

For Sunday 4th October 2026

Passage: 1 Chronicles 29.1-16



St Peter's
COLCHESTER

St Peter's Kids Resources

Welcome to the resources for St Peter's Kids.

Each Sunday, Seekers and Diggers will normally explore the same Bible passage or theme as the rest of the church, in ways that are right for their different ages.

Our hope is to help the children:

- engage seriously with the Bible;
- grasp one clear central truth;
- understand why it matters;
- respond appropriately to God;
- enjoy being together and build good relationships.

How to use these resources

These are resources, not a script. Please use your knowledge of the children and your own strengths as a leader, and feel free to adapt what is here. You certainly do not need to use everything suggested.

A simple, engaging conversation about the Bible can be far more valuable than an elaborate activity. The aim is always to help the children understand, remember and respond to God's word.

Seekers and Diggers

- Seekers – Reception to Year 2: keep things short, concrete and interactive, using repetition, movement, visual material and questions they can genuinely answer.
- Diggers – Years 3 to 6: give children real opportunities to read the Bible, notice things in the text, think, question, discuss and respond. Aim for material that stretches them without feeling childish.

What about craft?

Craft can be a great way to reinforce the Bible teaching or help children respond, but it is entirely optional. If you enjoy using craft and it genuinely helps the session, please do. If it does not, there is absolutely no need to include it.

Summary

- David and the people give generously towards the temple, but David recognises that everything they give already came from God.
- Key verse: "For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you." (29.14)
- Aim: To help the children see that everything we have comes first from God, and that his greatest gift is Jesus. Because God gives to us first, we can receive thankfully and share gladly.
- Keep returning to: **"Before we are givers, we are receivers."**

Things to notice in the passage

- David gives generously towards the temple, and then the leaders and people give too.
- Verses 6–9 repeatedly stress that they give willingly.
- Verse 9 says the people rejoice because they have given wholeheartedly.
- David then turns from giving to praising God.
- Verses 10–13 remind us that everything belongs to God and that riches and honour come from him.
- Verse 14 gives the key to the whole passage: "For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."
- David does not congratulate the people for how impressive they are. He recognises that they can only give because God gave to them first.
- Verse 16 repeats the point: everything they have brought "comes from your hand and is all your own."
- Christians see the same pattern in the gospel: we do not earn God's love by what we give him. God gives us Jesus first.

Possible approach for Seekers

Keep the main truth very simple: **God gives to us first.**

You could begin with a simple gift.

Imagine someone gives you £10, and you use some of it to buy them a present.

Ask:

- Did you give them something?
- Yes.
- But where did the money come from first?

Explain that this is a little like what David says.

The people really did give things to God.

But they could only give because God had given to them first.

Look at the simple words: **"All things come from you."**

Then think together about things God gives us:

- food;
- homes;

- families and friends;
- our bodies;
- things we enjoy;
- abilities;
- people who help us.

Then make the gospel connection: God has given us many good things. But his greatest gift is Jesus.

Jesus came for us, died for our sins and rose again so that we can be forgiven and belong to God.

We do not share things so that God will love us. God has loved us first.

A good closing question: What is one thing God has given you that you could thank him for or share with somebody else?

Possible approach for Diggers

Ask the children to investigate the passage around three simple headings.

1. Receive it as God's gift – verses 1-5

Look at what David is preparing to give.

Ask:

- Where did all these things come from in the first place?
- What changes if we think of our money, abilities and possessions as things God has given us?

Key point: Stewardship begins with receiving.

We do not start with: "What must I give?"

We start with: "What has God given me?"

2. Release it with gladness – verses 6-9

Look for the repeated words about giving willingly.

Ask:

- Are the people forced to give?
- How do they feel afterwards?
- Why do you think they rejoice?

The point is not: "Give because you feel guilty."

It is: "Because God has been generous to us, we can become generous too."

This connects with what the children have already learned in 1 Corinthians 13: love acts.

3. Remember where it came from – verses 10-16

Read verse 14 carefully: "For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."

Ask:

- What surprising thing does David say about everything they have just given?
- Why can they not boast about being generous?
- What does this teach us about God?

Then look at verse 16: Everything “comes from your hand and is all your own.”

Finish with the gospel: Christianity does not begin with what we give God. It begins with what God gives us.

- He gives us Jesus.
- Jesus gives himself for us.
- We receive forgiveness and new life as a gift.

Connecting it with St Peter's

This passage brings together the whole theme: ***Given by God. Shared for good.***

Over the last few weeks the children have seen that:

- God gives different gifts;
- we belong together as Christ's body;
- love acts;
- what God gives us is for building others up.

Harvest widens the picture.

It is not only our “church gifts” that come from God. **Everything does.**

Children can think about:

- time;
- abilities;
- friendship;
- money;
- possessions;
- homes;
- opportunities;
- attention;
- encouragement.

Ask: **“What has God given me that could become a blessing to somebody else?”**

But keep the order clear: God gives first. We respond.

Possible activities

- Gift first: give each child several counters or objects, then invite them to share some. Talk about how sharing is only possible because they received first.
- Where did it come from? Put several ordinary objects on the table and trace where they came from, eventually recognising God as the giver.
- Receive and share: name things God gives us and think of one way each could be used for somebody else.
- Thank-you wall: write or draw something God has given, then add one way it could be shared or used well.
- Memory verse: “For all things come from you.”

A note for leaders

The aim is not: "Be more generous so that God will be pleased with you."

The gospel comes first.

God is the giver. He gives us life and every good thing. And supremely, he gives us Jesus.

Jesus gives himself for us before we have anything with which to repay him.

We do not earn God's love by giving. We receive his grace. And because God has been generous to us, we can become generous towards others.

So the pattern is:

1. God gives.
2. We receive.
3. Grace produces gratitude.
4. Gratitude becomes glad generosity.

The dominant tone should be thankfulness and joy, not guilt.

Prayer

- Thank God for the world he has made and the good things he gives us.
- Thank him especially for giving us Jesus.
- Ask God to forgive us when we become greedy or forget that everything comes from him.
- Ask him to help us receive his gifts thankfully.
- Ask him to show us how we can share what he gives us for the good of others.