



The Rich Fool

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to be rich toward Him.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Teaches

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 12:15-21

What He has done: Jesus taught about a rich man who stored up things for himself.

Key Verse: Luke 12:15

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Proverbs 11:28

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." "Jesus said, 'Go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - then the Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name.'" Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:16b

Unit 6: The King Who Teaches—Parables 2			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
28	The Rich Fool, Luke 12:15-21	Jesus taught about a rich man who stored up things for himself.	To know God wants us to be rich toward Him.
29	The Talents, Matthew 25:14-30	Jesus taught about a master who entrusted his servants with money.	To know we should be faithful with whatever God gives us
30	The Pharisee and the Tax Collector, Luke 18:9-14	Jesus taught about the importance of a humble attitude.	To know God looks at the attitude of our hearts, not our deeds
31	The Lost Son, Luke 15:11-24	Jesus taught about a father who welcomed his lost son home.	To know God always welcomes us back to Him. (Salvation Message)
32	The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:30-37	Jesus taught about a man who was a good neighbor.	To show kindness and love sacrificially.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 1 Chronicles 29:11-16. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for Your great generosity toward us. Help us guide Your children to be generous toward You and other people. Amen."

TREASURE TREAT

The Treasure Treat for Units 5 and 6 is a Kingdom Parable Journal. Each week, children receive Kingdom Parable Stickers to add to their journal. The journal and stickers are available at Resourcewell.org. You may print the stickers on sticker paper or on sturdy paper and attach with glue.

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**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: What's in the Bag?	Two paper or dark fabric bags, collectible items
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "The Fruit of the Spirit" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Am the Way" "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "Well Done" "Yahweh Every Day: You Shall Love the Lord" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "Amazing Grace" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Songs 4 Worship Kids Volume 1 Sunday School Jamz by Worship Jamz
		Worship Scripture Reading: Galatians 5:22-23	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 28 Critter Kingdom script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Luke 12:15-21	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters, Collectible items used in THE WELCOME game, "What's in the Bag?"
		Christ Connection: Proverbs 11:28	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—The Rich Fool Kingdom Parable Stickers, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "The Fruit of the Spirit," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: The Rich Fool's Snack	Granola or dry cereal snack
	Up to 10	Game: Stuff It! Race	At least 40 non-helium balloons, four oversized T-shirts, timer
	Up to 10	Craft: Parable Wind Chimes—The Rich Fool	Ribbon, large bead, sturdy red and brown paper, glue, tape, markers, scissors, hole punch
	Up to 5	Bonus Parable: The Hidden Treasure	Bible open to Matthew 13:44, The Hidden Treasure Parable Stickers (available at ResourceWell.org)
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Fruit Concentrate	Orange paper, marker, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Fruit of the Spirit Hopscotch	Stone, bottle cap, or shell colored like a fruit, chalk or floor tape, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster, paint or markers
	Up to 5	Kingdom Parable Review	Parable titles printed on footprint-shaped paper

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: If you were rich, what would you give to God?

GAME: WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

Purpose: Children begin to focus on collections and treasures.

Supplies: Two paper or dark fabric bags, different collectible items such as shells, stuffed animals, rocks, toy cars, marbles, or any items your children enjoy collecting

Prepare: Place all the items in one of the bags.

Many of you are collecting Kingdom Parable Stickers. That's a great thing to collect! What other kinds of things do you like to collect? (Children respond.) **Today's parable was about a rich fool who was greedy with his collection. What does God want us to do with what we collect?** (Give it to God, share it with God and with others.)

Directions:

1. Children close their eyes.
2. Place one item in the empty bag.
3. Choose a child to reach into the bag and feel the item.
4. Child describes the item to the other children. (For example: hard, soft, smooth, rough, heavy, light, etc.)
5. The other children take turns guessing what the item is.
6. When the item has been identified, the child holding the item may remove it from the bag to show the class.
7. Have the children close their eyes. Choose another item to place in the bag and play again, choosing another child to reach into the bag.



Jesus as the King who teaches

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Today, we worship Jesus as our Teacher. Through His parables, Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. In the Parable of the Rich Fool, we will see Jesus wants us to be rich toward God; that means being generous—wanting to give freely. As we worship, let's freely give God our full attention, our hearts, our voices, and our offerings. Sing: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" while collecting the offering.



