

First Look | July 12

Today's Bible Story: The Parable of the Bags of Gold • Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

God's kingdom grows when you use what He's given you.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

1. Video on Jellyfin

Lead the children in worship to one song and then watch today's video lesson.

2. Pray

"Let's open up today in prayer. Dear God, thank You for giving us hands to help, feet to go, and mouths to speak kind words. Help us use what You have given us to grow Your kingdom. Show us how to love others the way You love us. Thank You for Jesus, who teaches us about Your kingdom. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."

3. Kingdom Builder Bag

What You Need:

- ☐ "Kingdom Builder Bag" Activity Page
- ☐ "Kingdom Builder Stickers" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery Labels #22807 or equivalent
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Kingdom Builder Bag" on cardstock, one per child. Print "Kingdom Builder Stickers" on Avery Labels #22807 or equivalent, one set per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their paper with crayons. Then, talk about the different stickers and how we can use our hands, feet, and mouths to help God's kingdom grow. Let them add the stickers to their bag.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Jesus teaches us that we can grow God's kingdom! In the story He told about the helpers and the bags of gold, Jesus taught us to use what we have to grow God's

kingdom. Let's make a special bag to remind us of all the ways we can help grow God's kingdom."

During the Activity: "First, you can color your bag. *(Allow time.)* Great! Now let's look at these stickers. This sticker shows hands helping. God gave us hands we can use to help! Let's put this sticker on your bag. *(Pause.)* This sticker shows a mouth singing. God gave us mouths to sing songs to Him! Let's put this sticker on your bag. This sticker shows feet walking. God gave us feet to go and tell people about Him! Let's put this sticker on your bag. *(Pause.)* Your Kingdom Builder Bags look super special! You can take these home to remember all the ways you can use what God gave you to make His kingdom grow."

After the Activity: "Remember, God made you wonderful and He gave you special gifts. You can use your gifts to share God's love wherever you go. Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"