


dwell®




# DIVE


Dear Family,


Believing that “every good and perfect gift is from above” (James 1:17), we will spend the next six weeks exploring ways in which we can, in gratitude, try to live as stewards of what God has given us. Our focus will include the stewardship of creation, time, talents (spiritual gifts), and treasure. Here’s a summary of what your young teen will be exploring in this *Dive* unit:


Session 1: It All Belongs to God—Psalm 24:1-2 (The whole world belongs to God.) 

Session 2: All Things Bright and Beautiful (Creation)—Psalm 8 (God created us to be stewards of the whole creation.) 

Session 3: Time—Matthew 6:25-34 (We should make good use of the time God gives us.) 

Session 4: Talents—Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (In gratitude for all the gifts God has given us, we want to use our talents and gifts for God’s glory.) 

Session 5: Treasure—Luke 12:13-33; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Matthew 6:19-24 (Our possessions are given to us to enjoy and to share.) 

Session 6: Stories of Stewardship—Acts 4:32-37; Acts 9:23-30; Acts 11:21-26; Acts 15:1-3, 36-41 (Stories from the life of Barnabas and Paul along with stories from your faith community.) 

## Pass It On

**Here are some ideas for how you might engage your child in a faith discussion or live out your faith together:**

- Read Psalm 24:1 and memorize it together (session 1).
- Decide together on one way your family could reduce, reuse, or recycle household items (session 2).
- Spend time together as a family and communicate with your young teen how much you enjoy being together (session 3).
- If you are familiar with spiritual gifts, share with your child what you think your gift is and how you use it; then affirm a spiritual gift you see in your child (session 4).
- As a family, go through the house and collect items that could be donated (session 5).

Sincerely,

## Memory Challenge Cards (NIV)

Copy these Scripture Memory Challenge cards onto cardstock, then cut them apart to distribute to the group at the end of the appropriate sessions. Consider punching a hole in each and attaching it to a key ring or small carabiner.