Let's spend some time today thanking God for how much He gives us! For all who believe, God gives us the fruit of the Spirit. They are the things seen in us that come from the Holy Spirit working in our lives. Read Galatians 5:22-23.



We can worship God every day by serving others with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. That's what Jesus meant in our new Bible Memory Verse when He told us to "go and bear fruit that will last!" Sing Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Fruit of the Spirit."

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's generosity.



Perform Critter Kingdom script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 6, Lesson 28.



The rich fool

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we heard the Parable of the Great Banquet. Who was invited to the banquet? (Everyone, including the poor.) Did everyone come? (No, some people made excuses.) Who is invited to come follow Jesus and one day enjoy the great banquet in heaven? (Everyone.) Today, we will hear the Parable of the Rich Fool. He had so many crops and belongings that he didn't have a place to put them all!



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Luke 12:15-21. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Luke 12:15.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

As I read, imagine Jesus Himself telling us this story. Read Luke 12:15-21.



Be rich toward God

THE WAY

Jesus said, "Watch out!" What did He warn us to be on guard against? (All kinds of greed.) Greed means wanting more than you need. Name some different kinds of greed. (Greed for more money, popularity, new electronic games, success, attention, food, fame, etc.) What kinds of greed have you or one of your friends had? (Children respond.)

We must use what we have to be rich toward God instead of keeping everything for ourselves. To be rich toward God is to use our money and things to build His kingdom. How do you think Jesus wanted the rich man to use the things he was storing? (To be rich toward God instead of toward himself, being generous.) What are some ways we can be rich toward God? (Give our offering, use our time and treasures to focus on Him and to serve our neighbors, etc.)

What are some of your favorite things to collect? (Coins, shells, marbles, dolls, stamps, toy cars, etc.) Let's play a game to figure out how to use the things we collect to be rich toward God.

GAME: GODLY GIVE-AWAYS

Purpose: Children brainstorm ways to be rich toward God with their own treasures.

Supplies: Collectible items used in the THE WELCOME game "What's in the Bag?"

Directions: Display each collectible item. Brainstorm ways you might use the items to serve people in God's kingdom.

- **Shells:** How might you use a collection of shells to encourage someone in God's kingdom? (Use the shells to decorate a frame with a picture you've drawn. Give the picture to someone as an encouragement.)
- **Money:** How might you use some of your money savings to help someone in God's kingdom? (Spend money on food for the poor. Give money to help the homeless.)
- **Stuffed animals:** How might you use a stuffed animal to build God's kingdom? (Take a stuffed animal to a sick child. Share while playing with a friend.)
- **Rocks:** How can we build God's kingdom with a collection of rocks? (Choose the smoothest rock and draw a cross on it. Give it to someone and tell him or her about Jesus.)

What is one of your treasures? (Children respond.) How can you use it this week to be rich toward God? (Children respond.) Share your treasures with others to build God's kingdom! You can do it!



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nearly one thousand years before Jesus told us to watch out for greed, King Solomon warned about what happens when we trust in our riches instead of trusting in God.



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Proverbs 11:28. Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read Proverbs 11:28.

Are there any riches (money or belongings) you are trusting in to make you happy? (Children respond.) God is the only one we can trust to bring us true happiness.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

The Bible says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is The Rich Fool Kingdom Parable Sticker. You will also receive a bonus sticker for the Parable of the Hidden Treasure (see Bonus Parable in GOT TIME?). You can discover more about this parable in this week's Daily Way. Keep your Kingdom Parable Journal at home and collect all twenty Kingdom Parable Stickers by joining us here each time.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 28 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of a big barn completely filled with food and other treasures. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "The Fruit of the Spirit," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: THE RICH FOOL'S SNACK

Purpose: Children will eat a snack while personally connecting to the story.

