

## Sunday Teacher's Lesson for children

# Life of Christ

## The story of 3 Men

## Matthew 25:14-29

### Younger Verse

This is love for God: to obey His commands. 1st John 5:3

### Older Verse

This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not hard. 1st John 5:3

### Welcome Time

Ask each child this question, "If someone let you borrow money and give it back later, what would you do with it?" "Let's listen to see what happened to 3 people that were given money."

### 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.*

Jesus told His friends stories to help them learn important lessons. This is one of the stories Jesus told.

Once there was a very rich man who owned a large house and lots of land. He had many servants to help him take care of his property.

One day he told his servants that he was leaving town on a long trip. He chose 3 workers to be in charge of his money.

He gave the first worker 5 talents. That is equal to about 5 thousand dollars! The rich man gave the second worker 2 talents. That is equal to about 2 thousand dollars. Then the man gave the third worker 1 talent. That is equal to about 1 thousand dollars.

The master left on his trip and trusted the servants to use his money in a smart way—to earn more money for him.

Soon the first servant began to find ways to put that money to work for the man. Little by little the servant used the five talents to earn more money. Finally the money doubled into 10 talents.

At the same time the servant with the 2 talents worked and worked to earn more money for his master. He doubled his money too. He had 4 talents.

The third servant was afraid that he would lose the 1 talent that the rich man gave him. He made the decision to hide the money so that he would not have to worry about what the rich man would say. He dug a hole in the ground and buried the money in a secret hiding place. So, the third servant did not do any work and he did not earn any extra money for his master.

### Lesson Goals

Think of some special things that you can do—abilities that God gave you  
Share how important it is to do your best because Jesus gave His best for us

Finally, one day the rich man came back from his trip. He eagerly called the three servants into his office to see what they had earned for him.

The man with the 5 talents said, "Here sir. You gave me 5 talents and I have earned 5 more."

"You have done a good job!" the rich man said, "You are a worker that I can trust. I will put you in charge of much more because I know that I can trust you."

Next, the worker with the 2 talents said, "Here are the 2 talents you gave me. I have also earned 2 more talents."

"You have done a good job!" the rich man said, "You are a worker that I can trust. I will put you in charge of much more because I know that I can trust you."

Finally the third worker spoke up. He carefully brought the rich man the 1 talent that was given to him. He said, "I was afraid this 1 talent might get lost or stolen. Then you would have been angry with me. So I decided to dig a hole and hide the talent to keep it safe."

"What!" the rich man angrily said. "You could have at least put the money in the bank to earn interest instead of doing nothing!"

The rich man took the money and gave it to the first worker because he did what the master asked.

A lesson we can learn is the importance of doing your best and helping others. Jesus wants us to be like Him and show His love to others. In Jesus' life, He did His best and tried to help others. He did this because He loved us and wanted us to go to Heaven and be with God. The only way we can go to Heaven is by believing in Jesus and trusting Him. Would you like to know more? Let's talk during snack time.

**Learning Activities**

Help your kids see how they can apply the lesson to their lives.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Play balloon volleyball and bounce the balloon back and forth. As the team hits the balloon, they have to say one word of the verse.

**Prayer Time**

Ask each person to pray that they will use their abilities to help someone this week. Also, pray out loud that we will do kind things for others this week.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Bring trash bags and a vacuum cleaner to clean your facility. Make sure it is beautiful!

Planning for Nov. 23rd  
The Sheep and Goats  
Matthew 25:31-45

Preschool Lesson  
for  
The Story of 3 Men

(Bring 15 coins to help illustrate the story. Be careful! Little toddlers may try to eat them!)

(We are using pennies for talents so they can visualize the story. Remember that kids this young do not have a concept of money and how much things cost. They can see which is more and which is less.)

Jesus told His friends a story to help them see how important it is to do good things for others.

Once upon a time there was a rich man who owned a large house. He had many workers who helped take care of everything he had.

One day he told 3 of his workers that he was going on a long trip. He picked these 3 to be in charge of his money.

He gave the 1st worker 5 pennies. (Count to 5) He gave the 2nd worker 2 pennies. (Count to 2) He gave the 3rd worker 1 penny. (Hold up your index finger.)

The man left on his trip and told the workers to help him get more money.

The 1st worker worked hard and made 5 more pennies. Now he had 10 pennies. (Count to 10)

The 2nd worker worked hard and made 2 more pennies. Now he had 4 pennies. (Count to 4)

The 3rd worker was afraid he would lose the money so he buried it in the dirt.

When the man returned from his trip, He quickly went to find the 3 workers. The 1st worker showed him the 10 pennies. The man was so proud!

The 2nd worker show him the 4 pennies. He was glad about what he had done!

Then the 3rd worker brought back the 1 penny. The man was very sad because the man didn't obey him. He wanted him to help make more money and the man just buried the money. He gave the money to the 1st worker.

Jesus shared this story so that we would remember to always do our best and help others. He also wants us to remember to obey Him and do what He says.

Hands-on Activities  
for  
The Story of 3 Men

Make little bags of money using cloth, napkins or paper towels and tied with ribbon or string. Use pennies for the 3 types of people.

Let each person cut out the first letter of their name from a piece of paper. Write on the paper things you enjoy doing or that you are good at doing. Now, let the person cut the letter into puzzle pieces for someone else to solve. Let each person guess who the person is (if appropriate).

What are you good at? Have a fun talent show and let the kids share their talents. Be sure everyone is positive and uplifting. One of the apartments did this and had great success!

Bring a box of sand or packing peanuts. Hide 1 coin in it to try to find!

Bring different activities to encourage the kids to use their abilities—paint, play dough, puzzles, books, songs to sing, etc. If the kids do paper projects, showcase them by binding them in a book—we have a binding machine!

Talk to the older students about which person they think they are: 5 talent, 2 talent, or 1 talent person. Talk about how they could use their gifts/abilities to please God. Talk about how to make good decisions.

Bring Chocolate Coins to eat as a snack!