“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

—Matthew 6:19-24, NIV



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—Matthew 6:19-24, NRSV



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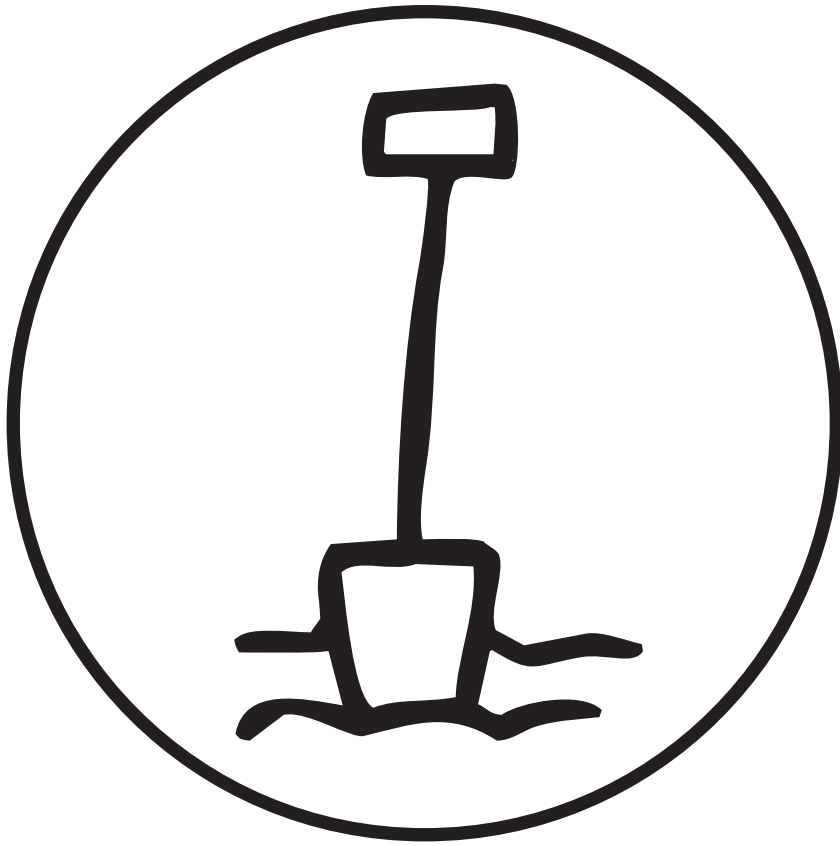
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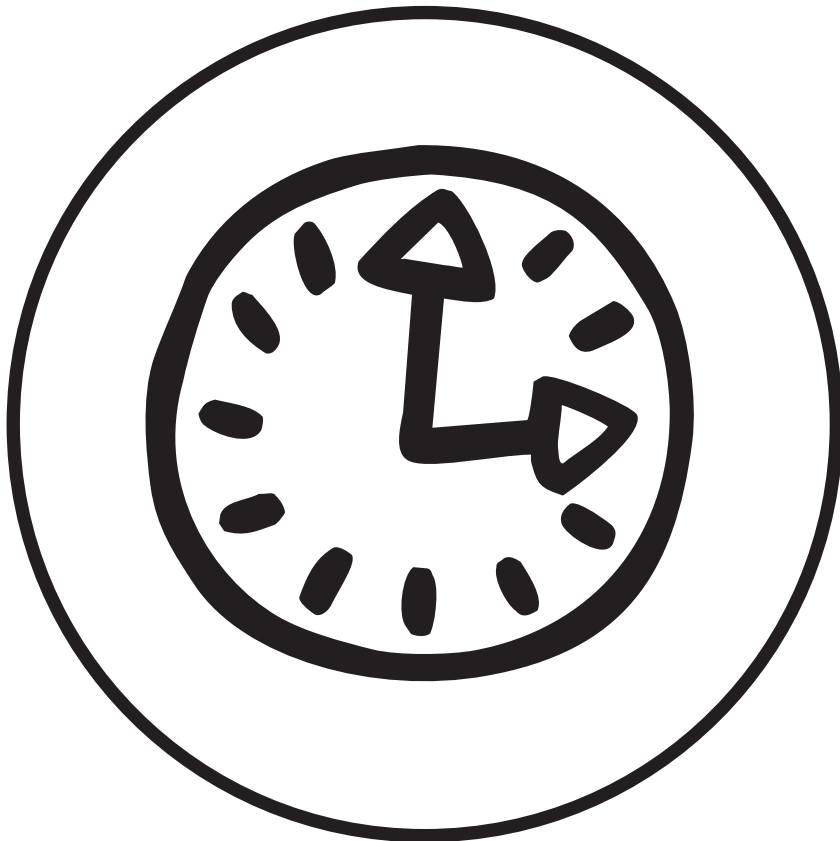
Year 3, Unit 4, Session 2



