

Q10

LIFE OF JESUS

The Parable Of The Talents

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Lesson Overview

Today, we're going to talk about a parable. A parable is just a fancy word for a story. Jesus used parables to teach people important lessons. In this parable, Jesus wanted to teach the people not to waste their God given talents and abilities. In the story, Jesus talked about a really rich guy who gave 3 of his servants differing amounts of money to take care of while he was away. The first guy was given the most and he worked hard and doubled the money. The second guy was given a little less but he also worked hard and doubled the money. The third guy was given the least and he did nothing with the money. In fact, he just dug a hole and hid it. When the rich guy returned, he was so proud of the first two guys for using the money to make more money. But, he was angry at the third guy who did nothing. Here's the point, God gives each of us talents and abilities and he wants us to use them. He wants us to work hard to get better at those things. But, more importantly, he wants us to use them to help others and to honor him.

Big Idea

Jesus wants us to use our talents, not bury them

Key Question

Why does God give each of us talents?

Memory Verse

Matthew 25:29 "To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Share a talent you have. How did you get good at that thing?** (Tip: God gives us all special talents and abilities and he wants us to work hard to get better at them.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Because he wants to use us to bring others to him.** (God makes some of us super smart and others great athletes or talented artists. Whatever it is, God wants us to use those talents to bring others to know him. So, if you're a great athlete, don't bring attention to yourself. Bring honor to God in your attitude and effort and tell your friends that God gave you the abilities you have. And, use your platform to share Jesus with others.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What does Jesus want us to do with our talents? Share how a person could hide a talent.
4th-5th How can you use your talents to honor God?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read 1 Corinthians 12:18-21. Why do you think God gives each of us different talents? What would happen if we were all great at the same thing?** (Answer: In the passage, Paul is relating our talents to body parts. If we were all good at the same thing, then we'd be a body with only an eye or a hand. But, we all know that a body can't work without the different parts working together. Each part has a part to play. God has unique plans for each of us, and a special role to play in his family.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: DON'T WASTE YOUR TALENTS CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Money Bag template (page 5).
- Have kids color and decorate their money bag. Then have them glue the phrase to the top of the bag and the verse at the bottom.
- As they work, review the story from Matthew 25:14-30. Also, remind the kids that God has given them special talents and abilities and they should use them, not waste them.

Supplies needed: Money Bag template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Crayons, Glue

OPTION 2: DON'T HIDE YOUR TALENTS GAME

Instructions:

- Before class, hide the Coins (page 6-7) throughout the classroom.
- When you say, "Go!" Have kids race to find all the coins in the room. Then have kids take turns reading the talent on their coin. As a class, come up with ways that they can use each talent to honor God.

Supplies needed: Coins template (pg. 6-7, pre cut, 1 set per class)

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Memory Verse

Matthew 25:29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance.

The story starts with a rich man who is going on a long journey. He gathers together three of his servants and asks them to watch over his money while he's gone. He gives one servant five bags of money, the next servant two bags of money, and the last servant only gets one bag of money.

When the rich guy came home he gathered the servants again to talk about his money. When he found out the first guy doubled his money he was really happy and he gave him more responsibilities. Then the next guy told him he earned two more bags of money by working really hard. He was happy with him, too, and gave him more responsibilities. Then the last guy told him he had just buried the money because he didn't want to lose it. This made the rich guy really mad and he told him he was lazy and didn't deserve the money, so he gave it to the first guy.

God Gives Everyone Different Kinds of _____

Did you notice how everyone in the story received a different amount of money? It's the same with us and the talents God gives to us. Some people will be really smart, some people will be really strong, and some people will be really nice. Those are all different talents that God gives to different people. But they are all really important! Don't compare your talents to other people, just use whatever talent you are given.

Jesus Wants Us to _____ Our Talents, Not _____ Them

Remember the guy that buried his money? Well, he ended up getting it taken away because he didn't use it. Let's take a look at the Bible to see what Jesus said about using your talents. Memory verse!

Matthew 25:29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance.

