



THE THEME

Joy of Generosity

MEMORY VERSE

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- Matthew 6:21

CHALLENGE VERSE

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

- 2 Corinthians 5:10

SEPTEMBER 24 - LIFE APPLICATION

Invest to make an eternal difference!

Note to Parents

This month, we are learning about **“Joy in Generosity,”** and the life application this week is **“Invest to make an eternal difference!”** Before talking with your kids, read **Luke 16:1-13**. Be prepared to discuss how we can help others know Jesus and become part of the family of God!

THIS WEEK: DISCUSS

1. Together, read the parable Jesus told in **Luke 16:1-13**. Remind your kids that Jesus often taught using parables so that people would better understand what He wanted them to know.

Ask: “Why did the rich man tell his manager that he was taking his job away from him?” (*He was wasting his possessions.*) **What are some ways people can waste money?** (*Discuss together: unnecessary things we don’t really need. Think of examples.*) **Why is it wrong to use all of our money for ourselves?** (*There are so many people in need, yet we think only of ourselves.*)

2. So, knowing he would lose his job, the manager started thinking ahead. In **verse 4**, he knows what he must do for people to welcome him into their homes instead of hating him. **What did he do?** (**Verses 4-7**. *The man collected what he thought people could afford to pay before being fired from his job. It wasn’t everything they owed, but it was a large portion of what they owed. Then they were grateful to him, which would pay off later, when he would come to them for help, money, housing, etc.*)
3. **What did the rich man say about what the manager had done?** (See **verses 8,9**. *He thought the manager had been shrewd in dealing with those who owed him money. The lesson: It’s important to use money, unrighteous wealth, to think about the future. To use it to make friends for God who will greet us in heaven and be our friends forever.*)
4. It has been said that “Money is the root of all evil.” **How can we live in this world and use money for good so that we can have an eternal reward in heaven, instead of wasting all that God has given us? Read verses 10, 11.** (*Be faithful in what we have been given, whether it is a lot or very little. Then God will trust us with even more.*)
5. Read **verse 13**. **To whom should we be faithful?** (*We can’t serve two masters:*

God and money. Choose to serve God with all we have been given - in our jobs working for others or in our daily lives.)

6. We need to think to the future and have an eternal perspective. One day all people will go to heaven to be in God's family, or to hell. Those we have helped to know Jesus will one day greet us in heaven and thank us for what we have done! **How can we use our money to reach people for Jesus, to be our "eternal friends?"** (*Tithe - give to the church so that our 8 ministry partners can continue to reach the least and the lost. Also, the church supports many organizations that reach people for Jesus around the world!*)

FAMILY CHALLENGE

- Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming soon. These are special holidays that give us opportunities to reach out to others generously with the love of Jesus. Together, **think of a plan for your family to do something to make an eternal difference in the months ahead!**
- **Have your kids learned this month's Bible verse yet?** Practice together, and offer a "prize" of a special time together if they also learn the challenge verse!

PRAYER

"Dear Jesus, Thank You for teaching us about finding joy in being generous. Help us to use our money wisely, sharing with others so that they can know You and be our eternal friends in heaven! In Your Name we pray, Amen."