

Week of July 17, 2011

Lessons for the Leader

When was the last time you truly helped someone? How did the experience make you feel? How did your actions benefit the person you assisted?

- Read Acts 11:19-30 and consider how the events in Jerusalem impacted the believers:
 - ➔ Realize Stephen's murder (Acts 7:54-60) was the beginning of great persecution against the church. Many of the believers were scattered throughout the land. Many believers were imprisoned for their beliefs. Some of the individuals who left Jerusalem traveled as far as Antioch, a key city in Syria, roughly 300 miles north of Jerusalem.
 - ➔ Note that news of the believers' actions in Antioch traveled throughout the land. The believers in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to investigate what was taking place.
- Read Acts 11:20-26. What message did Barnabas share with the people of Antioch? Do the things you teach make a difference in the children's lives? How did Barnabas' words make a difference? Verse 26 states the believers were first called *Christians* in Antioch. What began as a term of ridicule was soon a title of honor. The term *Christianoi* consists of a Greek word for Christ/Messiah with the Latin ending *-ianus* meaning "belonging to" or "identified by." The term reveals that Christianity was establishing an identity of its own and was no longer viewed as only a Jewish entity.
- Read Acts 11:27-30. Notice how the church in Antioch helped the believers in Jerusalem. The people gave what they had. What can your church do to help people? How can you lead the children in your ministry to learn that giving offerings helps people?

What do these symbols mean?

- 1 ➔ Application Activities Format:** Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.
- 1 Large Group Only Format:** Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.



A Church Helped

Bible Passage: Acts 11:19-30

Key Bible Verse

All the people helped. Acts 11:29

Life Application

I can learn giving offerings helps others.

Levels of Biblical Learning

(Community and World)

My offerings help missionaries in my community and around the world. I can be a part of God's work.

Session at a Glance

Introduction to Worship (6 to 8 minutes)

Greet Children

Count and Graph Coins

Worship (30 minutes/45 minutes)

Welcome Children

Enjoy an Action Rhyme

Sing "Walkin' by Faith"

Sing "When I'm Praisin' "

Sing "How Great Thou Art"

Present Offering and Pray

Spell and Find It

Tell the Bible Story

Review the Bible Story

Use Worship Guides

Learn the Bible Verse

Make Application

Transition

Application Activities (20 minutes)

Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

Introduction to Worship

1 → Greet Children

Pull It Together

Offering container

- Show children where to place their offerings.

2 → Count and Graph Coins

Pull It Together

Coins of various denominations in a container, pencils

- Print "Coin Graphs" (CD).

Teacher Tip

Provide coins and a graph for each child.

- Place a pile of coins in front of the children.
- Invite preschoolers to join you in counting the coins and recording the amounts on the graphs.
- Direct children to put coins on the rectangles on the graphs.
- Remark: "We give offerings at church. Those offerings help others learn about Jesus. Our offerings are used in many different ways to help other people."

Worship

3 → Welcome Children (1 minute)

- Comment: "In our Bible story today, we will learn about a church that helped other people. The church's offerings were used to help people. The offerings we give help other people, too."

4 → Enjoy an Action Rhyme (3 minutes)

Hands Action Rhyme
Clap, clap, clap [Clap hands as you say each word.]
Count to three [Count aloud together.]
Name one thing
That you can see [Tell person on your right.]
Tap, tap, tap [Tap on your ear as you say the words.]
Touch your ear [Touch ear.]
Name one thing
That you can hear [Tell person on your left.]
Snap, snap, snap [Snap fingers while saying words.]
Fold your hands [Place hands in lap.]
Sit up straight
Before you stand [Stand.]

- Lead children to repeat the rhyme with you.

5 → Sing "Walkin' by Faith" (DVD, 2 minutes)

6 Sing "When I'm Praisin' " (DVD, 2 minutes)

7 → Sing "How Great Thou Art" (DVD, 2 minutes)

8 → Present Offering and Pray (2 minutes)

9 Spell and Find It (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print Acts from "Bible Books" (CD).

- Display and read aloud title.
- Lead children to spell aloud Acts.
- Say: "The Book of Acts is in the New Testament. Let's open our Bibles to the Book of Acts."
- Encourage adults to help children.

