



Kindergarten-2nd

February 23-24, 2013

DATE

Matthew 13:44-45
(pg. 1139 in NIV Adventure Bible for Early Readers)

WHERE TO FIND IT

The Kingdom of Heaven

LESSON TITLE

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure—
and worth more than *anything*.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Hang out with kids (10 minutes)
Large Group (30 minutes)
Small Group (20 minutes)
Video and song review (10 minutes)

tips

Engage kids in a specific activity from the moment they walk into the door. Help them find something to color, build, or pretend. This will help each kid feel valued and included...especially, if they are a little nervous.

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to retell today's story using their story bag!

large group heads up

The Kingdom of Heaven can be tough to understand, so Jesus told us some stories about it. Today, we'll talk about one of those!



instructions

Goal: to equip and encourage kids to retell the story at home

Why? Not only does re-teaching indicate that kids have fully grasped a concept, but this could spark great discussions about the Kingdom of Heaven at home.

Tips: Make retelling the story fun. Have kids practice with each other. You could even act it out and use the props from the story bag!

QUESTIONS

CONNECT

1. Tell me your name and if you've ever discovered something that made you really excited. If so, share what it was! (It can be a Christmas present, a thing covered by a messy room, something outdoors, etc)

REVIEW

2. Today, we talked about a story Jesus told us about of the Kingdom of Heaven. What is the Kingdom of Heaven? (It's wherever God is King! It is even in each of us if we follow him.)

3. Let's review the verse we learned today: Matthew 13:44: **The kingdom of heaven is like treasure that was hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again. He was very happy. So he went and sold everything he had. And he bought that field.**

- a. Say it together first. Break it into smaller, repeatable phrases for the kids.

(Continue on the next page!)

ACTIVITY

You are each going to get the objects we used today. You'll put them in a little story bag to help you retell the story at home. Be sure to share it with your families!

Write the name of each kid on s story bag sticker.

As you pass out the items, help kids retell it again.

1. Jesus told us a story about the Kingdom of Heaven—that's wherever GOD is KING (*pass out the crown*)
2. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure. (*pass out the jewel*)
3. It was hidden in a field. (*pass out the piece of brown felt, encourage kids to cover the jewel with it*)
4. When a man found it, he hid it again. He was very happy! (*pass out smiley face ring*)
5. So he went and sold everything he had. And he bought that field (*pass out the piece of gold coin*)

QUESTIONS

- b. Say the verse together as you hold up each item in the story bag at the appropriate time (do NOT tell kids yet that they will each get the items!):
- c. **The kingdom of heaven** (*hold up crown*) **is like treasure** (*hold up jewel*) **that was hidden in a field** (*hold up brown felt*). **When a man found it, he hid it again. He was very happy** (*hold up smiley face*). **So he went and sold everything he had** (*hold up money*). **And he bought that field.**
- d. Ask if somebody (or a couple of people) can try it using the objects that you just used. Let a few kids try it.

4. ****GO TO ACTIVITY**

5. If you were that man, would you be willing to sell everything in order to get that hidden treasure and be a part of God's Kingdom? Why or why not?
6. What are some ways we can treat God as King this week? (Help the kids think of practical and personal ways they can help members of their families, friends, or people in need; obey their parents; pray for others, etc. Share a kid-friendly way you plan to make Jesus King, too!)
7. How does it make you feel to think that God views US as precious treasure too?

****Pray together, asking Jesus to help you all treat God as King and remember how special it is that we can be a part of his family!**

ACTIVITY

(Continue on the next page!)

Remind kids that we are also God's special treasure and he gave up his own Son to bring us close to him!

LARGE group

special notes

Before you get started, **hide the box of jewels somewhere in the room!** Use your discretion to decide how difficult or easy it should be—or if you have a rowdy group and want to place it somewhere kids can see it without getting up out of their seats, that's great, too!

*Adapt it to fit your kids and presentation style....*Just try to make it tricky enough that the kids have to try to find it!*

presenter tips

Are you losing their attention? Try sitting on the edge of the stage or walking in the crowd. Sometimes all you need is a little movement to get kids to focus.

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Hey everybody! Hope you're having a great day! I'm so excited to see you all in Kids' Club. Before we get started today, I want you to picture what it would be like to discover an amazing treasure! Believe it or not, there is a **box of jewels** hidden...somewhere in this room! **On the count of three, you guys can get up and look for it.** Leaders, help them out!

ONE. TWO. THREE! (Let kids look for the box of jewels. Once somebody finds it, take the box of jewels from them and call everybody back; instruct them to sit down. Put the box in the center of your presentation space.)

Great job! How many of you guys would love to actually find some hidden treasure? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, me too! Well, today, we're going to hear about some hidden treasure that we ALL can find.

