



WEEK
FOUR
JANUARY 2021

SMALL GROUP

K-1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Golden Slumbers

Parable of the Bags of Gold
Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Make the most of what
you've been given.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Suppose you can be trusted
with something very little.
Then you can also be trusted
with something very large.**
Luke 16:10a, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Responsibility—Showing you
can be trusted with what is
expected of you**

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "I Have . . . Who Has?" Activity Pages

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather one or two "I Have . . . Who Has?" cards for each kid.
- Be sure the cards are sequential (i.e., if you grab the coin/dog card, make sure you have the dog/ball card).
- Set aside any extras.
- Shuffle the cards and deal them to the kids, asking them to keep their cards a secret.
- Guide the kid with the first card to say, "I have a coin/quarter. Who has a dog?" Then they set the card face up in front of them.
- The kid with the dog says, "I have a dog. Who has a soccer ball?" They also set their card face up in front of them.
- Continue until kids play every card.

WHAT YOU SAY:

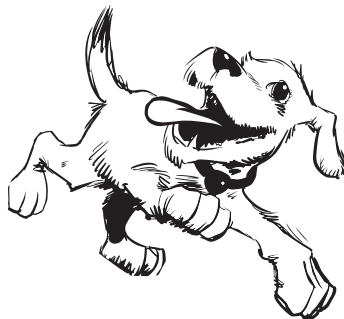
"You guys had a lot of neat things! You had . . . (*name each item the kids had*). What could you do with a ball? (*Pause.*) What could you do with crayons? (*Pause.*) What could you do with money? (*Pause.*) **[Transition] In Large Group, we'll hear about three people who were each given different amounts of money. Let's go to Large Group and find out what they did with it.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

I have...



I have...



Who has...



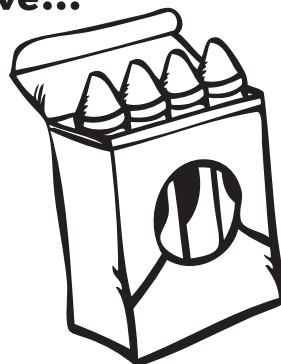
Who has...



I have...



I have...



Who has...



Who has...



What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one set for each small group.

I have...



I have...



Who has...



Who has...



I have...



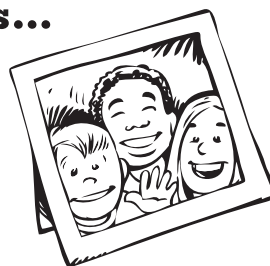
I have...



Who has...



Who has...



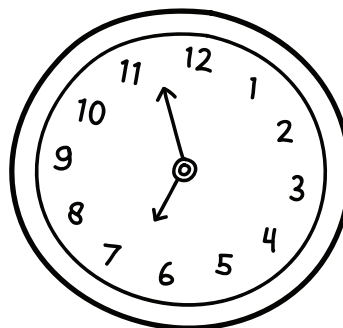
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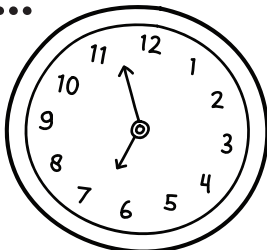
I have...



I have...



Who has...



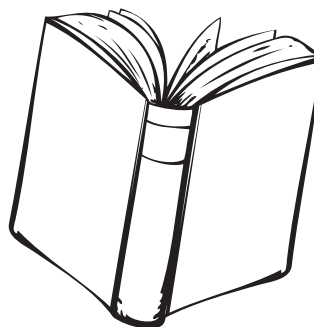
Who has...



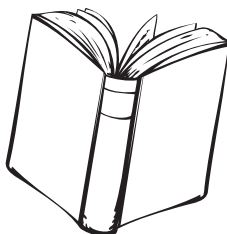
I have...



I have...



Who has...



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



1. WELL DONE!

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Well Done!" Activity Page, Bible marked at Matthew 25, businessman's attire, cloth bags; beans or similar, hula hoops, carpet squares, or similar; construction paper, marker, tape loops

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Golden Slumbers

Parable of the Bags of Gold
Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Make the most of what
you've been given.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Suppose you can be trusted
with something very little.
Then you can also be trusted
with something very large.**
Luke 16:10a, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Responsibility—Showing you
can be trusted with what is
expected of you**

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to recall the characters in today's Bible story. For each character named, invite a kid to "be" that person and stand in a hoop or on a square.
- Help the "businessman" don the suitcoat and other attire. Number each servant accordingly with the construction paper and tape loops.
- Invite a volunteer to open the Bible to Matthew 25.
- Narrate the story using the "Well Done!" Activity Page as a guide.
- As you read, lead kids to pantomime the action. Exaggerate your narration to spur the kids' involvement.
- Keep the other kids engaged by asking questions throughout. You might ask:
 - How do you think Servant Number One felt when their boss gave them that much money?
 - How do you think Servant Number Three felt?
 - How do you think the boss felt when he saw that the first servant made the most of what they'd been given?
 - How do you think he felt when he saw that the third servant hadn't done anything with what they'd been given?
- As time allows, guide kids to switch roles and repeat the dramatization.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"The man in today's story gave each servant a LOT of money—one servant five bags of gold, the second servant two bags of gold, and the third servant one bag of gold. What did the boss say when he found out that the first servant had taken the five bags of gold and made five bags more? (*Well done! You've been faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things.*) What did the boss say when he found out that the third servant had buried his money in the ground? (*You should have put my money in the bank; take away his gold.*)

"The message of Jesus' story was clear: God wants us to make the most of what He gives us. Now, God may not give you money, but He DOES give you time, talents, and relationships. And He wants you to make the most of what He gives you. He wants you to make the most of your time. He wants you to make the most of your talents. And He wants us to make the most of our friendships. He wants you to **make the most of what you've been given.**"

A rich man was going on a long trip. He sent for his workers so that he could put them in charge of his money. To one worker, he gave five bags of gold. To a second, he gave two bags of gold. And to a third, he gave one bag of gold. The man gave each worker the amount of money that he knew his workers could take care of. Then he went on his trip.