10 → Tell the Bible Story (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

Construction paper (1 piece per child)

Teacher Tips

- Use colored paper plates, fabric pieces, or bandanas instead of construction paper.
- Invite a missionary to tell the Bible story.

- Give each child a piece of construction paper.
- Instruct: "Everyone place your paper on the floor and stand on or beside it."
- Assist children with putting papers on the floor.
- Say: "Our Bible story is about people who traveled to places to tell people about Jesus and help people. Each time someone in the story travels to a new place, I will lift my Bible. When I lift my Bible, move to a new paper."
- Open your Bible and tell the story.

A Church Helped

Based on Acts 11:19-30

Many people who believed in Jesus moved to different cities [move]. People moved to Phoenicia (fih NISH ih uh) [move], Cyprus (SIGH pruh) [move], and Antioch (AN tih ahk) [move]. In Antioch, many more people believed in Jesus.

Barnabas (BAHR nuh buhs) lived in Jerusalem. He believed in Jesus and wanted all people to know about Jesus. The people in the church in

Jerusalem heard about a new church in Antioch. The church people sent Barnabas to Antioch [move] to see what the people were saying about Jesus. Barnabas was glad the people in Antioch were teaching other people about Jesus. He told the people in the church to keep teaching the right things about Jesus. Many more people in Antioch believed in Jesus.

Next, Barnabas went to Tarsus (TAHR suhs) [move] to find Saul. He knew Saul would help teach the people. Barnabas and Saul went back to Antioch [move] to teach the people more about Jesus. They stayed in Antioch for one year. Even more people in Antioch believed in Jesus. The people who believed in Jesus were called *Christians*.

A man named Agabus (AG uh buhs) traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch [move]. Agabus was a prophet. He told the people in Antioch there would not be enough food for the people in Judea. The people in Antioch wanted to help, so they brought gifts to send to the people in Judea. Each person brought as much as he could.

Barnabas and Saul took the gifts to the people in the church in Jerusalem [move]. God planned for people to help each other. The people in the Antioch church helped the people in Judea.

11 → Review the Bible Story (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

Quarter, scissors

- Print "Teaching Picture 7 Church Helped" and "Review Questions" (CD).
- Cut apart the review questions. Place questions into two piles on the floor.

Teacher Tip

Print *Head* and *Tail* on opposite sides of a plastic lid. Spin the lid and let it fall onto one of the sides.

- State: "We'll take turns tossing a quarter onto the floor. If the coin lands on 'Heads,' we'll pull questions from this pile [point]. If the coin lands on 'Tails,' we'll pull questions from this pile [point]."
- Lead a child to toss the quarter, pull a question, and answer it.
- Continue until each question is answered.
- Display the teaching picture.
- Comment: "The people in the Antioch church helped the people in Judea."

12 → Use Worship Guides (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

Worship Guides, crayons

- Distribute Worship Guides and crayons.
- Lead children to complete the activities.

13 Learn the Bible Verse (6 minutes)

Pull It Together

Scissors, tape

- Print 2 copies of "Acts 11:29" (CD).
- Cut apart 1 verse.
- Display and say aloud the verse.
- State: "Say the verse with me."
- Repeat the verse several times.
- Invite five children to stand by you.
- Instruct: "I'll tape the words of our Bible verse to your backs [tape words to kids' backs]. Now go stand somewhere in the room. Everyone else listen for my directions. I'll give you clues as to which word to find and stand beside."
- Call out clues about the words and encourage children to stand beside the correct words. Clue options: "Stand by a word that begins with a t; stand by the word with numbers beside it; or, stand beside the word with two p's in it."
- Place the children with words on their backs in correct verse order.
- Lead the children to say the verse.

14 Make Application (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

Container of coins from step 2

- State: "Let's take turns tossing coins into the container. When someone's coin goes in the container, we'll say our Bible verse together. When the coin misses, we'll name a way our church offerings can be used to help people (buy food, give to missionaries, buy Bibles, etc.)."
- Invite children to toss coins into a container.
- Apply: "The church in our Bible story helped other people by giving offerings. We can help people by giving our offerings."
- Say: "The offerings we give at church are very important. The offerings are used to provide things to help people learn about Jesus. We can help people by giving our offerings."

