



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 3 - LIFE APPLICATION

Be a good steward.

Note to Parents

This month, we are learning about the **“Joy of Generosity.”** Before talking with your kids, read **Matthew 25:14-30**. Be prepared to discuss ways you have seen people be generous with the money or gifts God has given them. The Life Application for this week is to **“Be a Good Steward.”**

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

1. This week, we are talking about Generosity. **What do you think that word means?** (*Let family members discuss.*) Everything we have is a gift from God. **What are some of the gifts God has given us?**
2. Read **Matthew 25:14-15**. **Did the man give all of his servants the same amount of money, or talents?** (*No, they had different amounts.*) We all have different amounts of money, or things, and we all have different kinds of talents, or gifts. **How does God want us to use the things He has given us?** (*He expects us to use them well to glorify Him. He wants us to be generous.*)
3. The man went away for a long time. **What did the servants do with the talents the man had given them while he was gone?** Read **verses 16-18** to find out!
4. **When he came back, what did he do?** See **verses 20-28**. He asked the servants to tell him what they had done with the talents. The one with 5 talents made 5 talents more, and the one with 2 talents made 2 talents more. But the servant with 1 talent hid it to keep it safe. The man rewarded the servants who used their talents well. **What about the other servant?** (*He took the servant’s 1 talent and gave it to the servant who had 10 talents, and sent him away to the “outer darkness.”*)
5. This was a parable that Jesus told so that people would understand what He was trying to teach. **What do you think He wants us to know from this parable?** (*Jesus is like the man who had servants, and we are like the ones He gave talents to – and He wants us to use them wisely.*) The man in the parable goes away for a long time and then returns to hold his servants accountable for using what He had given them well. Jesus has left us with gifts and talents after his Ascension to heaven. He will return one day. **Do you think Jesus will hold us accountable for what He has given us?** Read **Matthew 25:29**:

“For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”

6. **How can we use our money wisely to serve God?** *(Be generous, give to others, take good care of the money and spend it well.)* **Is “buying a lot of stuff” spending our money well? Why or why not?**

PRAYER

“Dear Jesus, Thank You for teaching us with parables so that we can understand how you want us to use what You have given us! Help us to be wise and to be generous. In Your Name we pray, Amen.”

FAMILY CHALLENGE

1. Give each family member \$5. Tell them to **think of a way they can use the money to help others or to glorify God.** Brainstorm for ideas. (Parents, you may have to help your kids carry out their “plan” since they can’t transport themselves!) Tell everyone to decide what they want to do and come back in a week to share what they did with the money.

When you meet again to discuss and share, be sure and encourage your kids to think of ways they can be generous with money and what they have, and also ways they can use their talents to serve and glorify God.

2. **Can you be generous with something besides your money? What about the things you have? Or the talents you have?** *(Discuss together.)*