Snack Suggestion: Granola or dry cereal snack

Do you know how this snack was made? (It comes from grain that is grown and gathered from farm fields. It is then separated and stored in barns and grain silos. Finally it is sold as ingredients which are used in these snacks.) **In the Parable of the Rich Fool, the man stored more grain than he needed. Because of his greed, the grain was not used to make food for others to enjoy.**

What are some other ways people are greedy? (Children respond.) **Sharing this snack and giving snacks like this to poor, hungry people is a way to be rich toward God.**

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drinks.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If you were rich, what would you give to God?"**

GAME: STUFF IT! RACE

Purpose: Children experience the foolishness of being greedy and storing more than needed.

Supplies: At least 40 non-helium balloons, four oversized T-shirts, timer

Prepare: Inflate and tie balloons. Optional: Older children may inflate and tie the balloons as part of the race.

Directions:

1. Place an oversized T-shirt on a volunteer from each team.
2. Start the timer. (Teacher chooses the time limit based on the number of children playing and the number of balloons.)
3. Teams race to see how many inflated balloons they can stuff into the volunteer's T-shirt before the timer stops.
4. After the timer stops, count the balloons inside each T-shirt. The team with the most balloons is the winner.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: PARABLE WIND CHIMES—THE RICH FOOL

Purpose: Create a wind chime strand to remember the Parable of the Rich Fool.

Supplies: Ribbon, large bead, sturdy red and brown paper, glue, tape, markers, hole punch

Prepare: Cut a 20-inch ribbon. Cut a 6-inch x 2-inch rectangle from red paper and a 3 ½-inch circle from brown paper. To keep the wind chime balanced, punch a hole about 1-inch from the edge, directly opposite from the strand attached in the previous lesson.

Optional: Use a large bead to secure the 20-inch ribbon above the plate. Substitute beads with any materials available: buttons, shells, stones, small metal objects, etc. Display a finished craft.

Teacher Tip: Parable Wind Chimes will be completed in Lessons 23-32 as the parables of Jesus are taught. Each session, a new strand representing the parable will be added to the paper plate base of the wind chimes. To maintain balance in the wind chimes as they are being created, punch holes directly opposite from each other when adding a new strand. Be sure to have extra paper plates and 30-inch ribbon hangers available for new children who join in future sessions.

Today, we heard the story of the rich fool. What did Jesus warn us to be on our guard against? (All kinds of greed.) **What did God want the rich man to do instead of storing things for himself?** (To be rich toward God.) **What are some ways we can be rich toward God?** (Give our offering, use our time and treasures to serve our neighbors.) **Let's make a barn wind chime strand to remind us to be rich toward God.**

Directions:

1. Thread the 20-inch ribbon through the hole on the edge of the plate and tie a knot large enough to prevent the ribbon from pulling back through the plate.
2. Tie a bead to the bottom of the 20-inch ribbon.
3. Tape the short ends of the red rectangle together to create a tube shape.
4. Fold the brown circle in half and then in half again. Crease one edge and unfold.
5. Cut along the crease to the center of the circle.
6. Tape the circle into a cone shape and secure it to one end of the tube shape.
7. Attach the cone to the top of the tube shape as the barn roof.
8. Thread the 20-inch ribbon down through the top of the roof and through the tube shape.
9. Tie a knot in the ribbon inside the tube shape to keep the barn from sliding off.

BONUS PARABLE: THE HIDDEN TREASURE

Purpose: To introduce and discuss another parable Jesus taught His followers.

Supplies: Bible open to Matthew 13:44, The Hidden Treasure Parable Stickers (available at ResourceWell.org)

Today's bonus parable is the story of the hidden treasure. Child or teacher reads Matthew 13:44. **What is the most expensive treasure in this world?** (Gold, diamonds, oil, etc.) **The man knew the treasure he found was worth more than anything he owned, so he sold everything he had to buy that field. What do you think is worth more than any riches in this world?** (Life with God, God's love, salvation, being with God, pleasing God, etc.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." "Jesus said, 'Go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - then the Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name.'" Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:16b

GAME: FRUIT CONCENTRATE

Purpose: Children will match pairs of fruit of the Spirit listed in the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Orange paper, marker, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Cut 18 6-inch circles to resemble the shape of an (oversized) orange fruit. Print a fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) on each of the orange circles. Create two identical sets. Display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Choose a child to shuffle all 18 oranges, keeping the printed side down.
2. Choose another child to lay all 18 oranges face down on the floor or a table.
3. Children take turns turning over two oranges at a time to see if they can find a match.
4. When a correct match is made, the pair remains in the face-up position.
5. When an incorrect match is made, both are returned to the face-down position.
6. Continue making matches until all of the words are face-up.

