

“Buried Treasure” - LESSON 2

“What’s It Worth?”

Main Focus:

I must never let stuff be worth more to me than Jesus.



Power Verse:

“And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?” - Mark 8:36



Whatchagaddaknow:

“God Matters More Than My Stuff!”

LEADER’S INFO

Kids today are constantly told that more stuff means more happiness. New toys, new gadgets, new clothes, the latest games—everything around them screams, “You need THIS to be happy!”

Jesus warned: if we let money and possessions become the most important thing in our lives, we will miss out on what truly matters. Absolutely nothing is worth more than knowing Him and following His plan for our lives.

Through the Parable of the Rich Fool, the children will learn not to value stuff more than God. This story helps kids see that money and possessions are temporary, but a relationship with Jesus lasts forever.

God must be #1, above all their stuff, dreams, hobbies, and desires. When Jesus is first in their hearts, everything else finds its proper place.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“How Much Is My Treasure Worth?”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Peggy Sue teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Higher Or Lower”



Bible Story

“The Parable of the Rich Fool”



Power Verse Video

“And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?”

- Mark 8:36



Call To Action

“What’s It Worth?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

I must never let stuff be worth more to me than Jesus.



Power Verse:

“And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?” - Mark 8:36



Whatchagaddaknow:

“God Matters More Than My Stuff!”

Lesson 2 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 2 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Wacky Wally” Theme Graphic/Music
- Coupon

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Higher Or Lower” Graphics

Bible Story

- “Lesson 2 - Bible Story” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 2 - Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Lesson 2 - Call To Action” Graphics
- A Video Game System
- A Baby Doll
- A Football
- A Stack Of Money

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 2 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bibles
- Half Sheets Of Blank Paper
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers
- Plastic Cups
- Several Bags Of Marshmallows
- Two Empty Bowls
- A Way To Keep Time
- Mark 8:36 Print Piece

“The Spark” Intro Video

“How Much Is My Treasure Worth?”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Peggy Sue teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”

Offering Time

Game Time!

“Higher Or Lower”

Bible Story

“The Parable of the Rich Fool”

Power Verse Video

“And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?”

- Mark 8:36

Call To Action

“What’s It Worth?”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today we are continuing our series called “BURIED TREASURE!” In this series, we’re going to dig deep—like REAL treasure hunters—to discover what Jesus said about our money and possessions.

I have a question for you. How many of you are good spellers? *(allow response)* Okay, I am going to spell a word, and I want you to tell me what word I spelled. Are you ready? *(allow response)* The word is G-R-E-E-D. What does that spell? *(allow response)* That’s right - “GREED”!

“Greed” is a word that refers to a big desire to get more and more and more stuff! There is no such thing as *enough* stuff for a greedy person. They want it all, and they want it NOW! When you are greedy, your money and your stuff is worth more than anything!

We are going to dig deep into a story Jesus told about greed, today. But before we jump into our lesson, I want you to check out this cool video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 2”)

Leader: Wow! Greed can really mess us up, huh? It’s true. When our money and stuff means more to us than God, then we have really made some bad choices.

In your lesson today, you’re going to learn all about how God wants us to never love our money and possessions more than we love Him. Greed blinds us to the fact that God is the One who has given us everything we have. We should never let our money or possessions come before Him in our lives.

That’s exactly what you are going to learn about in today’s lesson. But, before we get too far into it, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Wacky Wally” (*Wacky Wally thinks of himself as the “world’s greatest Superhero – in training.” He is hyperactive, compulsive and obsessed with everything there is to do with comic books.*)

Wally: (*Runs onto the stage, arms straight forward, making loud “whooshing” noises. He narrowly avoids running into the leader, then skids to a stop and strikes an exaggerated superhero landing.*) Never fear, citizens of Earth! The world’s GREATEST Superhero—in training—has arrived! It is I... Wacky Wally!

Leader: Oh no... what are you doing THIS time?

Wally: A call for help! I heard it from MILES away! My super ears detected a disturbance in the universe! Don’t worry! I’m here to protect your most precious, valuable possession!

Leader: What possession?

Wally: Your wallet! Your cash! Your credit cards! Your coupons! (*Pulls out a random coupon from his pocket*) Oooh - 10% off frozen waffles. NICE.

