

God Gives Good Gifts
Luke 11:9-13

WEEK 9

POINT ➔ **WE ASK
JESUS TO HELP US.**

Open your Bible to Luke 11, and show children the words. SAY: **The Bible is God's special book that tells how God takes care of people. It tells us about our God who loves to give us good gifts and come to the rescue. I'm going to read some things Jesus said about God giving us gifts. Repeat each line after me.**

If you ask, you'll get. *(Pause for echo.)*

If you look, you'll find, too. *(Pause for echo.)*

If you knock and keep on knocking *(pause for echo),*

Doors will open up for you. *(Pause for echo.)*

If kids ask for fish or eggs *(pause for echo),*

Fathers don't give scary things. *(Pause for echo.)*

God gives good gifts when we ask. *(Pause for echo.)*

And that's a blessing we can sing! *(Pause for echo.)*

Lead kids in singing ● "All That I Need" (track 5) on the CD, to the tune of "John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt."

SING:

**God gives me good and loving things,
All that I need.
Whenever I go out,
I really wanna shout:
God gives me good and loving things!
Na, na, na, na, na, na, na.
(Repeat 3x.)**

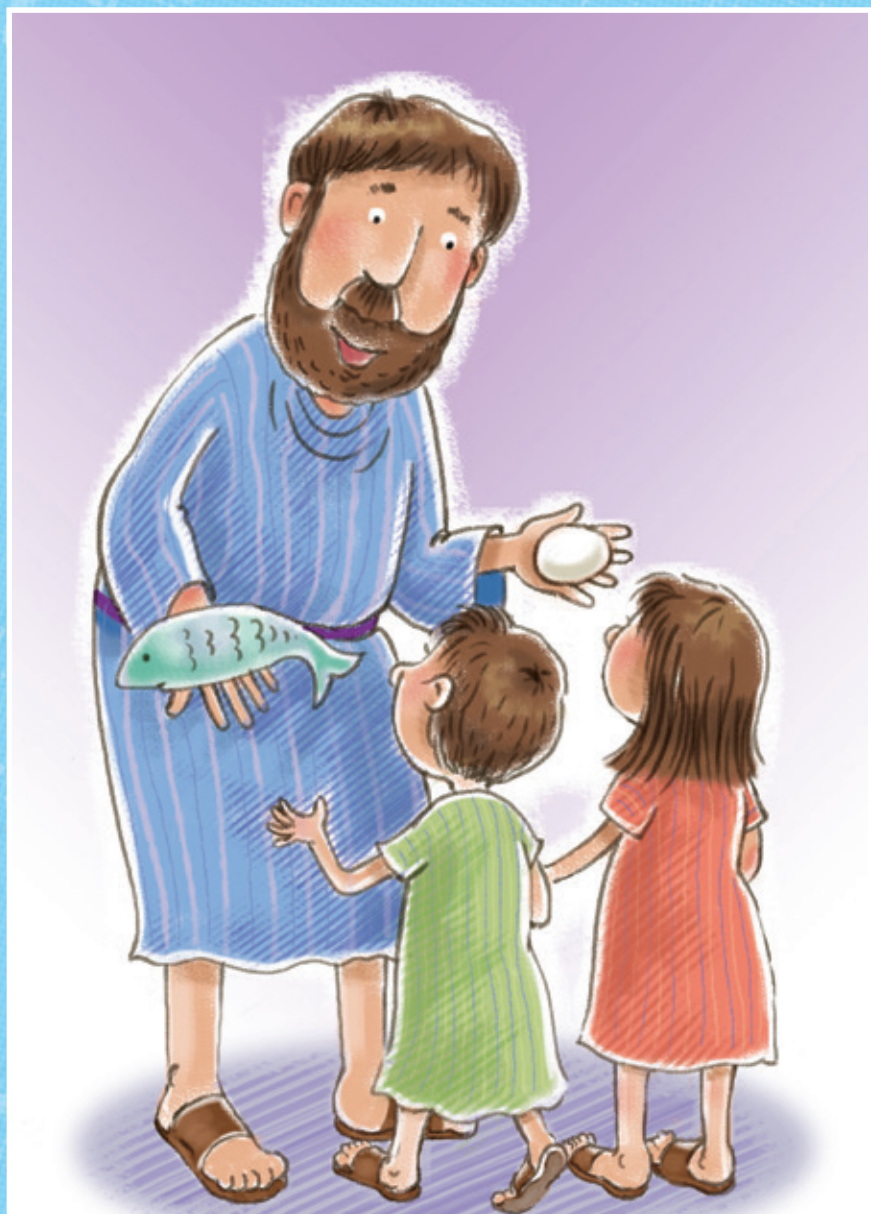
ASK: **What are some things we need?**

What do you do when you need something?

What are the best gifts God gives you?

SAY: **Jesus says if we keep on asking, he'll always help us. ➔ WE ASK JESUS TO HELP US all the time.**





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Play a version of Duck, Duck, Goose called No, No, Yes. Have one child be the first Tapper, and give that child a fish from the *Go Fishing Game*. When the Tapper taps each child's head, the child will ask, "Can I have a fish?" The Tapper can say no as many times as he or she wants. When the Tapper wants to tag someone, he or she will drop the fish in the person's lap and say, "Yes!" Then the Tapper and the tagged child will race around the circle and the tagged child will become the new Tapper.

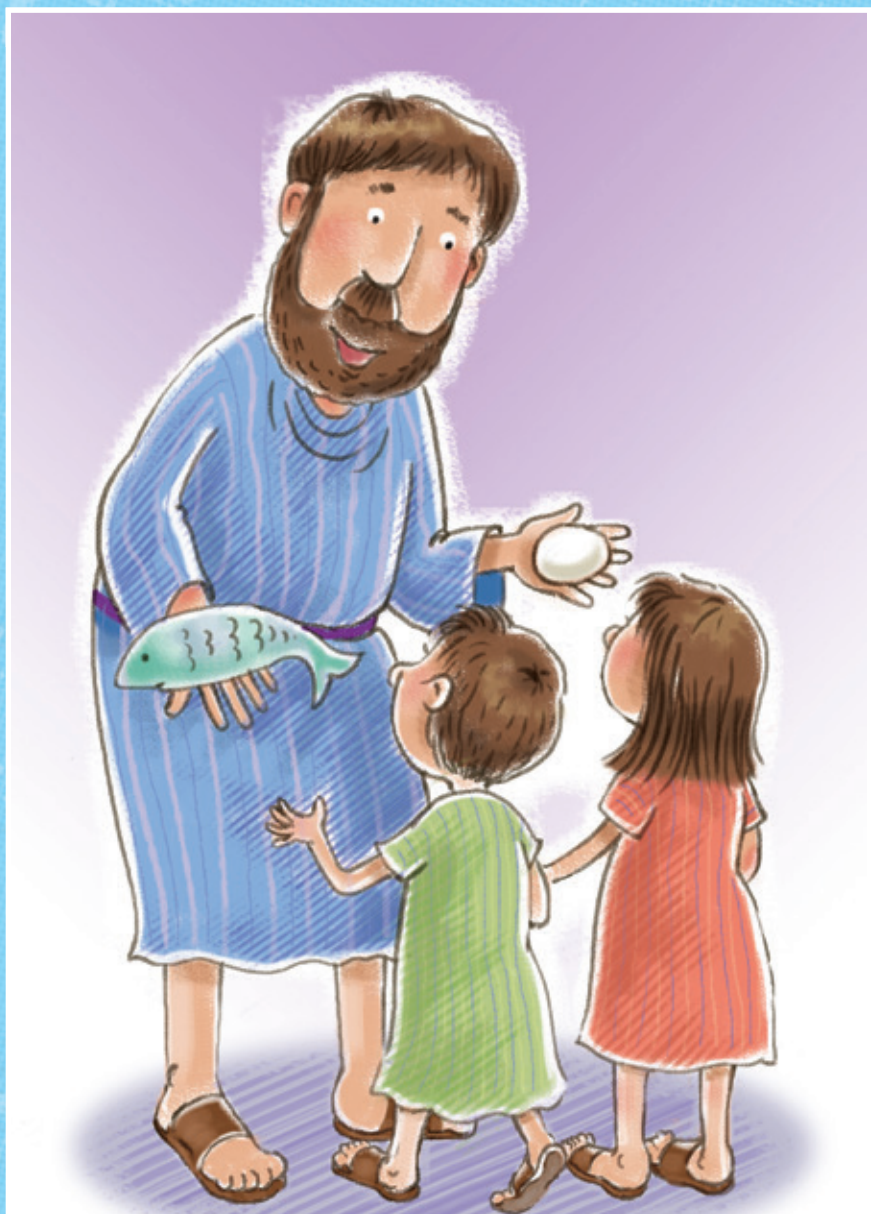
Play several rounds so that everyone gets to be a Tapper at least once.

