Get Their Attention! (5-10 min)
Materials: A box of spaghetti, a bag of marshmallows, two tables or other workspaces

Store Em Up!
Place half a box of spaghetti and half a bag of marshmallows on each of the two tables, desks, or workspaces you’ve established. Gather the kids around to present them with this challenge:

I am going to separate you into two groups. Each group will have 8 minutes to build a barn with the spaghetti and marshmallows and then store as many of the remaining marshmallows as possible inside your barn. Whichever team has the most marshmallows in their barn when time is up is the winner! Show the children the image on this page to help them get started. Then, allow them time to work.

In our story today, we will hear about a man who kept very busy with stuffing his barns full. Do you think he was happy when his barn was filled up? Let’s open our Bibles and find out!

Bible Lesson (10-15 min)
Materials: Bibles

Pass out Bibles and assist the children in finding Luke 12 using the following instructions:

Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Luke in the list under “New Testament.” You can help by telling them that Luke starts with the letters L-U-. When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 12. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 15 in chapter 12.

Read Luke 12:15-21 as the children follow along in their Bibles. Then ask:

• What did Jesus say we need to be on guard for? What do we need to be careful to look out for? (Greed. If the children need a clue, guide them to look at verse 15 and a word that starts with a “g”.)
• What good thing happened to the man in the story? (His land produced a lot of food.)
• Did the man have enough space to store all of the food? (No!)
• What good thing could the man have done with the extra food he had? (Answers will vary, but they should include sharing.)
• How did the man decide to solve his problem of not having enough space to store the food? (He planned to tear down his barns to build bigger ones.)
• What did God say to the man? (You are a fool. Tonight, you will die, and then you won’t even be able to use all of the food you’ve stored.)
• Look at verse 21 again. Who are we supposed to be rich toward? (God!)
• How can we be rich toward God? (Giving offering, sharing what we have with others, using our talents for God, serving others, etc.)
• What kinds of things do kids your age like to store up? (Money, Pokemon cards, Shopkins, stuffed animals, Tsum Tsums, etc.)
• How could you be rich toward God with what you’ve stored up instead of being greedy? (Answers will vary. Explain that while it is good to give “stuff” to others, there are other ways to give generously. We could give a smile to someone who is having a bad day or give a nice note to a teacher or coach who helps us or give a hug to our brother or sister who is upset.)

[Make It Personal] Tell kids about a time you gave something away and were glad you did. This Christmas, we are focusing on the generosity of God. God so loved the world, that He GAVE His only Son to save the world from sin. Because God gave, I can give. Let’s say that together. Because God gave, I can give!

Memory Verse Practice (5-10 min)
Materials: December Bible reading bookmarks, “Merry Versemas” activity pages, markers, scissors

Give each child a bookmark and go over the December verse together.

Complete the “Merry Versemas” activity:
• Hand out an Activity Page to each kid.
• Ask kids if they have handed out any Christmas cards yet. Have they gotten any?
• Tell them that today they will be making Christmas cards for family members: parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles/cousins, whoever they will see in the next couple weeks.
• Show kids where to cut apart the top and bottom cards and guide them to fill in the missing words on the cards.
• Then instruct kids to fold their cards (with the words inside) and write “Merry Christmas” on the front. Encourage them to decorate the cards to make them look nice.
• Each kid should take home both cards: one to keep and one to give away OR both to give away.
Application Activity (10 min)
Materials: Whiteboard, dry erase marker, eraser

What You Do:
• Draw a vertical line dividing the whiteboard into two sides.
• Tell kids that they will be answering your questions with actions instead of words.
• Take suggestions from kids about things they like to do at Christmas time (i.e. decorate the tree, hang stockings, shop for Christmas presents, etc.), except instead of telling you, they have to act them out and let the group guess.
• When the group guesses the activity, write it on the left side of the board.
• After the ideas slow down, switch to the right side of the board.
• Ask kids to act out all the things they have to do in a normal day in addition to all of the Christmas stuff (i.e. sports, school, homework, etc.).
• As the group guesses the suggestions, write them on the right side of the board.
• When the ideas slow down, talk about how they spend their days.

When you look at all those things on the board, you can see that this is a very busy time of year. When we get really busy doing lots of things, it can be easy to forget about being generous. We shouldn’t neglect giving to other people and caring about them just because we have a lot going on. We give people gifts on Christmas because God first gave us the gift of His Son. God gave us Jesus to show us that He loves us and giving gifts to other people is one way we show others that we love them. That’s one reason why it’s important that you [Bottom Line] Don’t miss your chance to give.