Leader: Wally, what are you talking about?

Wally: Greed villains are everywhere! They sneak in and steal your stuff! And I, Wacky Wally, MUST protect my fans’ treasure! (*Poses heroically; his cape falls over his face*)

Leader: Wally, we’re not talking about protecting our stuff today. In fact, today’s lesson is about NOT loving our stuff too much.

Wally: (*Gasps loudly*) Not... love... my... stuff? But I LOVE my stuff! My action figures, my comic books, my superhero toothbrush collection! I even have a mint-condition, double-plastic-sealed, NEVER-BEEN-TOUCHED Spider-Man #1 comic at home!

Leader: Wait—did you say DOUBLE plastic?

Wally: Yes. A lesson I learned from when I spilled chocolate milk on my Superman comic. That was a sad day. A very sticky, sad day.

Leader: Wally, Jesus teaches us that nothing is worth more than God. Not our toys, not our money, not even our comic books.

Wally: Not even my super limited edition “Captain Karate Chop” action figure? It makes REAL karate noises when you press the button!

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



CHARACTER SKIT *(Continued)*

Leader: Not even that. God must come FIRST.

Wally: But... but... Yesterday, I hugged my comic book shelf and said, “I love you more than pizza.” (*Leans in*)
And I LOVE pizza!

Leader: Wally, that’s exactly the problem. When we love stuff too much, we push God out of first place in our hearts.

Wally: So... what you’re saying is my signed picture of “Turbo Turtle” - the superhero who fights crime in slow motion - isn’t worth more than God?

Leader: You’re catching on! Wanting more and more “stuff” is called greed.

Wally: You mean I’ve been Greedy Wally instead of Wacky Wally? I need to fix this IMMEDIATELY!

Leader: What are you going to do?

Wally: First, I’m going to stop hugging my comic book shelf. Second, I’m going to make sure GOD is #1 in my life. And third... (*strikes heroic pose*) I will use my powers for GOOD, not GREED!

Leader: That’s great, Wally!

Wally: WACKY WALLY, AWAAAAAAAY!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Higher Or Lower”

Items Needed For Game:

“Higher Or Lower” Graphics

.....

Preparation:

None

.....

How To Play:

Choose one boy and one girl to play this game. The audience will be able to help them. In classic “Price Is Right” fashion, show each item one at a time. Give details about the item, including a “suggested” price. The player must decide whether the actual retail price of the item is higher or lower than the price you suggested. The audience can help them decide by yelling “Higher” or “Lower” while they think about it. Once they decide, be sure it is their FINAL answer. If they guess it right, they get a point. Once each player has had a chance to give their guesses on an equal number of items, the player with the most points wins.



Bible Story

“Parable of the Rich Fool”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 2; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Luke 12:13-21; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today, I want to share a parable from Luke chapter twelve. Jesus was teaching a large group of people. All of a sudden, while he was teaching, a man interrupted Jesus and began complaining about someone who owed him money. Can you imagine that? The man was so concerned with his money that he thought it was more important than hearing Jesus teach.



Jesus knew that there were many people in the crowd who loved their money and stuff way more than they should, so He told them a story of a very rich man. (*show pic*) This man owned a lot of stuff. In fact, this man owned so much land, cattle, grain, and stuff that he didn’t even have enough space to store it all.



One day, the rich man was looking out on all of his land and possessions, and he said to himself, (*show pic*) “I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones to hold all of my possessions.” He didn’t think to share his stuff with the poor or to give some of it to the church or anything like that. All he thought about was himself and his stuff.



(*show pic*) At that very moment, God spoke to the man, “You fool! You are going to die tonight, and then who will get everything you worked for?” Do you know what? That is exactly what happened. That night, the man died. He had been so focused on his stuff, but now his life was over. How much of his stuff do you think he got to take with him when he died? That’s right! None!

Jesus was making a point with this story. He was teaching the people that focusing on money, possessions, and stuff is not worth it. All of that stuff is worth nothing when you die. Greed is not something we should allow to be in our lives. It causes us to focus our time, energy, and passions on money and stuff.

Instead, you should focus your time, energy, and passions on the things of God. Only a relationship with God will matter once you die. All of the other stuff won’t matter at all.

Today, in your lesson, you are going to learn that it is important to be content with what we have and stay away from greed. This is a lesson that could change your life!