Year 3, Unit 4, Session 1



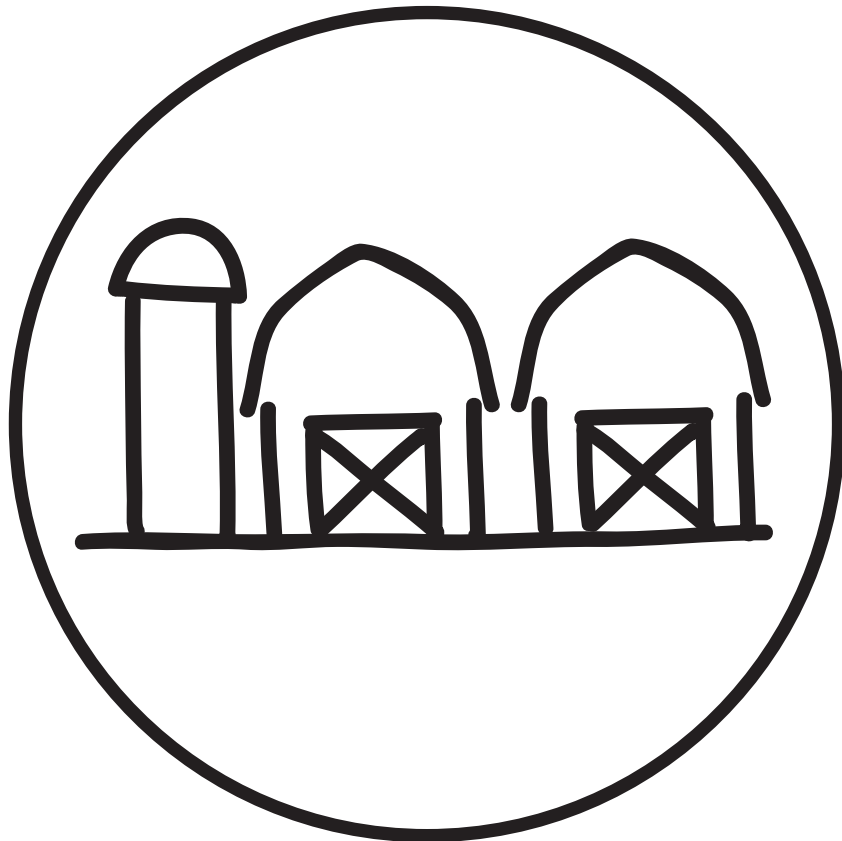
Year 3, Unit 4, Session 4



Year 3, Unit 4, Session 3



Year 3, Unit 4, Session 6



Year 3, Unit 4, Session 5

# Psalm 8 (NIV)

**Leader:**

LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Group One:**

You have set your glory in the heavens.

**Group Two:**

Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies,

**Group One:**

to silence the foe and the avenger.

**All:**

When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,

**Leader:**

what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?

**Group Two:**

You have made them a little lower than the angels

**Group One:**

and crowned them with glory and honor.

**Group Two:**

You made them rulers over the works of your hands;

**Group Two:**

you put everything under their feet:

**All:**

all flocks and herds,  
and the animals of the wild,  
the birds in the sky,  
the fish in the sea,  
all that swim the paths of the seas.

**Leader:**

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

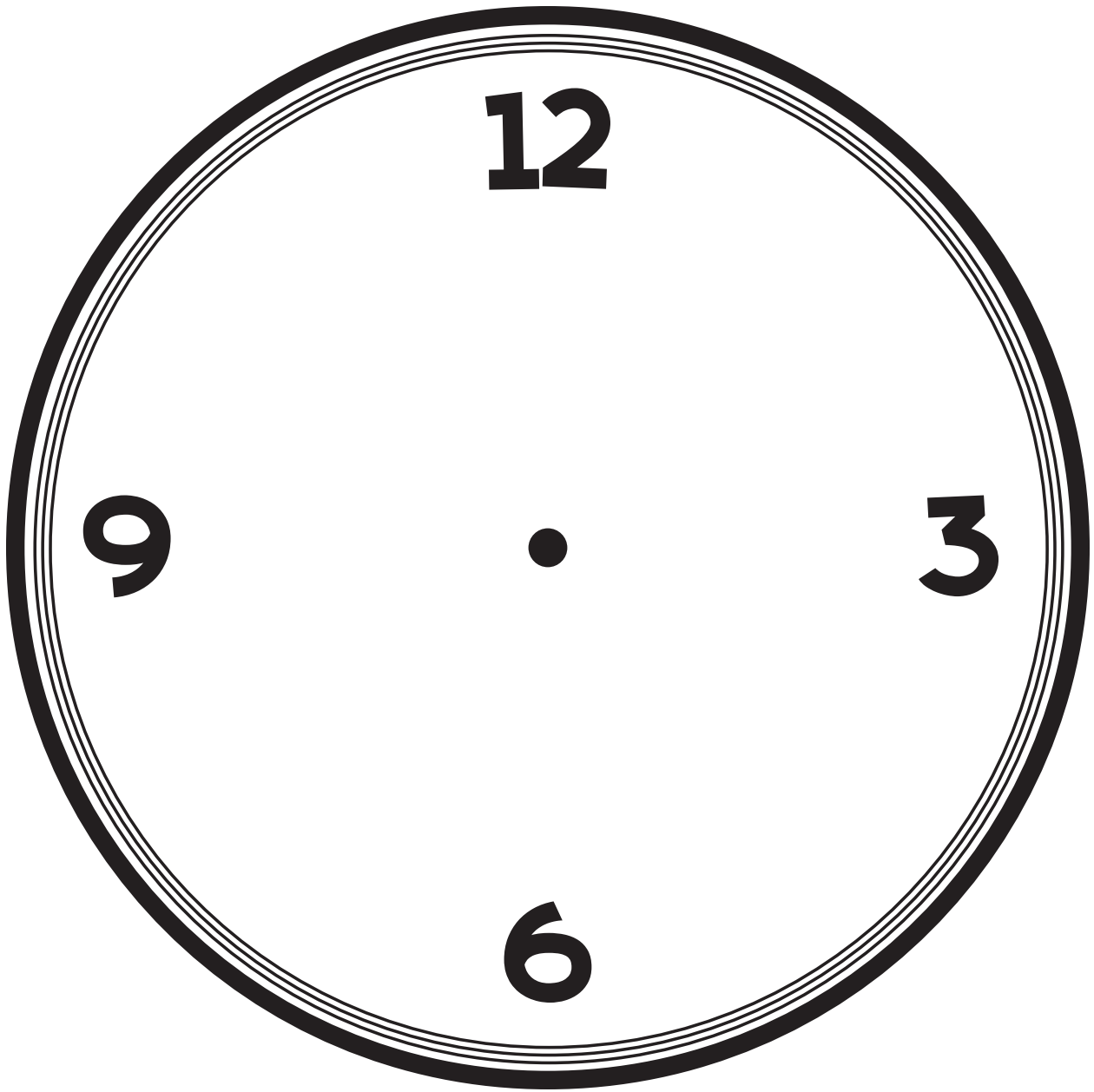
# You Can Make a Difference!