REVIEW

Remember, we've been talking about Jesus' life on earth. And while he was on earth, people were starting to follow him. He was teaching us how to love others, because he was always helping people and healing people and fixing what was broken. And soon he would do the most loving thing EVER—rescue us from all the wrong things in the world!

GOD'S KINGDOM

One of the things Jesus taught us about while he was on earth is God's *Kingdom!* God's Kingdom is *wherever* God is King, *wherever* God is in charge, *wherever* people love God and follow him. That means WE are part of God's Kingdom when we follow him!



script continued

But it's kind of hard to understand what God's Kingdom is like. So Jesus told us some stories about it. And in one story, he said God's Kingdom is like finding an amazing treasure! Let's see what Jesus said!

A MAN DISCOVERS TREASURE

(Show picture of man digging.) Jesus said that once, there was a man working in a field. He was probably working hard. (Take the **shovel** and pretend to dig, work hard, wipe the sweat off your brow, etc.) Whew! He might have been tired...maybe wishing he could be having fun...when KLANK, his shovel hit something hard! ("klank" the shovel against the box of jewels)

He begins to dig and dig...and dig. And he discovers a buried treasure in the field! (Pretend to dig, and then pick up the box with sheer joy) Inside, there were glittering, sparkling, beautiful JEWELS. Can you imagine what he felt like?? Maybe he said something like this: **(play sound bite of guy surprised and then excited.)** Maybe he even had a little dance party. He was THAT happy!

So everybody stand up! Let's try to imagine what this guy felt like. On the count of three, let's pretend to find treasure! We'll say, "Whaaat!? ...Woo-hoo!" (Like the sound bite) then break into dance. Be as loud and crazy as you can! Ready? ONE. TWO. THREE. "Whaaat? Woo-hoo!" **(Play dance music slide;** dance along as much as you feel comfortable and encourage the kids to bust a move!)

THE MAN FIGURES OUT HOW TO GET THE TREASURE

Great job! Okay, now have a seat. (Let kids sit.) After the man got excited, he realized something. Those jewels weren't his. He can't just TAKE the treasure out of the field. And it was way too expensive for him to buy. So he begins to think of a plan.

Let's try to predict his plan. What do you guys think he should do to get the treasure and make it his? How can he get it? **Turn and talk to a friend. Together, come up with a plan for how he can get the treasure.** (Let kids turn and tell a friend.)

What do you guys think? Any good ideas on how that man can get the treasure? (Let 1-3 kids share, depending on your group's engagement.)

Well, here's what he did. He decided to buy the FIELD... with the treasure in it! Once he owned the field, the treasure buried in it would be his. But there was another problem: this guy had no money... He couldn't buy the field if he didn't have any money!

So guess what he did?? He decided to sell EVERYTHING he had to get enough money. (Take off your shoes and toss them aside) He sold his shoes, his house, the stuff inside his house...even his clothes! And finally, he had enough money to buy the field!

(Show picture of excited guy.) Do you think he felt sad that all his stuff was gone? (Let kids respond.) NO WAY! He probably thought it was the best day ever—the treasure was his!!



script continued

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE HIDDEN TREASURE

Jesus told us this story in Matthew 13:44. That verse says:

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure that was hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again. He was very happy. So he went and sold everything he had. And he bought that field.

Jesus said that coming home to God and making him King is as wonderful as finding treasure! You might have to give up some things you want in order to follow him, but it's worth it! Being in God's Kingdom and following him is better than anything in the entire world!

WE ARE GOD'S TREASURE

And the best part is, God has a treasure, too. Any guesses what it is? (***Grab the mirror*** and walk around your presentation space or even through the crowd, so each kid can look in it—some of them may respond that they are God's treasure.) God's children are HIS treasure—that's YOU! That's why God sent his very own Son, Jesus, to rescue his treasure, his family, you and me! THAT'S how much God loves us!

WORSHIP

Now let's sing together and thank God for letting us be a part of his Kingdom!

