

LESSON

MEMORY VERSE: “Your heart will be where your treasure is.” Luke 12:34

Often people like to collect things. Some people collect baseball cards or antiques or even salt and pepper shakers. I have a small collection of angel figurines. Do any of you have a collection? What have you gathered and saved that is special to you?

Sometimes people get so caught up in their collections that it becomes an obsession. That means it fills their mind and their heart and they have a hard time thinking about anything else. If I was so wrapped up in my collection of angels that I spent hundreds of dollars traveling places to find another figurine or hours and hours dusting and polishing them would that be a good thing? Does that sound like something God would be pleased with? Not so much, right? Today in our lesson we will discover that God does not want us to be so focused on our ‘stuff’. God wants us to be generous and give freely to the things that help others and build the kingdom of God. He does not want us to be selfish and think only of ourselves.

BIBLE STORY

Read Luke 12:32-34

“Don’t be afraid little flock, because your Father delights in giving you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves wallets that don’t wear out – a treasure in heaven that never runs out. No thief comes near there and no moth destroys. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (CEB)

The beginning of this chapter tells us that many thousands of people had gathered to hear Jesus teach. There were so many people that they were stepping on each other’s feet! They were asking questions and listening closely to what Jesus had to say.

Jesus told a story to help a man understand what is really valuable. Jesus wanted the people to understand how important it is not to be greedy and that having a lot of stuff isn’t what is most important.

Read Luke 12:13-21

Wow! This man had so much grain that his barns couldn’t hold it all. But, instead of sharing the extra with people who were hungry, the man decided to build bigger barns. He planned to keep all of the food for himself and take it easy for a few years. That very night the man died. God said he was foolish because all of the grain the man had thought was so valuable was no longer worth anything to him. Other people would eat the grain now. Jesus wanted the people to understand that He is the only thing that is really valuable.

There are lots of things that people think are valuable. Let’s look at some of them. Lots of people think money is valuable so let’s start with that. Some people like fancy cars. Some people like big houses. What about electronics like smart TV’s or video games? Shoes that are very expensive. Travel to exotic places. Gourmet foods with costly ingredients. Can you think of some other things that people think are valuable?

Wow! That’s quite a pile of stuff. But the problem with all of this is that none of it will last. The food gets eaten and you become hungry again. The travel is canceled because of illness (or COVID). The shoes are outgrown or wear out. The TV’s and video games break or become outdated. The house can crumble. The car can crash. The money can be lost. Hmmm, it doesn’t look like we are left with very much, are we? But we know Someone who will last forever. Who is that? That’s right! God has always been and He will always be ... forever and ever. All the other stuff we value like money and video games will go away but God will never go away. He is what is the most valuable of all.

BIBLE STORY CONTINUED

Re-read Luke 12:20-21

It wasn't wrong for the farmer to plan ahead for the harvest of his crops. However, the farmer made his riches the most important thing – more important than helping others and more important than God. Remember the things we enjoy here on earth are only things that will eventually break or go away.

Read Revelation 22:13

Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega. That means He is the beginning and the end. He is forever and nothing will ever destroy His value.

Our memory verse this week is **Luke 12:34**. "Your heart will always be where your treasure is." Let's work hard this week to love God more than ourselves and more than our stuff. Spend time praying, reading your Bible, and singing praises to God. Thank Him for all the beautiful things He has given us. Make sure that nothing is worth more to you than God and His Son, Jesus. Remember, people should value their relationship with Jesus more than they value their things.

ACTIVITY AND COLORING PAGES

TREASURE MAP

Explorers and pirates were known for using treasure maps to find what they were looking for. This treasure map guides you on a journey through the Bible looking at verses that talk about the most important treasure of all.

PUZZLE AND COLORING PAGES

We would love to see pictures or video of you working on today's lesson. Please feel free to post them to the First Light Kids page on Facebook.