ASK: Tell about a time you asked for something over and over. Did you get it?

Why is it a good idea to keep on asking Jesus for help?

Why do you think God sometimes says no to our prayers?

SAY: In our game, everyone eventually got the fish they asked for! If ➔ **WE ASK JESUS TO HELP US over and over, we know he'll give us good gifts. He'll give us exactly what we need! The Bible says if a son asks for a fish, his dad wouldn't give him a snake! In the same way, God gives us good gifts. That means when God says no to our prayers, it might be because what we've asked for isn't a good gift.**



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SAY: God gives good gifts. God gave me [name a gift God has given you, such as a home or a family] **as a gift.** Pass out paper and *Color Switchers Markers*, and give kids a couple of minutes to draw something God has given them. As kids draw, shape one of the *Wikki Stix* into a bow, one for each child. You'll also need a bow for yourself

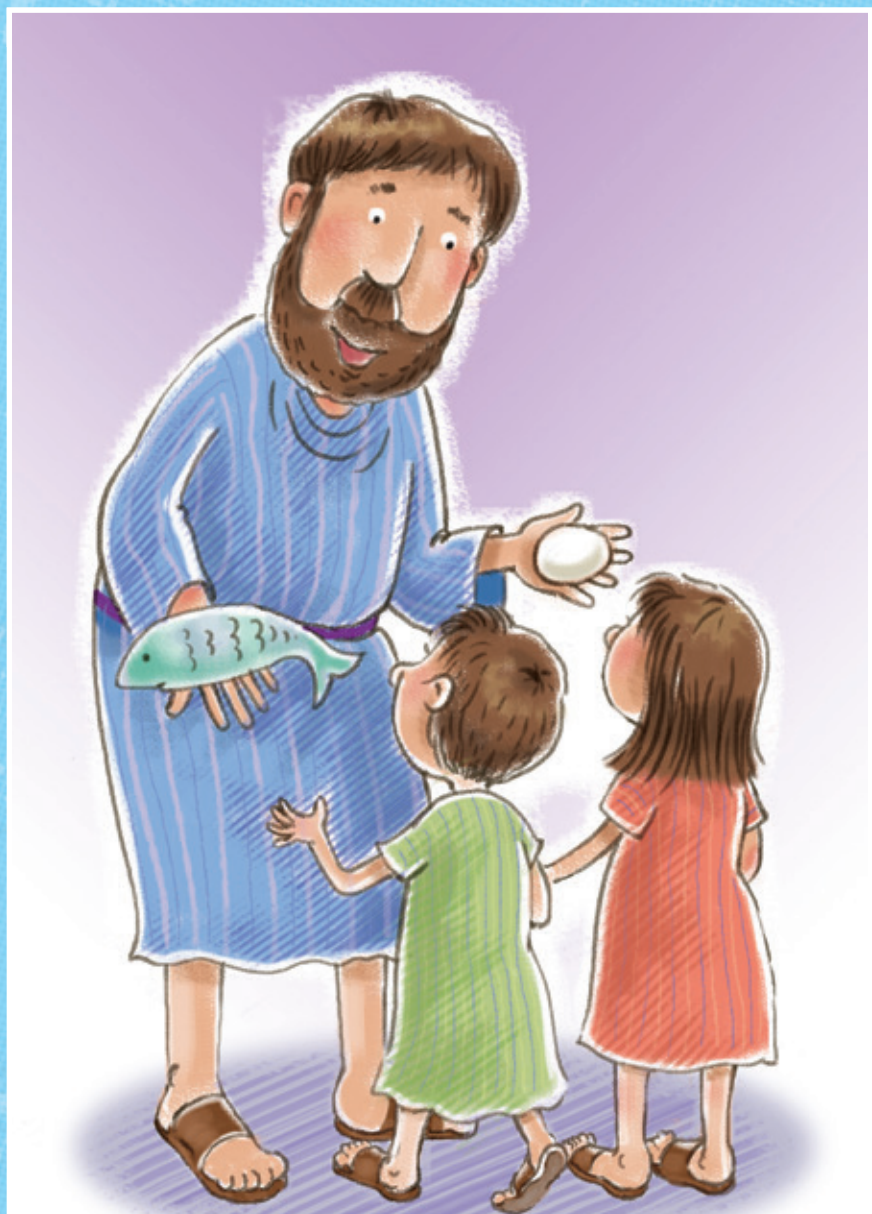
Have kids sit in a circle around you, with their pictures in front of them. Distribute the bows.

