



Life of Christ

The story of the treasure and the pearl

Matt. 13:44-45

Younger Verse

The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:23

Older Verse

The punishment of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

Lesson Goals

To understand why a person should become a Christian
To see how precious we are to God and how much He wants us to love Him

Welcome Time

Have you ever found something that wasn't yours? What happened? (wait for a variety of stories) Explain that today's lesson is a story Jesus told about special treasures that were found.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Preschool

Teachers:

Small children will not fully understand this lesson. Please have fun and share how Heaven is like a beautiful treasure and a great

Lots of people wonder why it is so important to be a Christian. Some think that they can become a Christian later. Others think that everyone will go to Heaven. Have you ever looked in the Bible to see what it says about why a person should be a Christian?

Jesus told a story to help us see what Heaven is like and why we should want to go there. Let's read the story and think about what it means.

Jesus said Heaven is like a treasure that is hidden in a field. One day a man is walking by the field and finds it. He is so excited! He can't believe what he has found. It's a miracle! He buries the treasure again and finds out who owns the field. He sells everything he owns to buy the field because he knows that it has treasure in it. He knows that this treasure is better than anything else in the whole world.

Jesus told another story too. Let's read it, then we'll talk about what the two stories mean.

Jesus told a story about a salesperson. This person was looking for the best pearls in the whole world. Do you know what a pearl looks like? (show a picture if they don't know) He had been searching everywhere to find a pearl that was the most beautiful pearl in the world. One day as he was buying and selling jewelry, he found it! He saw the most beautiful pearl in the whole world! He was so excited. He went and sold everything he had to buy that one pearl because he knew that it was the biggest and the best.

Why did Jesus tell those stories? He told them so we can understand what Heaven is like and understand that the only way to get there is through Jesus.

What were the two people in the story trying to find? (treasure and a pearl) What was so important about it? (It was the biggest and the best) When the people found the



items, what did they do? (They sold everything they had to buy them)

Jesus is trying to explain that Heaven is the best place a person can ever be. It's like the biggest treasure or the best pearl in the world. God is there and we can be with Him forever. Why would we want to be with God forever? Well, God loves us and wants to spend time with us. Heaven is a place where we can be with God and show Him how much we love Him.

Lots of people think that everyone goes to Heaven. Guess what? The Bible tells us that there is a way for people to go to Heaven. It is by believing in Jesus and trusting Him. Like we talked about last week, it is not about knowing who He is; it is about having a friendship with Jesus every day.

So what does a treasure and pearl have to do with God? God loves us so much that He gave the very best thing He had to us, so that we could come to Heaven if we believe in Him. Do you know what it is? Jesus! God loved us so much that He gave us His only Son, Jesus. Jesus knew that there was only ONE way for us to get to Heaven. It wasn't by being good or just living a good life. Jesus is the ladder that can help us get to Heaven. He died on a cross for all OUR bad things that we have done. Then 3 days later, He came back to life. Because He died and came back to life, we can go to Heaven and be with God—if we trust Jesus. We can't get to Heaven without our ladder, Jesus. If you want to know more, please talk to me about it during activity time.

What did you learn? Why should a person become a Christian? (wait for answers) (Teachers: if students still do not understand, try explaining why you wanted to be a Christian.)

This would be a fun lesson to dramatize. Have fun and help the kids learn the reason for the lesson—Heaven is the best place to be.

Learning Activities

Make a gift box and write the verse on it. Encourage the children to take the box home and remember the lesson.

Memory Verse Activities

This may be a special week when a child asks you how to become a Christian. Be sensitive. You may want to share how they can become a Christian as you circle up to pray. Please encourage the kids to share this good news with you.

Prayer Time

Make treasure sandwiches (bread and butter, sprinkled with pretty colored sugar sprinkles) or pearl cookies (sugar cookies rolled into balls). Or share fun snacks from the Mission. Spend time with them and laugh with them.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Planning for February 15th
Can Jesus ever leave us?
The Lost sheep
Luke 15:1-10