15 → Go to Application Activities or Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up

(Large Group Only Format)

16 Sing "Love the Lord" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 Review (6 minutes)

Pull It Together

"Acts 11:29" from step 13

Motions

All: stretch arms out

The people: touch toes

Helped: stretch to the sky

Acts 11:29: put hands on hips

- Invite three children to tell the Bible story.
- Encourage one child to start, the next child to continue, and the last child to conclude the story.
- Lead children to review the Bible verse using the motions in the box above.
- Repeat several times.
- Say: "The people at the church in Antioch gave offerings to help other people."
- Ask: "What kinds of things can we give as offerings?" (*money, toys, clothes, etc.*)

18 Pray (2 minutes)

- Invite a couple of children to pray.
- Thank God for using our offerings to help people and for giving us the things we need.

19 Dismiss Children to Parents

Wrap-Up

(Application Activities Format)

16 → Sing "Love the Lord" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 → Highlight Application Activities (2 minutes)

- Call on several children to tell what they did in their Application Activities.
 - ➔ Arts and Crafts—Make Offering Satchels
 - ➔ Dramatic Play—Set Up Ministries
 - ➔ Games—Go on a Treasure Hunt
 - ➔ Exploration and Discovery—Learn About Giving
- Apply: "Our activities helped us learn that giving our offerings helps other people."

18 → Review and Learn (6 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print "Acts 11:29" (CD).

Motions

All: stretch arms out

The people: touch toes

Helped: stretch to the sky

Acts 11:29: put hands on hips

- Invite three children to tell the Bible story.
- Encourage one child to start, the next child to continue, and the last child to conclude the story.
- Lead children to learn the Bible verse using the motions in the box above.
- Repeat several times.
- Say: "The people at the church in Antioch gave offerings to help other people."
- Ask: "What kinds of things can we give as offerings?" (*money, toys, clothes, etc.*)

19 → Dismiss Children to Parents

Application Activities

Select from the following choices. Each choice is designed for 20 minutes of small group time.

Pull It Together

Heavyweight paper, craft foam, or construction paper; children's scissors; yarn; various ribbons; foam letters and shapes; markers

- Print "Offering Satchel" and "Money" (CD).
- Print satchel pattern onto heavyweight or construction paper or trace onto craft foam.
- Copy and print "Money" so each child receives a bill and a coin or two.
- Cut yarn into 1-foot pieces (1 per child).
- Cut ribbon into 6-inch pieces (1-2 per child).

Pull It Together

Toys, clothes, play food items, paper bags, play money, blocks, paintbrushes, empty containers, building toys, chalk and chalkboard, paper and markers, toy doctors' kits, doctor jackets or smocks

- Place the items at different areas of the room for each ministry.

Other Possible Ministries

Veterinary needs
Shoe collection
Build beds
Teach sports
Farming
Clerical work

Worship Through Arts and Crafts

Make Offering Satchels

- State: "Giving an offering can help people. We heard about people giving in our Bible story. 'All the people helped.' Acts 11:29. Let's make offering satchels to use to bring our offering money."
- Distribute satchels.
- Instruct: "Let's cut out our satchels. Cut along the dotted lines. Do not cut along the solid line between the shapes. We'll fold our satchels along the solid lines. I'll help you punch the holes along the sides. Then you can sew up the sides with the yarn and make ribbon handles. Use the markers, letters, and shapes to decorate your satchels."
- Talk about the Bible story as children work on their satchels.
- Distribute the yarn and ribbons.
- Help children string the sides together with yarn and make ribbon handles.
- Direct children to cut out their paper money.
- Encourage children to place the paper money in their satchels.
- Conclude: "We can put our offerings in our satchels and bring them next week. Giving offerings helps people. The church people helped another church. We can help other church people and people around the world with our offerings."
- Pray.

Worship Through Dramatic Play

Set Up Ministries

- State: "Giving an offering can help people. We heard about people giving in our Bible story. 'All the people helped.' Acts 11:29. Our offerings go to help people. Our offerings can include money, food, clothes, and other items people need. Let's set up ministries that our offerings could help."
- Announce the areas: "When a ministry is set up, it is called a ministry site. Choose one site to go to first. We can change ministry sites. The sites are [point or walk to]:"
 - ➔ Construction: Build a building with blocks, play with the tools, or pretend to paint.
 - ➔ Food Pantry: Stack and organize food items. Pretend to bring and receive food.
 - ➔ Clothes Closet: Fold and organize clothes. Pretend to bring and receive clothes.
 - ➔ Toy Drive: Organize the toys. Pretend to bring and receive toys.
 - ➔ Classroom Teaching: Pretend to be teachers and students.
 - ➔ Medical Clinic: Pretend to be doctors, nurses, and patients.
- Help children participate in a ministry site.
- Encourage children to change sites if they desire.
- Lead children to clean the area.
- Conclude: "Our offerings help people. We can help people." Pray.