SAY: God gives good gifts. [Child's name], **what has God given you?** Have that child show his or her picture and complete the sentence "God has given me ___ as a gift." Then have the child stick the bow to his or her picture. Continue playing until you've randomly called on each child.

ASK: Why are you thankful for that gift?

Knowing that God gives good gifts, what does that tell you about how much God loves you?

SAY: God has given us so many wonderful gifts! That's because he loves us and wants to help us by giving us the things we need. ➔ **WE ASK JESUS TO HELP US, because we know he wants to give us good gifts.** Collect the bows, but let kids keep their pictures.



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SAY: We know that God gives good gifts. Jesus taught us that God treats his children even better than good parents treat their children. If a child asked for something to eat, a parent would give something healthy and good. God gives good things, too!

Hold up the *Atom Ball*. Let's pretend this *Atom Ball* is a gift. We'll pass it around while music plays. When the music stops, the person holding it gets to answer a question.

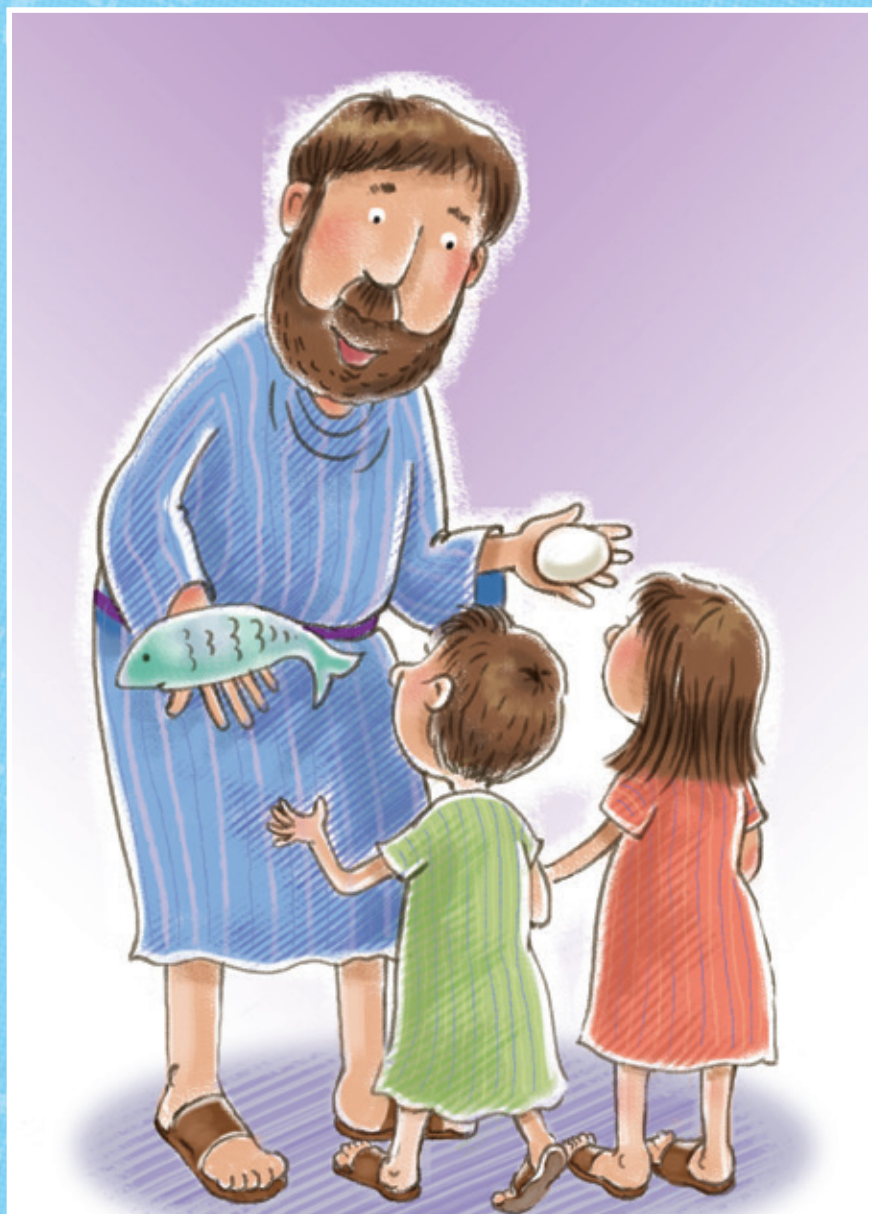
Pass the ball around as you play ● "All That I Need" (track 5) on the CD. Play several rounds, stopping the music so each child who wants to gets a turn to answer the first question below. Then play again until willing kids have answered the second question. Finish the questions by asking the third question of willing kids.

ASK: Tell about a gift you got that you really liked.

