

Golden Slumbers Parable of the Bags of Gold

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 (NirV)

Monthly Life App: Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

1. Use What You've Got

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: "Use What You've Got" Activity Page (print page 2), pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Use What You've Got" page and a pen.
- Encourage the kids to look at the list of things on the left column. Discuss how the things in the left column are all things everyone has.
- Instruct kids to draw a line from the things on the left column to something in the right column that needs to be accomplished in the world.
- Invite the kids to fill in the empty circles on the page with their own ideas for things they have and what they can accomplish.
- Some of the connections kids make are somewhat abstract. Help your concrete thinkers stretch their minds a little bit. If they seem stuck, ask questions like:
 - What could you use to help someone who needs someone to stand up for them?
 - What could you use to share the story of Jesus with someone?

What You Say:

"Sometimes the world tells us we need even more, bigger, or better things to accomplish something great. God tells us He will give us what we need to accomplish His plans! And His plans are really awesome! That means all you have to do is look around and **[Bottom Line] make the most of what you've been given.** These are all great ideas we just talked about on our paper. Which one of these things do you look forward to making the most of this week?" (*Allow time for kids to share what they can do this week.*)

Draw a line from what you have
to how you can make the most
of it in the world around you.

What I have:

• **compassion**

• **a brain**

• **a skill**

• **a heart**

• **time**

• _____

What I can do:

• **cities need to be served**

• **lonely people need to be
loved**

• **people need to be stood up
for**

• **world-changing ideas need
to be started**

• **people who need to hear
about Jesus**

• _____

WHAT TO DO:

Print one for each kid.

"Use What You've Got" Activity Page

January 2021, Week 4, Small Group 2-3

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2. Spell It Out

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: “Spell It Out” Activity Page (print 2 copies of page 4), Bibles, bags. Cut out one page of letters and put in a baggie.

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to open their Bible and review the memory verse.
- Divide your group into two teams.
- Direct each team to form a line.
- Set a bag of memory verse letters about 15 feet across from each team.
- Explain that all of the letters in the memory verse are in the bag.
- Kids will use the letters in the bag to form their memory verse as fast as they can.
- Instruct the kids to race one at a time to the bag and **grab five letters**. Then, they take them back to their team and start to form the memory verse with what they have.
- Inform kids that one or more of them may need to run to the bag twice.
- The first team to form their Bible verse correctly, wins.
- Let both teams complete their Bible verse.
- Encourage the winning team to help the other team if they’re stuck.
- Ask kids to put their letters back in the bags when the game is over.

What You Say:

“Way to go, teams! Was anybody able to put their verse together without looking at their Bible? (*Allow time for responses.*) Either way, you rocked it! The more letters you pulled out of your bag, the easier it became to form the words. That reminds me of our memory verse! Let’s read it together. (*Read verse out loud together.*) The more you show that you can be trusted, the more you will be trusted with. It was a bit challenging in the beginning, when you didn’t have all of the letters, but you worked with what you had and finally reached the end of the verse! No matter what you have, you can always **[Bottom Line] make the most of what you’ve been given.**”

Prayer

Parent: “Dear God, thank You for giving us everything we need to live out the plan You have for us. When we face situations where we are left wanting more or for something different, help us cling to the truth that You take care of all our needs. Help us remember that each and every day we can show responsibility and **[Bottom Line] make the most of what you’ve been given.**”

S U P P O S E Y O U C A N
B E T R U S T E D W I T H
S O M E T H I N G V E R Y
L I T T L E . T H E N Y O U
C A N A L S O B E
T R U S T E D W I T H
S O M E T H I N G V E R Y
L A R G E .

Luke 16:10a, NlrV

What to Do:
Print and cut apart. Provide two sets for each small group.

"Spell It Out, NlrV" Activity Page
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