Read the following list of things you can do to help care for God's world. In the empty space, add your own ideas. Check the items that you will try to do more often.

- Be happy with less.
- Plant flowers or a tree.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Use washable rags, not paper towels, to mop up spills.
- Take short showers (less than five minutes).
- Recycle aluminum, glass, plastic, and paper.
- Don't litter.
- Pick up litter when you see it around the yard or at school.
- Use real cups instead of paper or Styrofoam cups.
- Go through your closets and drawers and give unwanted clothing to charities.
- Start a garden. Use natural instead of chemical fertilizers.
- Reuse paper and plastic bags.
- Ride a bicycle or walk to places when possible.
- Buy products that have the least amount of packaging.
- Turn off lights, the TV, and the computer when leaving the room.
- Talk to a deacon about helping to start a recycling system at church.
- During cold weather, wear warmer clothes instead of turning up the heat.
- During hot weather, open windows to avoid using the air conditioner.
- Check the faucets in your house for drips.
- Eat at take-away restaurants that use paper, not Styrofoam, packaging.
- Use public transportation whenever possible.
- Write on both sides of notebook paper.
- Encourage your parents to keep the car tuned up and tires properly inflated to increase gas mileage.
- Eat *all* your lunch—don't waste food.
- Other idea:
- Other idea:
- Other idea:

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(signed)



**1:00**

I tell you, do not worry.

**2:00**

Don't worry about your life and what you will eat or drink.

**3:00**

And don't worry about your body and what you will wear.

**4:00**

Isn't there more to life than eating? Aren't there more important things for the body than clothes?

**5:00**

Look at the birds of the air. They don't plant or gather crops. They don't put away crops in storerooms. But your Father who is in heaven feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than they are?

**6:00**

Can you add even one hour to your life by worrying?

**7:00**

And why do you worry about clothes? See how the wild flowers grow. They don't work or make clothing. But here is what I tell you. Not even Solomon in all of his glory was dressed like one of those flowers.

**8:00**

If that is how God dresses the wild grass, won't he dress you even better? After all, the grass is here only today. Tomorrow it is thrown into the fire. Your faith is so small!