Pull It Together

Scissors, offering plate

- Print copies of "Money" (CD).
- Keep one set of "Money" to show the children.
- Count the number of items to be hidden and write it down.
- Cut apart money and hide it around the room.

Teacher Tips

- Use real coins or play money.
- Cover plastic lids with aluminum foil to use as coins.

Pull It Together

Children's scissors, glue sticks

- Print "World Map" (CD).
- Print multiple copies of "Photos," and page 1 of "Money" (CD). Kids will need several of each.
- Cut apart the dollars.

Teacher Tip

Mark or point out the following places where some missionaries serve.

South America

- Brazil
- Chile
- Ecuador

Caribbean

- Dominican Republic

Europe

- Italy

Africa

- South Africa
- West Africa
- Niger
- Senegal
- Réunion Island (east of Africa in Indian Ocean)

Worship Through Games

Go on a Treasure Hunt

- State: "Giving an offering can help people. We heard about people giving in our Bible story. 'All the people helped.' Acts 11:29. Offerings can be money, food, clothing, or other things a person or group may need. Today, let's go on a treasure hunt. We'll look for money. Our money is play money that looks like this [display]. I have hidden ___ [say number] pieces of money around the room. Let's go find the money."
- Guide children to hunt for the hidden money.
- Count the items to see if any money is still hidden.
- Send children to look for any hidden money.
- Invite kids to sit in a circle once they find all the money.
- Say: "Good job in finding the money. A man told the church people about a famine. Who was that man? (*Agabus*) Agabus told about a need. The church people gave offerings to help the people in need. The people gave money and food. Our offerings help other people in our community and around the world."
- Collect the money by denominations.
- Direct all children to close their eyes as you hide three coins.
- Invite three children to find the coins.
- Continue to hide coins and invite children to find the coins.
- Conclude: "We learned giving offerings helps people. God wants people to help other people. We can be a part of God's work by giving offerings."
- Pray.

Worship Through Exploration and Discovery

Learn About Giving

- Display the world map.
- Point to several places on the map [see *Teacher Tip* in sidebar].
- Explain: "Some of our offering goes to help missionaries in these places. 'All the people helped.' Acts 11:29. We can help. We can give offerings. Our offerings help other people here and around the world. Let's make some play money. We'll cut out the photos of missionaries and glue them to the center of the dollar bills. Cover the man's picture in the middle of the bill with the missionary photo."
- Help children cut out pictures of missionary faces and glue them onto the dollar bills.
- Quiz children on what things they can give.
- Review the Bible story as children work.
- Guide each child to pray for the missionaries on his dollar bills.
- State: "Agabus told about a famine that would happen. The people in the church at Antioch gave to help the people in the famine. The people gave money and food. We can give offerings to help people. We can give money, food, and clothing. We can be a part of God's work when we give offerings. Our offerings help missionaries in our community and around the world tell people about Jesus."
- Lead children to clean the area.
- Pray.

**A Church
 Helped**

Acts 11:19-30

Week of
 July 17, 2011

**Match each coin
 to the correct amount.**



**What are these items?
 How can these items be used to help others?**



Color all spaces with a C to reveal the word.



**All the people
 helped.
 Acts 11:29**

**A Church
 Helped**

Acts 11:19-30

Week of
 July 17, 2011

Match each coin
 to the correct amount.



What are these items?
 How can these items be used to help others?



Color all spaces with a **C** to reveal the word.

