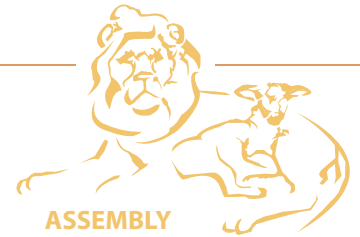


TREASURE IN HEAVEN

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:19-24



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

STORING UP TREASURE IN HEAVEN

Divide the class into two teams. Read the scripture on storing up treasure in heaven and then take turns asking them to tell you which of the following items are storing up treasure on earth and which are storing up treasure in heaven.

- You find a quarter and place it in a secret location so that it will not get lost.
- You use your birthday money to buy baseball cards.
- You come early to church to help your dad set up chairs for a picnic.
- You stay home from church for a sports competition.
- You share half your candy bar with your brother.
- You give part of your birthday money to your parents for a church offering.
- You agree to skip gymnastics lessons this year so that your sister can participate since your parents can only afford to pay for one child's lessons.
- You save up all your money to buy a new bike and don't allow your younger brother to have a ride because you are afraid he will wreck it.
- You run to the front of the line first.
- You let others get ahead of you in line.
- You insist on expensive sneakers when your old ones get too small.
- You let your sister eat the last piece of cake.

TREASURE IN HEAVEN

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:19-24

SERVING GOD AND MONEY

Supplies:

two large balls the same size

Ask one child to pick up one of the balls. Then ask the child to pick up the other ball. (If you have smaller balls have the child do this with one hand. The object is to demonstrate that he can only pick up one ball at a time.)

Talk about Matthew 6:24 and ask the children how only serving one master is like holding the balls. We can only serve one master at a time just like we can only hold one ball at a time. The question is, "Are we serving God or our money?" (Children may not have a lot of money so help them see their possessions as their money or treasure.)

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Although it is very true that we cannot serve God and money, it is equally true that we cannot serve God instead of money unless God changes our hearts. Our hearts will be fixed upon earthly treasure unless Jesus gives us a love for Him. Jesus died so that we could find our treasure in Him rather than the treasures of this world.

