

LESSON 1 • Wants vs. Needs



WANTS VS. NEEDS

1 Key Concepts

- Wants vs. Needs
- Teach the children that our wants are the things that people would like to have.
- Teach the children that needs are the things that people use daily to live each day.

2 Teacher Preparation

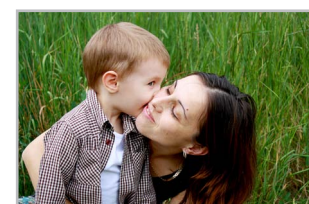
- Be ready to make a list of the things the children think they need.
- Then make a list of the things the children think they want. Do the lists on the whiteboard next to each other so you can compare them.
- Have the copies ready for the worksheet on Wants and Needs.

I Timothy 6:8

*But if we have food
and clothing, we will be
content with that.*

3 Lesson

- Discuss with the children the things that they want.
 - What do you want for your birthday?
 - What do you want for Christmas?
- Make a list of the things that the children want.
- Then ask the children about the things that they need everyday to live.
- Make a list of the things that they need.
- We may all want different things, but we all need the same things each day to survive.
 - We need the food and we need the clothes.
 - God gives us the things that we need.
 - **Matthew 6:8** says, “Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” Since we have all that we need, we need to be content or happy with what God has given us. It is not always easy to be happy with what you have. Sometimes your friends have things that you want. But God always gives us what we need.



4 Conclusion

God will **ALWAYS** give us what we **need**. Sometimes we may not always get what we **want**, but God will still give us what we **need**. God wants us to be content or happy with the things He has given us. We will always thank God for all of the things we have. God will continue to give us all that we **need**.

5 Echo Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you for everything you have given us even if we don't **need** some of those things to live our lives each day. Help us to be content with the things that we have.
Amen.

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6 Resources

- **Bible** Exodus 16
- **The Fourth Petition**
- **Numeroff, Laura Joffe. If You Give a Mouse a Cookie**
This story is about a mouse who has many things that he wants. This leads him to wanting more.
- **Berenstain, Stan and Jan. The Berenstain Bears Get the Gimmes**
This story is about Brother and Sister Bear learning that they cannot have everything that they want.
- **Scholastic Children's Dictionary**

7 Vocabulary

Wants: to wish for, to feel that you would like to have something

Needs: things that you have to have to live each day

Content: to be happy

8 Worksheet

Take the pictures and glue on the needs side, those pictures that are the things that we need each day. Take the pictures and glue on the wants side, those pictures that are the things that we want.

