

“Buried Treasure” - LESSON 3

“Where Should I Store My Treasure?”

Main Focus:

I must store up treasures
in Heaven.



Power Verse:

“Wherever your treasure is, there
the desires of your heart will also
be.” - Matthew 6:21



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I’m Gonna Store Up Treasure In
Heaven!”

LEADER’S INFO

As kids grow, they naturally begin to care more about money, possessions, and the things they want. While those things aren’t wrong by themselves, Jesus teaches that what we value most reveals what truly has our hearts. In this lesson, children will learn one of Jesus’ most important truths: where we put our treasure shows what we love most. Storing treasure on earth may feel good for a moment, but only treasure stored in Heaven lasts forever.

Through the story of the Rich Young Ruler, kids will see a young man who wanted eternal life but struggled to put God first. Although he obeyed many of God’s commands, he loved his wealth more than he loved God. This moment helps children understand that obedience to God isn’t just about rules—it’s about trusting God with our hearts and our stuff.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Storing My Treasure”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Peggy Sue teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Mad Dash For Cash”



Bible Story

“The Rich Young Ruler”



Power Verse Video

“Wherever your treasure is, there the
desires of your heart will also be.”

– Matthew 6:21



Call To Action

“Where Should I Store My Treasure?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

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Power Verse:

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Whatchagaddaknow:

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Lesson 3 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 3 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

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

Character Skit

- “Wacky Wally” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Mad Dash For Cash” Graphic
- Large “Play” Money Bills Of Different Denominations
- A Table
- A Stopwatch

Bible Story

- “Parable of the Rich Fool” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 3 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Lesson 3 - Call To Action” Graphics
- A Sock With A Hole In It
- A Needle And Thread
- A Red Heart
- A Stack Of Money

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 3 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Mad Lib Print Piece
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers
- Large Construction Paper Hearts
- Coins
- A Way To Keep Time
- Matthew 6:21 Print Piece

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“Mad Dash For Cash”

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Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today we are finishing up our series called “BURIED TREASURE!” In this series, we’ve been digging deep in God’s Word to discover what Jesus said about our money and possessions.

Let me ask you a question... if you had a treasure chest full of gold, jewels, and coins, where would you put it? Would you hide it under your bed? Bury it in your backyard? Or lock it up somewhere super safe? *(allow kids to respond)*

Jesus actually talked about treasure too—but He wasn’t talking about gold or coins. He was talking about something **WAY** more important: our hearts. Jesus said that wherever our treasure is, that’s where our hearts will be, too.

Before we dig up our final treasure truth, I want you to watch this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 3”)

Leader: Wow! That really makes you think, doesn’t it? Today we’re learning that God wants us to not focus on storing up treasure on Earth...but storing up treasure in Heaven!

You see, when we love God more than anything, it changes how we use our money, our time, and our stuff. That’s what it means to store up treasure in Heaven. We do that by obeying God, giving generously, and trusting Him with everything we have.

But before we dig any deeper... it’s time 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: (*Enters dragging a huge cardboard box*) Citizens! Stand back! This area is now under the protection of the world’s GREATEST superhero (*whispers*) in training: Wacky Wally!

Leader: Wally, what is all of that?

Wally: (*Hugs the box tightly*) This, my good citizen, is my TREASURE. My priceless possessions. My earthly riches. My super-important-stuff.

Leader: Why is it all in one box?

Wally: Because I’m moving it! I’m relocating my treasure to a safer place.

Leader: Safer than where?

Wally: Safer than my room! My mom said if she steps on ONE more action figure, she’s donating my treasure to the needy. (*Gasps*) THE HORROR.

Leader: Wally, what kind of treasure do you even have in there?

Wally: Oh, just the usual priceless items. (*Looks in the box and names off some items*) A superhero lunchbox, a comic book with a bent corner, three action figures missing arms, and my piggy bank!

Leader: Wally, we’re actually talking about treasure today, but not THAT kind of treasure.

Wally: Not this treasure? (*Stares at the box*) But I LOVE this treasure.

Leader: That’s the problem. Today, we’re learning what Jesus said about treasure and where we should store it.