Who can remember all nine fruits of the Spirit? (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.) **The opposite of love is hate. What are the opposites of the other fruits of the Spirit?** (Children respond.)

Name a fruit of the Spirit that others already see in your daily life. (Children respond.) **Name a fruit of the Spirit that others rarely see in you.** (Children respond.) **All who believe in Jesus have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. This week, ask God to help you show the fruit of the Spirit that others don't usually see in you.**

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT HOPSCOTCH

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse by repetition as they play hopscotch.

Supplies: One stone, bottle cap, or shell, one piece of chalk or floor tape, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse poster, paint or markers

Prepare: Paint or color the stone, bottle cap, or shell to look like a fruit. Use chalk or floor tape to create a hopscotch pattern on the floor. Use 10 squares for your hopscotch pattern. Number the squares consecutively. Display the Bible Memory Verse poster. For large groups of children, create additional hopscotch patterns and provide additional "fruit" to toss so groups can play simultaneously.

Teacher Tip: Assist younger children by having all children chant the words with each hop the child takes. Assist in "fruit" toss as needed.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a single-file line at the bottom of the hopscotch pattern.
2. The first child tosses the "fruit" into square number 1.
3. The child then hops through the hopscotch pattern, skipping the square with the fruit marker. With each hop in squares 2-10, the child says one word of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse: **"The—fruit—of—the—Spirit—is—love—joy—peace..."**
Note: Single squares are hopped on one foot, either foot may be used. Both feet are used in side by side squares, one foot in each square.
4. After hopping into square number 10, the child turns around and returns through the course saying the rest of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse in squares 9-2, again skipping the square with the fruit marker: **"...patience—kindness—goodness—faithfulness—gentleness—and—self—control."**
5. The next child in line tosses the "fruit" into square number 2.
6. The child then hops through the hopscotch pattern, skipping the square with the fruit marker. With each hop, the child says one word of the second part of the Bible Memory Verse: **"Go—and—bear—fruit—fruit—that—will—last.—Then..."**
7. After hopping into square 10, the child turns around and returns through the course saying the rest of the first part of the Bible Memory Verse again skipping the square with the fruit marker: **"...the—Father—will—give—you—whatever—you—ask—in—My Name."** (say "My Name" in the last square).
8. Repeat steps 2-7 each time, tossing the "fruit" into the next square in numerical order until everyone has had a turn. If there are more than nine children in line, have the next child return to tossing the "fruit" in square number 1.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



KINGDOM PARABLE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part One studies the life of Jesus. Lessons 23-32 explore the parables Jesus told to teach us about His kingdom. The previous lesson will always be reviewed briefly in THE WORD segment of each Teacher's Guide. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and He has done.

The Workers in the Vineyard: What did the vineyard owner pay the workers? (The same amount: One denarius.) **Why did some of the workers grumble?** (They thought the owner was being unfair.) **How was the owner generous?** (He gave the full day's pay to all of the workers, even the workers who only worked one hour.) **God is fair and generous. When has God been generous to you?** (Children respond.) **When has He been generous to others?** (Children respond.)

The Great Banquet: What did the first people invited to the banquet do? (They made excuses for why they could not come.) **Just as the man invited people to his banquet, God invites us all to join His kingdom. To accept God's invitation, who must we trust and follow?** (Jesus.) **Who will be the guests at the great banquet in heaven one day?** (All who trusted and followed Jesus.)

The Rich Fool: What did Jesus warn us to be on guard against? (All kinds of greed.) **What did the rich fool do when he had no more room for his grain and goods?** (He tore down his barns to build bigger ones.) **How can we be rich toward God?** (Give our offering, use our time and treasures to focus on Him and to serve our neighbors.)

How to create a display for reviewing the Kingdom Parables:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the footprints.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the display using the list below. Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

Kingdom Parables: The Lost Sheep > The Sower > The Vine and the Branches > The Workers in the Vineyard > The Great Banquet > The Rich Fool > The Talents > Lazarus and the Rich Man > The Lost Son > The Good Samaritan