

**Title:** Everything we Need, We Have already been Given

**Theme:** God has richly given us everything we need to survive and live together on this Earth, our goal then is to share those provisions by distributing them evenly, for the Lord's storehouses never run dry.

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 9:8 "God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others." CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION

**Supplies Needed:**

- \* Picture of group of children and log bench – posters from Presbytery office or electronic from [wlgwin@att.net](mailto:wlgwin@att.net)
- \* Paper and crayons - only half the amount needed. Be prepared to cut the papers in half and break the crayons in half so each child has one . (a helper and scissors may be helpful)

**Sermon:** (When the children come forward, be happily surprised at the number of children) I brought some paper and crayons for us to use today. (Look around and act puzzled.) I see have a bit of a problem. I don't have enough. I only have half the crayons and paper we need. What will we do? (Perhaps one of the children will suggest we share) We can share by breaking the crayons in half and dividing the paper. That will work. (do this so each child has the materials).

This reminds me of a true story. Let me tell it to you.

Far, far away on the continent of Africa is the newest country in the world, South Sudan. And in South Sudan there is a small village called Adol, where Nancy McGaughey (pronounced Mc Gay), a PCUSA missionary nurse has lived for 3 years. The electricity only comes on some of the time and there is no running water- no sinks in their houses. Every Sunday morning Nancy would see children walking to church, some walked for miles. Their church had no building; they met under a tree and sat on log benches if they didn't bring their own chair with them. The children would sit and wait patiently for their time after worship to hear a bible story. (Show picture of log bench)

The women of the church decided the children needed a place where they could gather and hear more about Jesus. The Presbyterian Women gave the women of the church money to build a building. With this money, they rented a truck to haul sand. With this sand the women and children made their own bricks and built the building. (Show picture of children in building)

After the building was built, Nancy and the church leaders had a dedication ceremony for the new building. They expected about 50 children, but more than 150 showed up. There were so many kids that three children had to share each piece of paper and each crayon. Sort of like today when you had to share the paper and crayons so everyone would have one.

The leaders were planning on 30 minutes for Sunday school, but the children, even the teenagers, didn't want to leave until they were finished coloring the page. After a 2 hour worship service and over an hour Sunday School, the children finally were ready to go home. The crayons were collected on the way out so they could be used again.

This is just one of the many adventures our missionaries have as they work to spread the love of Jesus.

**Prayer:** Pray with me. Dear Jesus, please help us to share what we have with our brothers and sisters both near and far. You have given us so much, may we give to others in need. Help us remember how the crayons were broken in many pieces so everyone had enough. Help us to bless others as you have blessed us. Draw beautiful life-changing pictures on the hearts of those blessed by Your Provision. Amen.

You may take your crayon and coloring paper with you and draw something beautiful.

