

## The Widow's Offering - Mark 12:41-44

*Topics:* Attitude, Generosity, Gifts, Giving Up, Money, Motives, Poor, Sacrifice, Tithing, Wealth

### Open It

1. In what ways are outward appearances misleading?
2. When was the last time you found out the true identity of an impostor or person who pretended to be something he or she was not?
- \* 3. What does it mean to be poor?

### Explore It

4. Where did the events of this story take place? (12:41)
5. Where did Jesus sit? (12:41)
6. What did Jesus see from where He sat near the temple? (12:41)
7. What did the "rich people" do at the temple treasury? (12:41)
8. What do the "rich people's" actions tell us about their motivation for giving? (12:41)
- \* 9. What did the "poor widow" give to the treasury? (12:42)
- \* 10. Why did Jesus call His disciples when He saw the widow put in her offering? (12:43)
- \* 11. How did Jesus compare the actions of the wealthy people to the actions of the poor woman? (12:43-44)
12. Why did the large amounts of money given by the rich people not impress Jesus? (12:44)
13. Why was the widow's gift so significant in Jesus' eyes? (12:44)

### Get It

14. Why do you think Jesus purposely sat near the temple treasury?
15. What central principle did Jesus focus on in this story?
- \* 16. How does God evaluate a person's giving?
17. What place does a person's motivation and attitude have in their giving to the Lord, according to Jesus' teaching in this passage?
18. How does Jesus evaluate your giving?
- \* 19. In what ways can we give to God?
20. Why do you think God wants us to give sacrificially?
21. What has been your attitude toward giving your money to the Lord?
22. When have you ever simply given out of your wealth instead of giving sacrificially to the Lord?
23. How do you need to change your attitude about giving?
24. What else does God want from us besides our material wealth?
25. What attitude should we have about giving of ourselves to the Lord?

### Apply It

26. What specific steps are you willing to take this week to give sacrificially to the Lord, of either your material wealth or your abilities and time?
- \* 27. How can you ensure that your attitude and motivation is right when you give to the Lord this week?