

Good morning!! Here is a collection of activities for all ages that you can do as a family this week. My hope is that this lesson can help you connect together as a family and with God and will open up some authentic discussion as a family.

The King Who Teaches- Parables

What He has done: Jesus taught about a rich man who stored up things for himself.

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to be generous.

1. Setting the story:

Today, we worship Jesus as our Teacher. Through His parables, Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. In the Parable of the Rich Fool, we will see Jesus wants us to be rich toward God; that means being generous—wanting to give freely.

2. Telling the story

Here is a link to a video of the story:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syYixa4ZRPY&list=PLUCbqoFj_UMxiaAkeLv-xZlxNs4ntVyOo

Preschool version of the story:

Jesus is the King who teaches us. He tells us stories about His kingdom. Today, we will hear how Jesus told His friends the story about a rich man who kept everything for himself.

Jesus said, "Watch out for greed.
Don't want more than you need.
Instead of storing things away,
Just give it all to God today."

He told a story of a man,
Whose barn ran out of room.
He had so many plants and seeds,
He didn't know what to do.

Then the man said, "This is what I'll do;
I'll tear my old barns down,
Building bigger barns to hold more things."
God saw His greed and frowned.

Preschool discussion:

- The rich man did not share. What does God want us to do? (Share.)
- The rich man grew lots of food on his farm. He had so much food He didn't have enough room for it all. What did he build to put his extra food in? Read Luke 12:18 (Bigger barns.)
- The rich man had more food than he needed to eat. Did the rich man share his food? (No.)
- What did he do with his food? (He kept it all for himself.)
- What does God want you to do with your things? (Share.)
- Jesus said, "Watch out!" He warned the people not to be greedy. Greed is when you want more than you need.

- God wants you to share with others. What can you share?
- What should you do with your toys? (Share.)
- With whom can you share your toys? (Parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, friends.) We can always share what we have with others!

Elementary age version of the story:

Today, we will hear the Parable of the Rich Fool. He had so many crops and belongings that he didn't have a place to put them all!

Read Luke 12:13-21.

Elementary age discussion:

- Jesus said, "Watch out!" What did He warn us to be on guard against? (All kinds of greed.)
- Greed means wanting more than you need. Name some different kinds of greed. (Greed for more money, popularity, new electronic games, success, attention, food, fame, etc.)
- What kinds of greed have you or one of your friends had?
- We must use what we have to be rich toward God instead of keeping everything for ourselves. To be rich toward God is to use our money and things to build His kingdom. How do you think Jesus wanted the rich man to use the things he was storing? (To be rich toward God instead of toward himself, being generous.)
- What are some ways we can be rich toward God? (Give our offering, use our time and treasures to focus on Him and to serve our neighbors, etc.)
- What are some of your favorite things to collect? (Coins, shells, marbles, dolls, stamps, toy cars, etc.)

EXAMPLES of collectible items: Brainstorm ways you might use the items to serve people in God's kingdom.

- **Shells:** How might you use a collection of shells to encourage someone in God's kingdom? (Use the shells to decorate a frame with a picture you've drawn. Give the picture to someone as an encouragement.)
- **Money:** How might you use some of your money savings to help someone in God's kingdom? (Spend money on food for the poor. Give money to help the homeless.)
- **Stuffed animals:** How might you use a stuffed animal to build God's kingdom? (Take a stuffed animal to a sick child. Share while playing with a friend.)
- **Rocks:** How can we build God's kingdom with a collection of rocks? (Choose the smoothest rock and draw a cross on it. Give it to someone and tell him or her about Jesus.)
- What is one of your treasures?
- How can you use it this week to be rich toward God?
- Share your treasures with others to build God's kingdom! You can do it!

3. Prayer

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us, loving us and taking care of us. We lift up to You a special prayer for _____. We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.

4. Games (from the curriculum- you may need to play with your kids to fill out the teams):

WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

Purpose: Children begin to focus on collections and treasures.

Supplies: Two paper or dark fabric bags, different collectible items such as shells, stuffed animals, rocks, toy cars, marbles, or any items your children enjoy collecting

Prepare: Place all the items in one of the bags.

What kinds of things do you like to collect? Today's parable was about a rich fool who was greedy with his collection. What does God want us to do with what we collect? (Give it to God, share it with God and with others.)

Directions:

1. Children close their eyes.
2. Place one item in the empty bag.
3. Choose a child to reach into the bag and feel the item.
4. Child describes the item to the other children. (For example: hard, soft, smooth, rough, heavy, light, etc.)
5. The other children take turns guessing what the item is.
6. When the item has been identified, the child holding the item may remove it from the bag to show the class.
7. Have the children close their eyes. Choose another item to place in the bag and play again, choosing another child to reach into the bag.

STUFF IT!! RACE

Purpose: Children experience the foolishness of being greedy and storing more than needed.

Supplies: At least 40 non-helium balloons, four oversized T-shirts, timer

Prepare: Inflate and tie balloons. Optional: Older children may inflate and tie the balloons as part of the race.

Directions:

1. Place an oversized T-shirt on a volunteer from each team.
2. Start the timer. (Teacher chooses the time limit based on the number of children playing and the number of balloons.)
3. Teams race to see how many inflated balloons they can stuff into the volunteer's T-shirt before the timer stops.
4. After the timer stops, count the balloons inside each T-shirt. The team with the most balloons is the winner.

I CAN SHARE

Purpose: Children will practice generosity through sharing.

Supplies: Plastic food (enough for each child to have one), two baskets

The rich man did not share his extra food. What does God want you to do? (Share.) Let's play a game where we share the food we have until everyone has a piece. Can you share with each other? (Yes.)

Directions:

1. Divide children into two teams. Line up the two teams at one end of the play area.

2. At the other end of the play area, place a basket for each team with enough food items for each child on the team to have one.
3. On your signal, the first child on each team runs to their basket and chooses a piece of food. The child runs back to their team and gives the food to the second child in line. The first child then goes to the end of the line.
4. The second child, keeping that food, runs to the basket to choose a second piece of food and runs back to his or her team. The child gives the food he or she chose to the third child in line and then sits down near his or her team.
5. Repeat step four until each child has been given a piece of food. The last child in line gives the piece of food they chose to the first child on the team. Then they both sit down.
6. Praise each child for sharing.

5. Craft:

SHARING BARN BANK

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of the rich fool and his barns of grain.

Supplies: Small cup (approximately 3 oz), sturdy white paper, one coin, label or slip of paper, tape, crayons or markers

Prepare: From sturdy paper, cut a 4" circle. Fold the circle in half and then in half again. Crease one edge and unfold. Cut along the crease to the center of the circle. Cut a slit large enough in one side of the circle for coins to fit through. Print on a label or slip of paper: "We will share." Luke 12:15-21

Directions:

1. Children color the cup and the circle.
2. Attach label to cup.
3. Tape the circle into a cone shape and secure the cone to the lid of the cup with tape.
4. Show the children how to put their coin through the slot in the top of the bank.