**9:00**

So don't worry. Don't say, "What will we eat?" Or, "What will we drink?" Or, "What will we wear?"

People who are ungodly run after all of those things. Your Father who is in heaven knows that you need them.

**10:00**

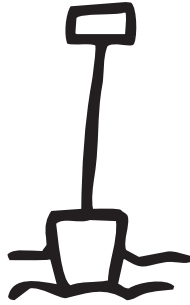
But put God's kingdom first.

**11:00**

Do what he wants you to do. Then all of those things will also be given to you.

**12:00**

So don't worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.



**Instructions:** Go around in a circle as each person in your group reads a phrase aloud (continuing around the circle until all the verses are read).

Then, read the verses again and underline or circle phrases that you can share with the other group as you teach them what you've learned about spiritual gifts.

What are spiritual gifts? Why are they given? Who gives them? What are some examples of spiritual gifts?

## 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11 (NiRV)

Brothers and sisters, I want you to know about the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of gifts. But they are all given by the same Spirit.

There are different ways to serve. But they all come from the same Lord.

There are different ways to work. But the same God makes it possible  
for all of us to have all those different things.

The Holy Spirit is given to each of us in a special way. That is for the good of all.

To some people the Spirit gives the message of wisdom.

To others the same Spirit gives the message of knowledge.

To others the same Spirit gives faith.

To others that one Spirit gives gifts of healing.

To others he gives the power to do miracles.

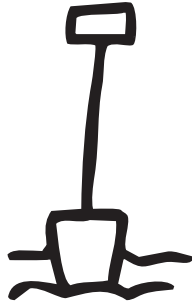
To others he gives the ability to prophesy.

To others he gives the ability to tell the spirits apart.

To others he gives the ability to speak in different kinds of languages  
they had not known before. And to still others he gives the ability to explain  
what was said in those languages.

All of the gifts are produced by one and the same Spirit.

[The Spirit] gives them to each person, just as he decides.



**Instructions:** Go around in a circle as each person in your group reads a phrase aloud (continuing around the circle until all the verses are read).

Then, read the verses again and underline phrases that you can share with the other group as you teach them what you've learned about spiritual gifts.

Who has spiritual gifts? Does everybody have the same gift? What are some examples of spiritual gifts? What do you think is the purpose of spiritual gifts? Etc.

## Romans 12:6-8 (NIRV)

We all have gifts.

They differ in keeping with the grace that God has given each of us.

Do you have the gift of prophecy? Then use it in keeping with the faith you have.

Is it your gift to serve? Then serve.

Is it teaching? Then teach.

Is it telling others how they should live? Then tell them.

Is it giving to those who are in need? Then give freely.

Is it being a leader? Then work hard at it.

Is it showing mercy? Then do it cheerfully.

## **PROPHESYING**

- ROMANS 12:6

## **SERVING**

- ROMANS 12:7

## **TEACHING**

- ROMANS 12:7

## **ENCOURAGING OTHERS**

- ROMANS 12:8

## **CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS**

- ROMANS 12:8, 13

## **LEADERSHIP**

- ROMANS 12:8

## **SHOWING MERCY**

- ROMANS 12:8

## **SHOWING KINDNESS AND COMPASSION**

- ROMANS 12:9-10

## **PRAYER**

- ROMANS 12:12

## **HOSPITALITY**

- ROMANS 12:13

## **BEING A PEACEMAKER**

- ROMANS 12:16, 18

## **REPAYING EVIL WITH GOOD**

- ROMANS 12:17, 20-21

**ANNA**

- LUKE 2:36

**JESUS**

- JOHN 13:4-5, 12-17

**PRISCILLA AND  
AQUILA**

- ACTS 18:26

**BARNABAS**

- ACTS 4:36

**JOANNA**

- LUKE 8:3

**PETER**

- GALATIANS 2:7-9

**TABITHA**

- ACTS 9:36, 39

**EPAPHRODITUS**

- PHILIPPIANS 2:25

**EPAPHRAS**

- COLOSSIANS 4:12

**MARTHA**

- LUKE 10:38

**PAUL**

- 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10; PHILIPPIANS 4:2

**STEPHEN**

- ACTS 7:59-60

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #1

“Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.” (Luke 12:15, NiRV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #2