Music Video: Jesus Loves Me

Song: Better Than the Best

PRAY

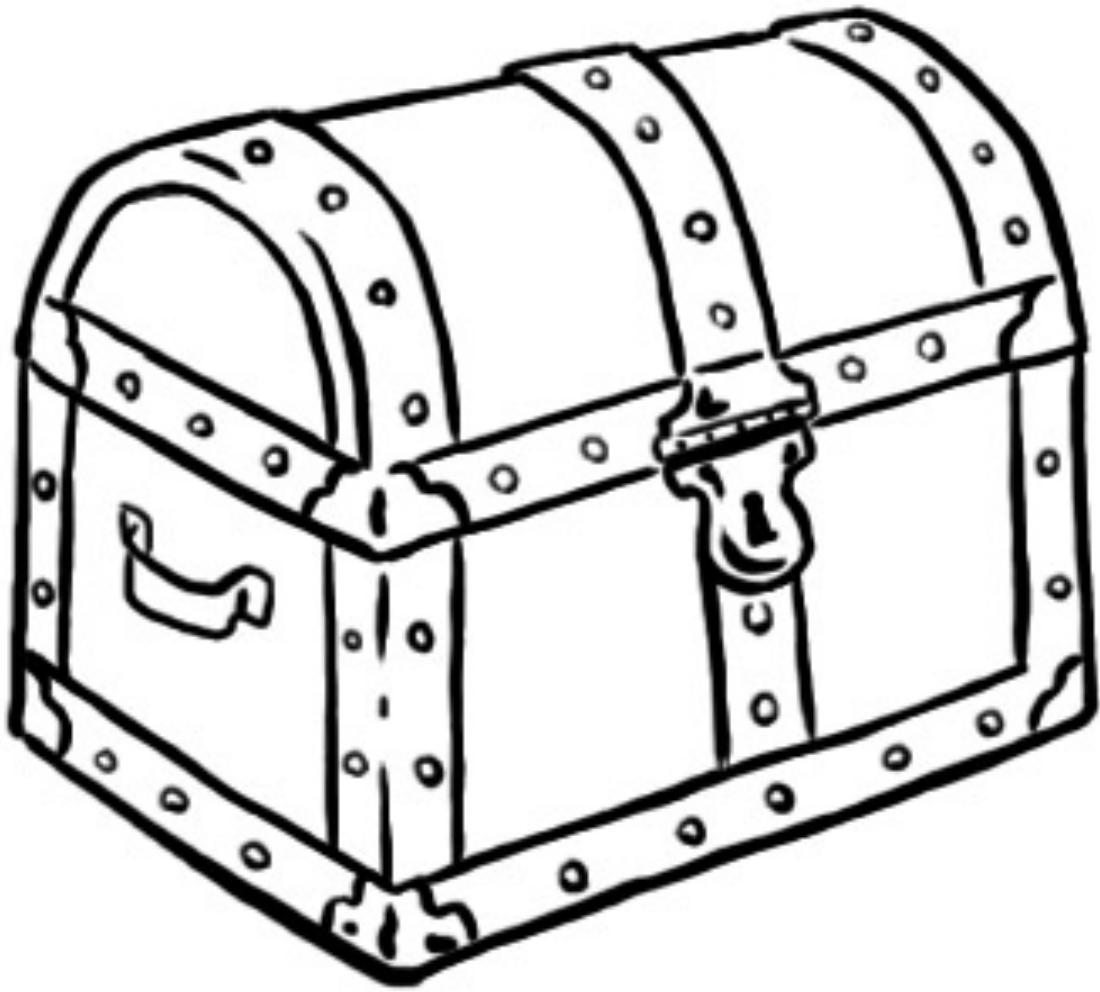
Can somebody come and thank God for loving us more than even the most amazing treasure?



script continued

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name



PREP needs



small group supplies

Per kid:

- 1 Ziploc or paper bag with sticker (Note: please print sticker template on Avery 5264 labels. Sticker template is in curriculum folder)
- 1 small piece of brown felt
- 1 jewel: OT: IN-48/8130

- 1 shiny gold coin: IN-39/525
- 1 smile face ring: IN-24/1164
- 1 crown card (template in curriculum folder; please print on brightly colored card stock and cut prior to the weekend)

large group supplies

- NiRV Adventure Bible for Early Readers, p. 1139
- 1 shovel (any type)
- 1 mirror (small handheld is fine but the bigger the better)
- 1 box of jewels (can be what was used during A Journey Home)

a/v needs

1. Image: Top image only of man's foot on shovel (JSB pg. 252)
2. Sound bite:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrDpYKrf18s> (the sound is in the form of a YouTube video, but no need to *show* video—if possible, please place the video behind the same image as slide one so that the sound bite plays, but kids just see the same image again)
3. YouTube video:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvdIKkpCoK4>

- (again, this video should be heard but not seen. Please just place a Kids' Club blank slide template in front of it)
4. Image: JSB pg. 255 (image only)
 5. REPEAT image #4, but place Matthew 13:44 text top of image: The kingdom of heaven is like treasure that was hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again. He was very happy. So he went and sold everything he had. And he bought that field.
 6. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me
 7. Music Video: Better Than the Best (with Dance Moves)

special room set-up

None

connect questions

Tell me about the man and the hidden treasure.
Why did Jesus tell us this story?

parent page

The Kingdom of Heaven can be a tough concept to understand, so Jesus told us stories about it! Today, we talked about one of those stories. In it, Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to finding hidden treasure. Ask your child about it. Or read it together in Matthew 13:44-45.