Answers: Talents, Grow, Use, Bury **Parent Signature:** _____

Questions:

1. What happened to the guy who just buried the money?
2. How can you use your talents to help others?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:18-21. Why do you think God gives each of us different talents? What would happen if we were all great at the same thing? How can we use our talents to honor God?
4. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture.

JESUS WANTS US TO USE OUR TALENTS, NOT BURY THEM

Key Question

Why does God give each of us talents?

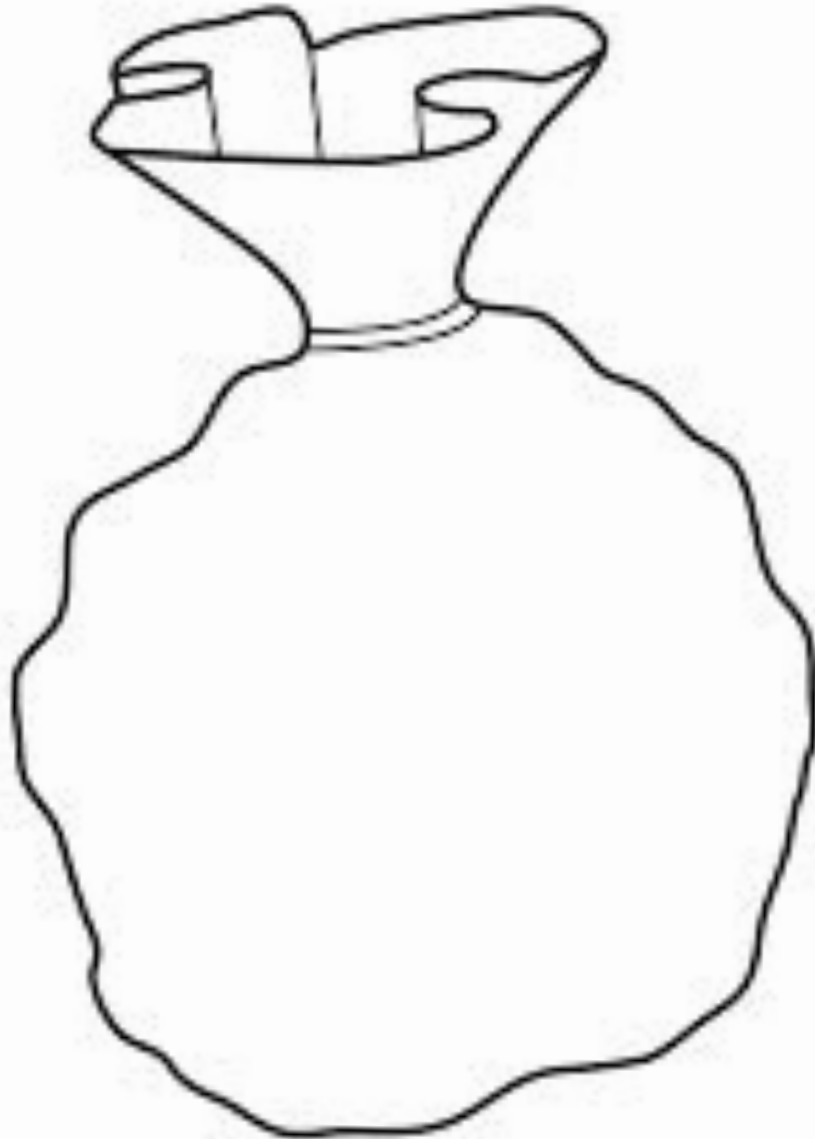
Memory Verse

Matthew 25:29 "To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



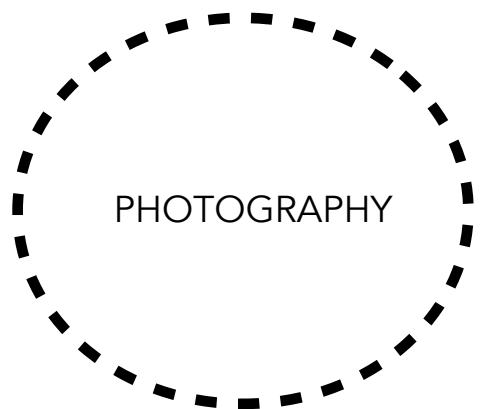
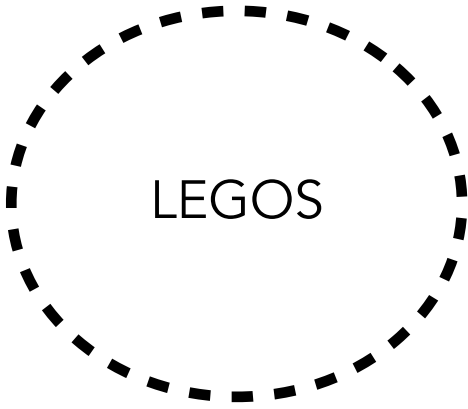
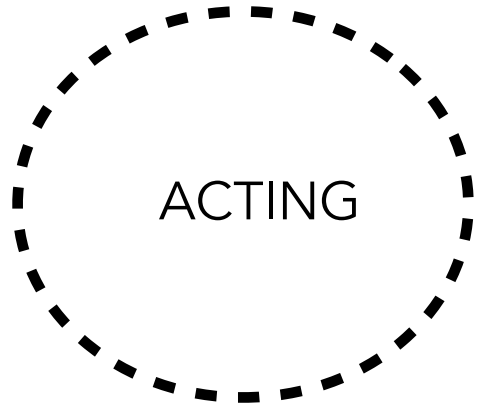
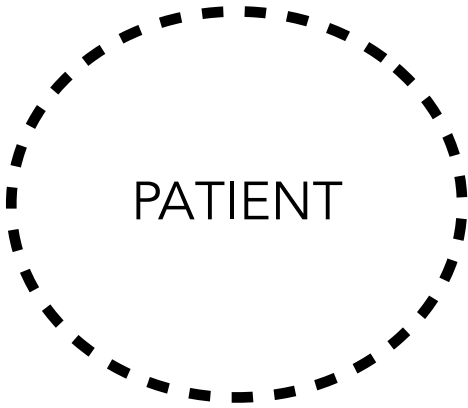
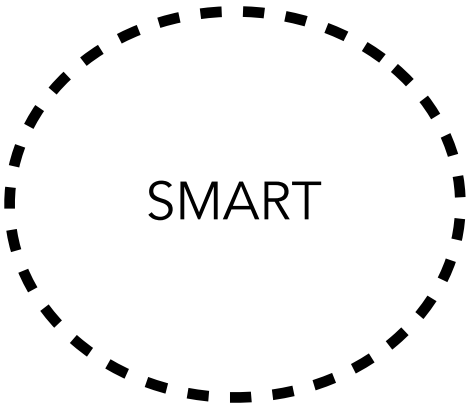
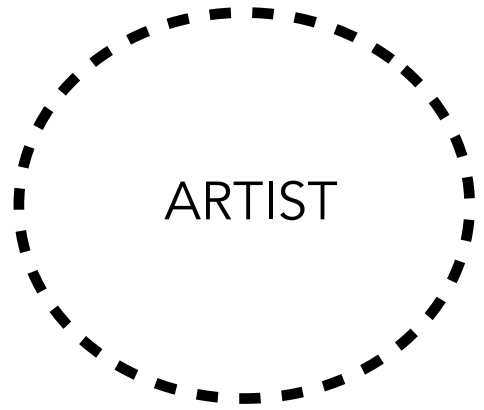
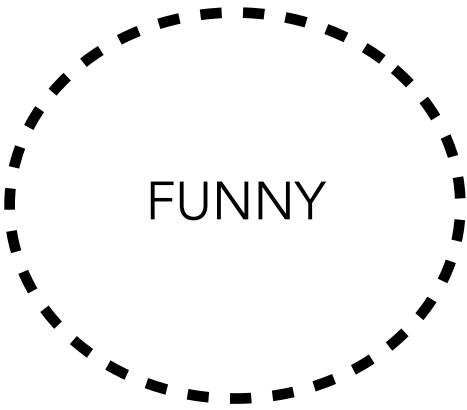


Matthew 25:29 "To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

JESUS WANTS YOU TO USE YOUR TALENTS,
NOT BURY THEM!



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