“That is how it will be for anyone who stores things away for himself but is not rich in God’s eyes.” (Luke 12:21; NiRV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #3

“Do not put away riches for yourselves on earth. Moths and rust can destroy them. Thieves can break in and steal them. Instead, put away riches for yourselves in heaven. There, moths and rust do not destroy them. There, thieves do not break in and steal them. Your heart will be where your riches are.” (Matthew 6:19-21, NiRV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #4

“The eye is like a lamp for the body. Suppose your eyes are good. Then your whole body will be full of light. But suppose your eyes are bad. Then your whole body will be full of darkness. If the light inside you is darkness, then it is very dark! No one can serve two masters at the same time. He will hate one of them and love the other. Or he will be faithful to one and dislike the other. You can’t serve God and Money at the same time.” (Matthew 6:22-24; NiRV)

**Clue:** Return to the starting point – as fast as you can!

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #1

“Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” (Luke 12:15, NRSV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #2

“So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:21, NRSV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #3

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21, NRSV)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #4

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” (Matthew 6:22-24, NRSV)

**Clue:** Return to the starting point – as fast as you can!

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #1

“Take care! Protect yourself against the least bit of greed. Life is not defined by what you have, even when you have a lot.” (Luke 12:15, *The Message*)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #2

“That’s what happens when you fill your barn with Self and not with God.” (Luke 12:21, *The Message*)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #3

“Don’t hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or—worse!--stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it’s safe from moth and rust and burglars. It’s obvious, isn’t it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.” (Matthew 6:19-21, *The Message*)

**Clue:**

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## Treasure Hunt Verse #4

“Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light. If you live squinty-eyed in greed and distrust, your body is a dank cellar. If you pull the blinds on your windows, what a dark life you will have! You can’t worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you’ll end up hating the other. Adoration of one feeds contempt for the other. You can’t worship God and Money both.” (Matthew 6:22-24, *The Message*)

**Clue:** Return to the starting point – as fast as you can!

# A Rich Man Loses It

Based on Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:19-21, 24

## CHARACTERS

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Rich Man  
(wearing sunglasses)

Jesus

**Narrator 1:** This is like a story Jesus once told.

**Narrator 2:** There once was a guy with lots of money.

**Rich Man:** I'm really rich. (*pats himself on the back*)

**Narrator 1:** Everything he did just seemed to make him richer.

**Rich Man:** I'm really, really rich. (*put thumbs up*)

**Narrator 2:** He developed an "app," and it sold five million copies in the first few weeks.

**Rich Man:** I'm so awesome! (*does a little dance in a circle*)

**Narrator 1:** He bought a football team, and they won the Super Bowl!

**Rich Man:** No one can beat me. (*flexes his arms*)

**Narrator 2:** Finally he had so much stuff and so much money that he couldn't find places to keep it all.

**Rich Man:** I have like, fifteen cars. I need bigger garages. I need bigger closets for all my clothes. And hey, I need bigger rooms in my house. Maybe I could build an underground bowling alley!

**Narrator 1:** So the man added nine stalls to his garage and fifteen rooms onto his mansion. He was so rich that he didn't need to work anymore, so all he did was sit by his super-size infinity pool.

**Rich Man:** I'm so rich! I'm so awesome! I think I'll just sit here and take it easy for the rest of my life. I think I'll ignore the rest of the world. It's all about ME! (*sits down and clasps hands behind his head*)

**Narrator 2:** But that very night the man died.

**Narrator 1:** When Jesus finished telling the story, he said this:

**Jesus:** That's how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself on earth but is not rich toward God. You can't serve both God and money. Where your treasure is, that's where your heart is too.

