

# Life to the Full:

Living faith within our families

Monthly newsletter for parents: **September 2016**



## I Want It My Way

**“Pinklehurst Road” is a three-part filmed drama by Ten Ten which follows the story of a family who learn a great deal about the value of sharing...**

Jealous of his friends' flashy phones, Simon feels left out. He thinks that getting a phone just like Robbie's and Evie's will make him feel included again. However, his Dad has other ideas and resists Simon's pleas to get him one. So, resourcefully, Simon decides to do odd jobs for friends and neighbours so that he can earn money to buy the phone himself.

After a few weeks of carrying shopping, washing cars and fixing computers, Simon is enjoying being useful. However, he is also enthralled by the amount of money he is earning and forgets the needs of those closest to

him. Even his Dad only gets a half-eaten bar of chocolate for a birthday present!

Finally Simon can buy his phone, but is puzzled to find it doesn't give him the satisfaction he was looking for. In fact, as he looks at those who have the latest gadgets he realises that they are not happy. Simon sees he's at risk of becoming a slave to money and possessions.

After a heart-to-heart with his Dad, Simon comes up with a plan. He will use the talents and possessions he has not for his own benefit – he will use them to help others. In fact, he comes up

with an ingenious way to make his phone serve others!

At last, Simon has discovered that his true fulfilment can be found in sharing his time, talents and material possessions for the good of others.

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### Sharing Our Good Gifts

**Jesus,**  
Help me to be generous in using my time, talents and material goods, knowing that all good things come from you. Teach me to put you first by serving others. Thank you for the joy to be found in using my gifts for others.  
**Amen.**

## ‘You Cannot Serve Both God and Money’

**Marie-Christine, mother of two, writes:**

Tuesday morning: bin day. I drag two loaded recycling crates out of the front door to the recycling bin. Every Tuesday, the same thought: next week we won't use so much and, of course, next week we do, if not more.

Wanting a simpler life, I feel tempted to get rid of it all. Chuck out the

devices that eat electricity, grow my own food, make do and mend.

Even 2,000 years ago, people were slaves to material things. Jesus saw how hard it was for the rich to give up what they have and share their wealth. Money, he said, can easily become our master.

Our Father wants us to delight in his creation, and in the talent and ingenuity he has given each one of us.

**Reflect:**

Take a moment to reflect on how you view money. Is it something that you find yourself desperately trying to find more of, or something you use which helps the world function?

Reflect on what you consider very important in life – what are your true riches? Do you give enough time to these things or people?