

The Rich Fool Parable Lesson

By Felicia Mollohan

Bible Reference: Luke 12:13-21

Lesson Objective: The children will learn that our treasure isn't here on earth.

Target Age: 1st grade - 5th grade

Items Needed:

treasure chest (basket/tub)

treasure (Monopoly money, coins, gold, jewels, etc.)

small Bible

playing cards

Welcome Activity:

Before class, have a treasure chest full of treasure (gold, coins bills, jewels, etc.). If you don't have an actual treasure chest, just a basket or tub works just great. Hide a small Bible hidden in the treasure chest.

Bible Lesson Introduction:

"What kind of treasure was in the treasure chest?"

"What kind of treasure do you wish you had in real life?" (car, money, toys, etc.)

Bible Lesson:

Read through Luke 12:13-21 in your Bible, explaining as you read to make sure the children are understanding.

You could use the Rich Fool: A Parable told by Jesus Skit to have the children involved in the telling of the story.

This is a short parable, but a powerful one. A man is doing well for himself. He's gaining more wealth and so he decides that he needs to build bigger barns to hold all of his goods.

Then God talks to him and tells him that it was worthless to build all of that because he was going to die that night. The man was only thinking about himself and he forgot where his true treasure was: heaven.

Bible Lesson Understanding:

How do we make sure that we don't become like the man in the parable?

What does it mean to be rich towards God?

Does God not want us to have nice things? No! He wants to bless us, but He wants us to remember where it came from and what the most important thing is.

Bible Lesson Activity: House of Cards

Have the children build a house of cards with the playing cards.

Bible Verse:

Luke 12:20-21 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Bible Verse Activity: Hand Motions

"But God" - point to ceiling

"said to him" - point to someone

"You fool!" - make a crazy face

"This very night" - act like you're sleeping

"your should is required of you" - point to self

"and now who will own what you have prepared?" - shrug shoulders

"So is the man" - stand up tall

"who stores up treasure" - act like gathering everything

"for himself" - point to yourself

"and is not rich toward God." - point to ceiling

"Luke 12" - put one finger on right hand and two fingers on left hand

"20" - put two fingers on right hand and make a zero with the left hand

"21" - put two fingers on right hand and one finger on left hand

Evaluation:

"What was it like to build the house of cards?"

"Was it easy?"

That was what the man in our parable was building. He was trying to build his wealth here on earth, but that's not where our treasure here. We are here for such a short time, but in heaven for eternity. That's where we need put our efforts... eternal life.



The Rich

Booklet from:
Luke 12:13-21


By Felicia Mollohan

Someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But He said to him, "Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbitrator over you?" Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his

possessions." And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul,

"Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come, take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.'" But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared? So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not

rich toward God."



The Price

Reader from:

Luke 12:13-21

By Felicia Mollohan

Some-one in the
crowd said to Him,
"Teach-er, tell my
bro-ther to di-vide
the fam-i-ly
in-her-i-tance with
me." But He said to
him, "Man, who
ap-point-ed Me a
judge or
ar-bi-trar-ty o-ver
you?"

² Then He said to them, "Be-ware, and be on your guard a-
gainst ev-er-y
form of greed; for
not even when one
has an a-bun-dance
does his life con-sist
of his
pos-ses-sions."

And He told them a³
par-a-ble, say-ing,
"The land of a rich
man was very
pro-duc-tive.

4

And he be-gan
rea-son-ing to
him-self, say-ing,
'What shall I do,
since I have no
place to store my
crops?'

5

Then he said, 'This
is what I will do: I
will tear down my
barns and build
larg-er ones, and
there I will store all
my grain and my
goods.'

⁶ And I will say to my
soul, "Soul, you have
man-y goods laid up
for man-y years to
come; take your
ease, eat, drink and
be mer-ry." ²⁰ But
God said to him,
'You fool!

⁷ This very night
your soul is
re-quired of you;
and now who will
own what you have
pre-pared? So is
the man who stores
up trea-sure for
him-self, and is not
rich to-ward God."

The Rich Fool Skit

By Felicia Mollohan

This skit is written directly from Luke 12:13-21. Jesus is explaining how our treasure isn't here on earth. He tells of a rich man who is laying up grain and goods here on earth and then God tells him that he was going to die that night.

Characters:

Jesus

Crowd Member

Rich Man

God

Crowd Member: Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.

Jesus (frustrated): Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbitrator over you? Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.

Jesus: The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself about how much he had.

Rich Man: What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?

Rich Man: This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.'

God: You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?

Jesus: So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.