

# Nothing But Net—Worth

**The Scene:** a courtyard

**The Simple Setup:** You'll need a table with a box on it at center stage.

**For Extra Impact:** Gift wrap the outside of a large, open box as an offering box, and let the Givers place offerings such as stuffed animals, keys, books, and clothing into the this box to symbolize their gifts to God.

**Bible Story**  
Widow's Offering

**Scripture**  
Mark 12:41-44

## The Characters

**Narrator:** a sports announcer

**Jesus:** a boy

**James:** a boy or girl

**Widow:** a girl

**Disciples:** boys and girls

**Givers:** boys and girls

## The Skit

*After you've assigned the roles of Jesus, James, and the Widow, form children into two groups: Disciples and Givers.*

*As the skit begins, the Disciples and Jesus are at stage left, and the Givers and the Widow are at stage right. The box sits on a table center stage. The Narrator will be at one side of the stage throughout the skit.*



**Start the "Widow's Offering" track on *The Humongous Book of Bible Skits for Children's Ministry* CD (track 34). Set your CD player on "repeat" so the track repeats.**

**Narrator:** We're here at the Temple, watching an offering box. There's NO defense at all, and it's OPEN SEASON on the box! Anyone wanting to drop in a coin or two or 10 has a CLEAR shot! Jesus is standing to one side with his Disciples. They're watching as one after another, Givers are SCORING points by dropping in coins!

**Jesus:** Tell me, what do you see?

**James:** Um...I see people dropping coins into a box. Should I be seeing something ELSE?

**Narrator:** Folks, here's what I see: a veritable PARADE of Givers! One Giver is approaching the box now and SLAM-DUNKING in a handful of coins! Now ANOTHER Giver is making a move—but she's pulling up short of the box. She's taking a THREE-POINT SHOT and it is... GOOD! WHAT A SHOT! She's doing a little victory dance! Now MORE Givers are SWARMING the box! It's a GREAT day for the church! The money is POURING in!

**James:** I mean, people are dropping in their offerings, right? Can't have church without an offering, right?

**Jesus:** Keep watching. You can learn a LOT by watching people give.

**Narrator:** Now, THIS Giver is going back...back...BACK into his wallet. AWE-SOME, BA-BY! It hits the rim, but it's STILL a score! And LOOK AT ALL THOSE COINS! Wow—that's a Giver who's going ALL the way! It's TITHE PLUS! WOW! Look at the Disciples—they're APPLAUDING!

**James:** What an OFFERING! You must be VERY pleased with that one—I've never SEEN so much money!

**Jesus:** It's not so much to him. Or me.

**Narrator:** Whoa, TOUGH crowd. This JESUS doesn't impress EASILY. I'd hate to think how much it takes to get HIS attention. Any more GIVERS? Wait, look who's coming up to the box...There's a WIDOW shuffling up to take her shot. She looks left, then right, I think she's going to sneak it in the box. She goes up and HERE'S THE PAYOFF! Oh, man, WHAT a letdown! TWO COPPER COINS! Less than a PENNY! Hardly worth the EFFORT! How could she put in so LITTLE when everyone else has given SO MUCH?

**Jesus:** That widow is the person I wanted you to see today.

**James:** Oh, I get it. She's in TROUBLE. You're DISAPPOINTED with her, aren't you?

**Jesus:** DISAPPOINTED? Not at all!

**James:** But her gift doesn't BEGIN to compare to the other gifts, Jesus. Precisely HERS was BEST.

**Narrator:** You've got to be KIDDING! Time for a T-O. TIME OUT! I don't understand this at ALL. Ma'am, will you shuffle on over here? A quick question: Exactly how much did you put in the offering box?

**Widow:** Just a few copper coins.

**Narrator:** I THOUGHT so.

**Widow:** When I saw how much OTHER people were putting in, I was a little ashamed. I wish it was more, I really do. But I gave everything I had. EVERYTHING.

**James:** Jesus, what about the OTHER Givers? They gave more; I SAW it.

**Jesus:** I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put MORE in the treasury than all the others. They gave out of their wealth. She gave out of her poverty. She put in everything she has to live on.

**James:** Oh...guess I didn't think about that.

**Narrator:** Me either. Sorry, ma'am.

**Widow:** That's all right. But here's some good advice for you, Narrator.

**Narrator:** What's that?

**Widow:** Quit watching what people put in the offering box! It's RUDE!

**Narrator:** Yes, ma'am.

**Widow:** And quit bothering old ladies!

**Narrator:** Yes, ma'am.

**Widow:** And do something about that hair! Get a haircut!

**Narrator:** Yes, ma'am. Anything else?

**Widow:** (Sweetly) No, dear. That should cover it.

**Narrator:** So there you have it—ringside here at the offering box in the Temple, and it's...

**Widow:** And don't talk so fast!





## To Talk About

- ◆ Jesus watched what everyone gave at the Temple. How does it feel to know that he's watching *you* give your offering? What does our giving have to do with our faith?
- ◆ The widow gave all she had as her offering to God, even though it was a tiny amount. How is our offering a sacrifice? Why isn't the amount as important as how we give?
- ◆ Jesus praised the woman to the disciples, but didn't tell her: Why do you think he didn't praise her face to face? What do you think happened to the widow next?

**Topical Tie-Ins:** Giving, Sacrifice, Faith.