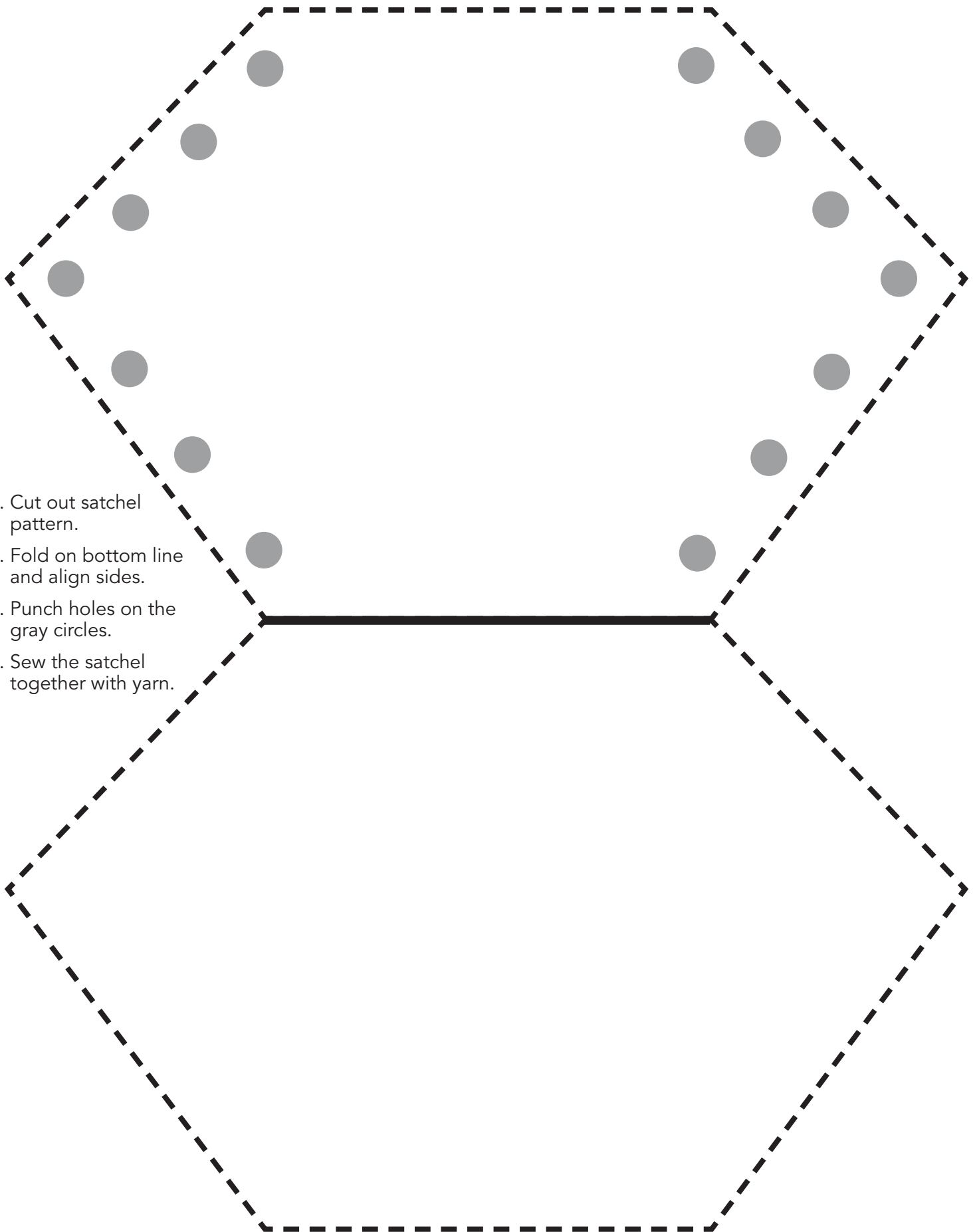


GIVING OFFERINGS
 HELPS OTHERS



**All the people
 helped.
 Acts 11:29**













1. Cut out satchel pattern.
2. Fold on bottom line and align sides.
3. Punch holes on the gray circles.
4. Sew the satchel together with yarn.

All the people helped.

Acts 11:29

Coin Graphs (July 17)

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In what Bible book is today's story found?

(Acts)

Who did the church in Jerusalem send to the church in Antioch?

(Barnabas)

Who did Barnabas go to Tarsus to find?

(Saul)

What were the people who believed in Jesus called?

(Christians)

Who said there would not be enough food for the people?

(Agabus)

What did the people in Antioch bring for the people in Judea?

(gifts)

Arts