Tell about a gift that you didn't like so much.

What makes a gift good?

SAY: We like it when people give us treats and toys. But a healthy snack or new summer clothes or a walk to the park are good gifts, too. Good parents give their children what they need. God gives good gifts, too. ➔ **WE ASK JESUS TO HELP US** when we need good things.



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Gather kids around you. Teach the following hand motions:

Ask—Hold index finger to mouth, then move it forward as if tracing the path of your voice.

Seek—Hold hand up to forehead above eyes as if scanning the horizon.

Knock—Make a knocking motion with your fist.

SAY: When we need things, the Bible says to ask, seek, and knock. I'm going to describe a situation. You do the motion that shows what you would do. Read the list below, pausing for kids to do the motion. If kids do different motions, have them discuss why they picked the one they did.

- **You are feeling hungry.**
- **You want to go into a friend's house.**
- **Your shoe is missing.**
- **The bathroom door is locked.**

- **You want to go to the park.**
- **You can't find your favorite toy.**

ASK: Tell about a time you had to ask, look, or knock to get what you needed.

What happens when we ask, seek, and knock by praying?

SAY: Jesus invites us to ask, seek, and knock when we need things from God. He loves us and wants to give us good things. ➔ WE ASK JESUS TO HELP US by talking to him in prayer. And we know he'll respond by giving us the very best thing to help us.