Call To Action

“What’s It Worth?”

Materials Needed:

The “Lesson 2 CTA” graphics; A video game system; Baby doll; Football; Stack of money

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “What’s It Worth?”

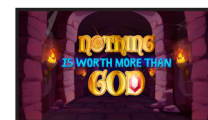
The Message: *(title slide)*



Today we are learning from a very important parable that Jesus told. Have you ever wanted to be RICH? I mean super rich with so much money and stuff that you didn’t know what to do with it all. How many of you have ever dreamed about having a HUGE house with a big swimming pool, a 100-inch flatscreen TV with the latest video game system, and EVERY game that has ever been created? Have you ever thought that would just be AWESOME?

Well, in our Bible Story today, we learned about a man who had it all. For the time in which he lived, he had EVERYTHING he could ever want - a big house, lots of cattle, and many barns to hold his possessions. He was basically living the dream life that I was just describing to you by today’s standards. However, I have one question for you - what happened to him? *(allow response)* That’s right! He died without God in his life. So was it worth it for him to have all that STUFF in the end? *(allow response)* No, of course not! From this story that Jesus told, we learn that...

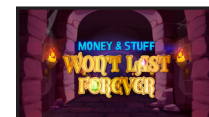
Nothing Is Worth More Than God *(slide)*



In the end, it didn’t matter HOW much stuff the rich man had, did it? He ended up dying and losing it all. The sad part is that he died without God in his life. When it came to spiritual things, he was not a rich man at all. He was a very poor man without God.

You must realize that NOTHING is worth more than having a relationship with God. Why? Because...

Money & Stuff Won’t Last Forever *(slide)*



When you die, just like the rich fool, you won’t be able to take your “stuff” with you. You never see a hearse going down the street and pulling a U-Haul trailer with it. Do you know why? Because that person is gone,

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



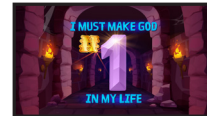
Call To Action *(Continued)*

but their stuff is still here. They can’t take it with them when they die.

(pull out the game system, the baby doll, the football, and the stack of money) This “stuff” is fun, and that’s great. There’s nothing wrong with having nice things. But when all you think about and spend your time on is getting more and more of this stuff, you are ignoring the thing that really matters. Your relationship with GOD is the only thing that lasts forever, not your STUFF. How sad would it be if you spent your whole life trying to get the latest and greatest stuff but you ignored your relationship with God? When you die, which of this “stuff” is going to go with you? NONE of it!

So what should we do? If we are not to live our lives to get more money and “stuff,” what should we focus on? Jesus told us to, “...love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.” What does that mean? It means...

I Must Make God #1 In My Life *(slide)*



You must love God MORE than you love your money, your toys, your clothes, your computers, your electronics, etc. If you focus more time on playing your video games than you do spending time with God, then you have it all wrong. If you refuse to give money in the offering because you want to save the money to buy more candy or toys, then you obviously love “stuff” more than God. That means you are a “fool,” just like the man in the story.

If you are going to make a difference in the world and live the life that God wants you to live, you must love GOD more than you love your “stuff.” You need to let go of your “stuff” and spend more time, energy, and focus on building your relationship with God. You must make God #1 in your life! He is the One who is going to last forever, not your “stuff.”

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Have the children dedicate their “stuff” to God. Have them make a decision to pursue God with MORE passion and excitement than they pursue getting the latest, greatest “stuff.” Spend some time in worship, declaring that God is #1 in their lives!



REWIND!

Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 2 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “God Matters More Than My Stuff!”

2. Our parable was about a rich _____.

Answer: Fool

3. What was the rich man planning to do with his stuff?

Answer: Build Bigger Barns

4. Jesus said the man was a fool because he was going to _____ that night.

Answer: Die

5. Was the rich man able to take his stuff with him when he died?

Answer: No

6. According to our lesson today, “_____ Is Worth More Than God.”

Answer: Nothing

7. According to our lesson today, “Money & Stuff Won’t Last _____.”

Answer: Forever

8. According to our lesson today, “I Must Make God _____ In My Life.”

Answer: #1

9. True or False: When you die, you get to bring your toys to Heaven.

Answer: False

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Mark 8:36