

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. (Acts 4:32a)

Believers Share – Acts 4:32-37

Prepare to Wonder

This week's story is from the Book of Acts. It highlights the way the early Christians worked together for the good of everyone in their community. It says they "held everything in common" by sharing rather than saying, "This is mine!" By doing this, they created a community where no one was needy. They even sold their properties and houses to add to the shared wealth of their community. Their shared resources were managed by the apostles, who distributed them to those in need. This was not mandatory, but people who were able did this to share. Sharing was a way of showing love and friendship. Our Bible verse (The community of believers was one in heart and mind.) comes from this passage of Scripture.

You'll want your children to know that sharing what you have with those in need is a tradition in the Christian faith. You'll also want them to know that sharing is something that Christians still do in many different ways, inside and outside the church. It is important that we acknowledge and help children see that many people are in need, but there are ways we can share. This story also lends itself to conversation about the basic needs of all humans and how we assure all of God's people are cared for.

Spiritual Practice for Adults

This week take time to consider ways you can share the love of Christ with others in non-material ways. This will aid you in helping the children see the ways they can give during your sessions. Can you help a friend, neighbor, or church family member with a chore? Can you spend time with someone who is lonely? Can you make a gesture of love toward someone who doesn't know Christ? Do what you're most comfortable with and what makes the most sense in your community.

Welcome to Wonder

Prepare Ahead: As a family, create a Wonder Table. Find a small table or area in your home. On the table, place a candle, a plant or flower, and any other special items you want to include.

Tip: Use this space while engaging in the lesson.

- Gather together near your Wonder Table.

WONDER together

- What have you shared recently?
- How did sharing make you feel?

CONTINUE to wonder

- Is it easy to share? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to share with others?

PRAY together

- Dear God, thank you for reminding us to share with others. Amen.

SING together

- Use your Annual Music CD or download the song, "Tell Somebody" (<https://www.cokesbury.com/Celebrate-Wonder-Annual-Music>).
- Play the song, "Tell Somebody."
- Sing and celebrate.

Wonder with Me

Supplies: CEB Bible, Wonder Cube (Digital Class Pack), optional: Celebrate Wonder Bible Storybook

READ the Bible story

- Read the Bible story: Acts 4:32-37.
- Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions.

WATCH the Bible story

- Visit <https://www.cokesbury.com/Celebrate-Wonder-Video> to download and watch today's Bible story, or watch on www.amplifymedia.com.

SHARE the Faith Word

- Faith Word: SHARE—To *share* means to offer God's blessings to others.
- We know that God gives us blessings and love. God wants us to share those blessings and God's love with others.

WONDER: What do you think it was like to live in the community in today's Bible story?

I Can Share (Game)

Supplies: ball of yarn or string

SAY: Our Bible story is all about being in community and sharing. Being part of a community means that you are connected. Let's play a game to remind us that we all can be connected through sharing.

- Gather together in a circle.
- Toss the ball of yarn to another person while holding on to part of the yarn and saying something you can share. Have the next person who is holding the ball of yarn/string do the same.
- Continue as long as you'd like or until everyone is connected by a web of yarn/string at least once

SAY: In community, we are all connected by our sharing, just like the community in today's Bible story.

Spiritual Practice—Sharing the Good News Through Witness

Supplies: Celebration Chart (Digital Class Pack), optional: Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book

- Find a partner. If your group is small, you can also do this practice all together.
- Together, complete the following spiritual practice:

SAY: The believers of Jesus met together to pray, just like we do at church. Look at your partner and repeat this prayer after me: "Thank you, God, for the opportunity to share. I will share with others. Amen."

- Take turns repeating the prayer to each other.
- Find a time to read together the *Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book*.