Wally: Jesus talked about treasure? Did He mention comic books? Rare holographic superhero cards?

Leader: No, Wally. Jesus said, “Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Wally: MY HEART? You mean God wants me to put my heart in this box?!

Leader: Wally, Jesus was teaching that if God really has your heart, then He’ll also have your stuff.

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Wally: So... if God doesn't have my heart, He probably doesn't have my stuff either?

Leader: Exactly.

Wally: *(Looks at the box)* So, this box might be more important to me than God?

Leader: That's something only YOU can answer.

Wally: I think I've been storing my treasure in the **WRONG** place. Treasure in Heaven lasts forever! Treasure on Earth gets stepped on by my mom!

Leader: Exactly.

Wally: Then this treasure is going somewhere **NEW**.

Leader: Where?

Wally: I'm gonna sell it in a garage sale, then give the money in the offering! I want to show God He is what I love the **MOST**!

Leader: That sounds like a great plan.

Wally: *(Strikes a superhero pose)* Another lesson learned! Another mission complete! **WACKY WALLY, AWAAAAAAY!**

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Mad Dash For Cash”

Items Needed For Game:

Large “play” money bills of different denominations; table; stopwatch

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Preparation:

Choose three boys and three girls to play this game. Place all the “play” money face down on the table, and place the table on the other side of the room.

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How To Play:

This is a relay race. When you say “Go,” start the stopwatch as the players begin to run, one at a time, across the room to the table. Without looking at the face side, the players should grab one bill from the table and run back to tag the next person in line. This continues for one minute. Then, count how much money the teams have accumulated. The team with the most money wins!



Bible Story

“The Rich Young Ruler”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 3; 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 Matthew 19:16-29; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in the book of Matthew, chapter 19. There was a young man (*show pic*) who approached Jesus and asked Him, “What must I do to receive eternal life?” He obviously was ready to put his faith in God. (*show pic*) Jesus answered him, “Obey the commandments.”

The young man didn’t miss a beat. He responded to Jesus (*show pic*), “I’ve done this ever since I was a little boy. What else must I do?” You see, this young man knew that there must be more to it than just keeping a list of rules. He had been doing this all of his life, yet he still felt empty inside.

Jesus knew this young man had kept the commandments in the scriptures, but He also knew that there was something this young man loved very much - too much. You see, this young man is known in the Bible as the “Rich Young Ruler.” He had a lot of money. He loved his money. (*show pic*) Jesus said, “Sell all you have and give it to the poor.” Wow! Jesus told this young man to sell everything he owns and give that money to the poor. That’s huge! How do you think he responded? Do you know what the young man did?

The Bible says that (*show pic*) the young man walked away sad because he loved his money and possessions too much. It’s not that Jesus really wanted him to be poor. Jesus just wanted him to be willing to put God ahead of his money. The sad thing is, because he loved his money so much, he ended up losing out on being Jesus’ disciple - and he missed out on eternal life.

Jesus turned to the disciples and said, “I tell you the truth. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God.” What did Jesus mean by this? You’re going to learn exactly what Jesus meant in your lesson, today. You are going to learn that we must choose not to store our treasures on Earth by holding on to our stuff. Instead, we must store up treasures in Heaven by putting God in the most important place of our lives. We must be willing to use our money and possessions to build His Kingdom - storing up treasures in Heaven.





Call To Action

“Where Should I Store My Treasure?”

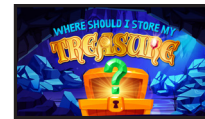
Materials Needed:

The “Lesson 3 CTA” graphics; a sock with a hole in it; a needle and thread; a red heart; stack of money

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Where Should I Store My Treasure?”

The Message: *(title slide)*



Before we get started with the lesson, I need to take care of something. *(pull out the sock)* This morning, I noticed that one of my socks had a hole in it. Looks sad, doesn’t it. Well, I didn’t have time to fix the hole this morning. So, I thought I would just take a moment and sew it up. That ok? Great!

