



Objects: 10 apples, 1 apple core (*optional*: pictures of 10 apples/1 apple core).

Scripture: Proverbs 3:9; Matthew 6:33.

Lesson: When the Lord Jesus was here on Earth, He often told stories to teach people a spiritual truth. This story isn't from the Bible but it will help you remember something the Lord wants you to do. It is about a man who had nothing.

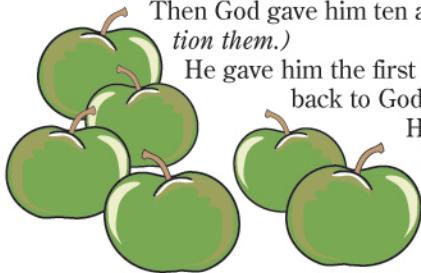
Then God gave him ten apples. (*Place apples on the table as you mention them.*)

He gave him the first apple so he might have something to give back to God to show his gratitude for the other nine.

He gave him the next three apples to eat.

He gave him the next three apples to trade for a shelter.

He gave him the next three apples to trade for clothing.



The man put aside the first apple for God. He ate the next three apples. He traded the second three apples for a place to live. He traded the last three apples for clothes.

Then he looked at the first apple again. It seemed bigger and juicier than the rest. He knew God had given him this apple so he could return it to Him to show his thankfulness for the other nine apples. But he reasoned that God had *all* the other apples in the world (*pause*) so the man *ate* the first apple and gave back to God . . . the core (*show core*).



Sometimes what you give to God is like giving Him the core. If you had a dollar and spent all but one penny then gave only that leftover penny to God, that would be like giving Him the core. (*Read Proverbs 3:9 and Matthew 6:33.*) Anytime you give to help God's work you are giving to God. (*Discuss how we can give to God first with our money and our lives.*)

—Adapted