The worker who had five bags of gold went at once and put the money to work. He earned five bags more. The worker with two bags of gold earned two more. But the man who had received one bag of gold dug a hole in the ground and hid the money in it.

After a long time, the rich man returned from his trip. The worker who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. "You trusted me with five bags of gold," he said. "See, I've earned five more."

The rich man replied, "Well done! You've been faithful with a few things. I'll put you in charge of many things. Come and share my happiness!"

The man with two bags of gold also came. "You trusted me with two bags of gold," he said. "See, I've earned two more."

The rich man replied, "Well done! You've been faithful with a few things. I'll put you in charge of many things. Come and share my happiness!"

Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. "I knew you're a tough businessman," he said. "You make money even where you haven't worked for it! I didn't want you to get mad. So I buried the money. See, here is what belongs to you."

The rich man replied, "You lazy man! If you knew I can make money even when I haven't worked for it, you should at least have put my money in the bank where it would get interest!"

Then rich man said to his other workers, "Take this man's bag of gold. Give it to the worker who has ten bags. Everyone who has will be given more. And what about anyone who doesn't have? Even what they have will be taken away from them."

What to Do:

Print one for each small group.

"Well Done!" Activity Page

January 2021, Week 4, Small Group K-1
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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



2. SERVICE!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Hand sanitizer, supplies for chosen service project, paper, markers, and other card-making items

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to apply hand sanitizer.
- Set out the supplies and guide kids to work together to complete the service project.
- Have them make a card for the recipient(s) with the paper, markers, etc.
- Encourage kids to make the most of what they've been given as they work—kids who are good at math can count the items; kids who are good at drawing can draw pictures on the card or bag; kids who are good with words can write the card.
- As kids collaborate, emphasize each kid's unique gifts/talents and how God wants them to make the most of what they've been given.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus made the most of His time with people. He showed love to everyone and helped them understand what's most important to God. God wants you to **make the most of what you've been given**, too.

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids how you try to make the most of what you've been given whether it's money, possessions, time, talents, or relationships.)

"You can **make the most of what you've been given**, too. You can make the most of your time by doing things for others instead of spending too much time playing video games or watching TV. You can make the most of your relationships by being kind to your friends and nice to your brothers and sisters. You can make the most of the things you're good at by practicing your instrument or dance routine or sport. And you can make the most of your stuff by taking good care of your things and sharing with others. Whatever you do, **make the most of what you've been given.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen
in the brain and taps into the energy
in the body



*3. MAKE THE MOST OF IT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles and a ball

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to look up and read the verse according to the Bible navigation tips in Week 1.
- Lead kids to sit in a circle.
- Give one kid the ball.
- Guide kids to pass the ball as they say the verse word by word. Be sure to provide help as needed.
- Lead the kid holding the ball on the last word to name something they've been given that they can use for God.
- Ask prompting questions if kids are stuck for ideas. (*How could you make the most of your friendships? Could you spend time with your friends? Could you be kind to them? Could you share?*)
- Also, never force a shy or reluctant kid to answer aloud. Instead, invite them to choose a friend to answer for them.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"In today's Bible story, the man gave each servant the amount of money he knew they could take care of. He knew he could trust the first servant with more money, so he gave him five bags of gold. He knew he could trust the second servant with two bags of gold, so that's what he gave him. Do you think the third servant had shown that he could be trusted with as much money as the first two servants? (No.) No, he hadn't. So the man only gave him one bag of gold. It's like our verse says—we can't be trusted with a lot until we can first be trusted with a little. We can say it this way: **Make the most of what you've been given.**"

**“Whoever
can be
trusted with
very little**

**can also
be trusted
with much.”**

Luke 16:10a, NIV





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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "I Have . . . Who Has?" cards from
"Opening Activity"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Show a few of the "I Have . . . Who Has?" cards.
- Choose cards that are most relevant for your kids.
- For each card, invite kids to name ways they could make the most of that item or talent.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God is faithful to us, and He wants you to be faithful with what He gives you. (Show the "time" card.) He wants you to make the most of your time by spending time with Him and doing things for others instead of spending too much time playing video games or watching TV. (Show the "friends" card.) He wants you to make the most of your relationships by being kind to your friends and nice to your brothers and sisters. He wants you to make the most of the things you're good at by (show the "piano" card) practicing your instrument or (show the "dance" card) doing your best at dance rehearsal or (show the "soccer ball" card) listening to your coach. (Show the "bike" card.) He also wants you to make the most of your stuff by taking good care of your things and sharing with others.

"Whatever you do, God wants you to **make the most of what you've been given**. Let's pray and ask God to help us be responsible with what He gives us."

Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help both you and the kids **make the most of what you've been given**. If kids participated in "Service!" Activity, also pray for the recipient of your project and ask God to let them know how much He loves them.

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents today's Bottom Line: **Make the most of what you've been given**.

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