth very little in ordinary buying and selling. Mark explains their small value to help his readers understand the contrast with the large gifts around her.

Jesus called his disciples to him and drew their attention to this woman. A person watching only the amount of money might have passed over her offering. Jesus did the opposite. He made her gift the subject of his teaching. The number of coins was small, but the amount could not be understood properly without also considering what the woman had available for the needs of her own life.

Jesus told his disciples that the poor widow had put in more than the others. This was not a claim that two coins had suddenly become a larger pile of money. He was measuring something the visible amounts alone could not show. The large gifts and the tiny gift had come from different circumstances. To understand his words, the disciples had to look at the lives of the givers.

Remember: A person's worth is greater than the size of a gift.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Seeing What a Small Amount Can Mean



Mark 12:41-44

The wealthy people, Jesus explained, had given from their abundance. Their gifts came from money beyond what they needed to live on. The widow had given from her poverty. She had put in everything she had for her living. The same action of placing money in the treasury therefore meant very different things for the people involved. Jesus wanted his disciples to notice the difference rather than admire size alone.

The woman's need should not disappear from the story when we talk about her offering. Jesus did not say that poverty was a fault, that poor people mattered less, or that the rich could decide whether her life was important. He brought her into the disciples' attention. A small amount could represent food and other necessities, even when it looked insignificant beside money that someone else could easily spare.

This brief passage does not tell us what happened to the widow afterward. It does not say that she received a bag of money in return or explain why she gave what she did. We should not add those details. We can faithfully tell what Jesus noticed and said: her two coins had a great cost to her, and that cost made her gift different from the gifts of abundance.

The nearby verses also warn against people who take advantage of widows while appearing religious. That warning helps readers take the woman's vulnerability seriously. Understanding Jesus' attention includes seeing her as a person whose needs matter, not simply using her as an example to demand money from someone else. His teaching asks the disciples to look more carefully, beyond what is impressive, toward the human life behind an offering.

Pause and think: How can you show respect for a person's gift while also caring about what that person needs?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

The Person Matters More Than the Total



Two coins can mean different things in two different lives. You may have noticed that a small amount saved over time can matter greatly to someone. It is unkind to laugh at a small gift or compare people by what they can afford. A person's worth does not rise or fall with the size of a present, an offering, or a lunch they can share.

You can be generous in ways suited to your age and needs. Helping with an agreed task, offering time, or making a card may be good choices. You should never be pressured to give away money or belongings you need. Talk with a trusted adult about any request that feels confusing or makes you worried about having enough for yourself.

Jesus noticed the woman, not only her coins. That invites a further question: who needs support around us? A classmate without the right supplies or a family short of food deserves practical help and respect. With an adult, you can look for a kind response that protects someone's dignity instead of making their need into a public display.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jesus noticed the widow and the personal cost hidden behind her two small coins.

How can you show respect for a person's gift while also caring about what that person needs?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the widow put into the treasury?

2. Why did Jesus call attention to her gift?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ A poor widow gives two small coins.
- ☐ Jesus explains the cost of her gift to his disciples.
- ☐ Jesus watches people giving at the temple.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw two small coins with a picture of the person Jesus noticed.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

A person's worth is greater than the size of a gift.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Mark 12:43-44

A thoughtful conversation

Never use this story to pressure a child to give needed money or belongings. The nearby warning about people exploiting widows matters (Mark 12:38-40). Adults should protect vulnerable people and support voluntary, age-appropriate generosity.

Activity answers

1. Two small coins.
2. It cost her everything she had to live on.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us notice people in need and share freely with wisdom and care. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Mark 12:41-44. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original DigiPick artwork made with AI assistance; an artistic interpretation.
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