

Welcome

As the children come in, have a table at the front with a pile of silver coins. Be busy counting out the coins into piles and saying out loud what you could spend them on.

When everyone is ready ...

Welcome everyone, today we are going to think about generosity and thankfulness.

Does anyone know what we mean by generosity?

Does anyone know what we mean by thankfulness?

Let's think about this story ...

Learning

One fine day in Dinotown, Milo decided to visit his friend Steg and see if they wanted to come out to play in the playground. Steg's dad opened the door and told Milo that Steg was in the lounge.

When Milo walked in, he saw Steg counting out lots of silver coins and saying "50p for chocolate, 60p for crisps, 70p for a fizzy drink ..."

"Wow, Steg!" gasped Milo. "That's a lot of money!"

"I know!" replied Steg proudly. "My Mum has got a new job and has treated everyone in the family because she's feeling so happy about it. She gave me £10! Hasn't she been generous!? She says that I'm old enough to make good choices about my money now."

"That's fantastic!" said Milo, "What are you going to do with it?"

"Well, I'm going to spend it of course!" replied Steg.

"Wait, what, spend ALL of it!?" said Milo with a look of astonishment on his face.

"Oh yes!" said Steg, "50p for chocolate, 60p for crisps, 70p for a fizzy drink ..."

"Hmmmm ... Milo frowned, "Do you think that's exactly what your Mum meant when she said you were old enough to make wise choices now?"

"Well it's my money." Steg said grumpily, "I can do what I like with it now, and I'm going to spend it all on myself!" Steg, who looked cross, turned away from Milo and started counting the coins again.

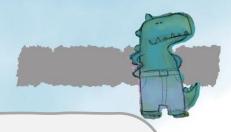
Milo thought carefully for a moment, he didn't want to upset his friend or spoil his excitement, but he really thought Steg was making a big mistake. After a while, he quietly spoke.

"It's a good job your Mum and Dad don't spend all of their money on themselves isn't it, Steg, otherwise, they wouldn't be able to afford to give you anything at all."

Steg turned slowly towards Milo and whispered, "No, that's true, and I do know some friends who aren't lucky like me, their parents can't afford to give them money at all."







"Yes, that's true." Milo agreed. "I really hope you said thank you to your Mum, Steg, for such a lovely and generous gift."

"Errrmm, I can't remember now," muttered Steg, with a look of embarrassment. "Maybe I'd better go and say it again, just to make sure."

"That's a great plan." Nodded Milo. "And perhaps you could think about what you could say to her about the things you plan to do with the money too, I'm sure she would like to know what your plans are. Do you think she would be pleased with you spending it all on unhealthy treats?"

"Actually, probably not," shrugged Steg. "Maybe I had better think of some different ideas after all. I'm sorry I was grumpy with you Milo, I think I was just a bit over excited. I'm so pleased you got me thinking a little bit more."

"Hey, that's what friends are for!" smiled Milo. "How about we go and play outside for a bit, and you can think of some good things to do with your money while we have fun with our friends."

Reflecting

What did you think about Steg's plans for the money? Was Steg making wise choices?

Why did Milo think Steg was making a mistake?

Do you think it was a good idea of Milo's to go out and play for a bit? Why might that be a good thing to do?

Was it a good idea to ask Steg about saying thank you for the money?

How do you think Steg might show gratitude for the money now?

Responding

If you like, you could say this short prayer with the children.

Dear Lord God

Thank you for the good things we have and for surprises and special gifts.

Please help us to think carefully about the things we can spend our money on.

Please help us to be really thankful to the people who share things with us.

Amen.

Sending

As we remember our thankfulness to God,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen

Thought For The Day

If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share!

W. Clement Stone – businessman and author.