**clothes or shoes**

**music**

**movies or video games**

**books/ebooks**

**entertainment (movies,  
concerts, sporting events)**

**junk food**

**recreation  
(bowling, swimming, skiing)**

**toys or games**

**donations to the church or  
other charitable organization**

**gifts for friends or family**

**into savings account for  
college or going  
on a mission trip**

**into savings account for  
a big item I want to  
buy later**

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**God created us to be  
stewards of the whole  
creation.**

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**We should make good  
use of the time God  
gives us.**

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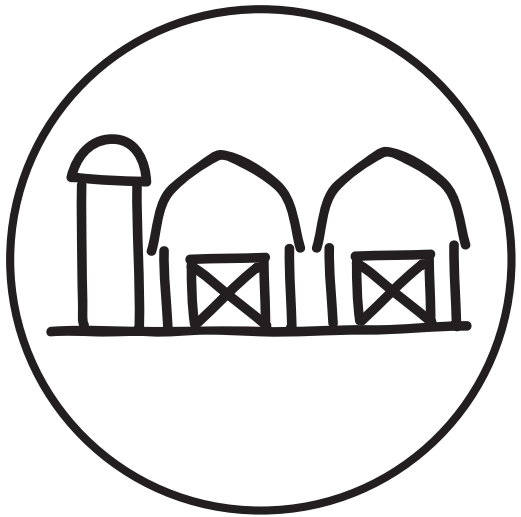
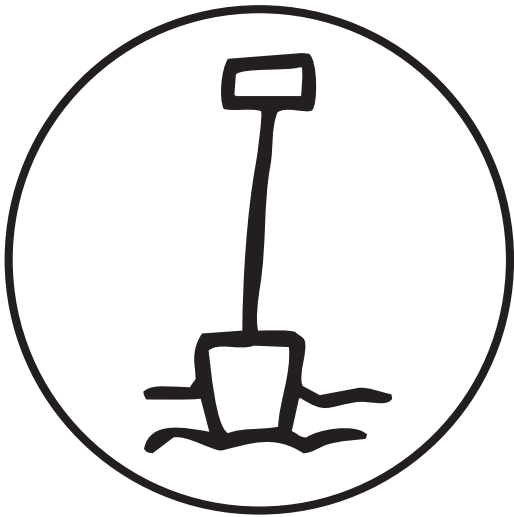
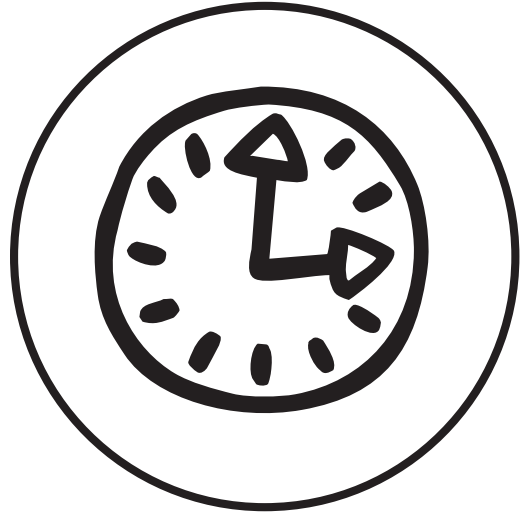
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**In gratitude for all the  
gifts God has given  
us, we want to use our  
talents and gifts for  
God's glory.**

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**Our possessions are  
given to us to enjoy  
and to share.**

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**Year 1**

**Unit 1** What Do I Do When Things Fall Apart?

**Unit 2** What's the Covenant All About?

**Unit 3** Who Is God?

**Unit 4** Who Is Jesus?

**Unit 5** Who Is the Holy Spirit?

**Unit 6** What Is the Church?

**Year 2**

**Unit 1** What Is Being a Christian All About?

**Unit 2** What's with All the Rules?

**Unit 3** Can't We All Just Get Along?

**Unit 4** Who's Number 1?

**Unit 5** Does What I Do Make a Difference?

**Unit 6** What Do I Say When I Pray?

**Year 3**

**Unit 1** Worship

**Unit 2** Justice

**Unit 3** Prayer

**Unit 4** Stewardship

**Unit 5** Bible Reading

**Unit 6** Missional Living

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