(take out the needle and thread) Now, the first thing I have to do is get this thread through the needle so I can start to sew up the hole. *(take a little while showing how small the eye of the needle is and how hard it is to get the thread through it)* Wow! This is harder than I thought. The eye of this needle is SO small. I can hardly get this thread to go through it. I better save this job for later! *(put away the sock and thread)*

As hard as it was to get the thread through the eye of the needle, can you imagine how hard it would be to get a CAMEL through the eye of a needle? IMPOSSIBLE! Well, in our Bible Story today we learned that Jesus said, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God. Why do you think Jesus said this?

Jesus said this because many times those who have a lot of money end up loving their money more than God. Many of you think you want to be rich one day, but there is a danger that you must be aware of. Money can become TOO important in your life. The more you have, the harder it is to keep it in the right place. There are a few things you need to learn if you are going to keep money in its rightful place...

I Must Put God First *(slide)*



God made everything. He made you. He made me. He gave us life. He also gave us the strength and the abilities we have that help us make money. If God created me, and everything I have is a result of the gift of life He gave me, then it only makes sense that everything I have I received from God. Right?

You see, the Bible teaches that all things were created by God and belong to God. He chooses to give those things to His children. We must realize that everything we have belongs to God. We can’t say, “This is MY”
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Call To Action (Continued)

money!’ We can’t say, “This is MY stuff!” Everything we have we received from Him. He is just letting us use it while we are here on Earth.

I hear so many people say, “Well, I will use my money to pay my bills, buy important stuff for me, and if I have some money left over, then I will give that to God. If not, then oh well.” The Bible teaches us that we are to give God 10% of all the money we make. That’s called the tithe. We can’t give God leftovers. We have to put Him **FIRST** in our money and possessions.

You say, “Well, I am pretty sure I do that. I am pretty sure I put God first in my money and possessions. How do I know if I do or not?” Well, I am glad you asked. It’s like this...

If God Has My Heart, He’ll Also Have My “Stuff” (slide)



(Every time you see a **red** word, hold up the **heart**. When you see a **green** word, hold up the **money**)

Matthew 6:21 says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” There is an interesting connection between these two things – your **heart** and your **treasure** (or your money). If you want to know where **this** is, take a look at where **this** is going. If you want to know where your **heart** is, you just look at where you spend your **money**. If you **love** video games, your **money** will go towards video games. If you **love** candy, you will spend a lot of **treasure** on candy.

You can say, “But I don’t love STUFF more than God.” Then, just look at the last time you got some **money** for your birthday. How easy was it for you to spend **this** on toys for yourself? Pretty easy! You know why? Because you **love** toys. That’s where your **heart** is, so you have no problem putting your **treasure** there. NOW, think how hard it might have been for you to give that same **money** in a church offering instead. It might have been harder, it might have been easier. Why? Because wherever **this** is, **this** will follow. Make sense? That’s how you know if you are allowing God to be **MORE** important than your money and possessions.

If I Obey, I Will Be Blessed (slide)



If we honor God by putting Him first, recognizing that He owns everything we have anyway, then He will make sure our lives are taken care of. Now, that doesn’t mean that we can pay our tithe then make a Christmas Wish List of all the things we want God to give us. But it does mean that if we put God first before money, then He will make sure our needs are met. If we obey Him, He will bless us big-time!

ALTAR RESPONSE: (play soft music)

Pray that the kids will never choose to put money before God. Pray that they will choose to store up treasures in Heaven!



REWIND!

Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 3 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: “I’m Gonna Store Up Treasure In Heaven!”

2. What animal did Jesus mention in our Bible Story?

Answer: Camel

3. What do we call the young man who came to Jesus in our Bible Story?

Answer: Rich Young Ruler

4. What did the Rich Young Ruler ask Jesus?

Answer: “What Must I Do To Receive Eternal Life?”

5. How did the Rich Young Ruler respond when Jesus told him to sell his stuff?

Answer: He Walked Away Sad

6. Jesus said it was easier for a camel to get through the _____ than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom Of God.

Answer: Eye Of A Needle

7. According to our lesson today, “I Must Put God _____.”

Answer: First

8. According to our lesson today, “If God Has My _____, He Will Also Have My Stuff.”

Answer: Heart

9. According to our lesson today, “If I Obey, I Will Be _____.”

Answer: Blessed

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Matthew 6:21