

## INTRODUCTION

***A simple definition of stewardship is the responsibility and care for the resources God has given us for His purposes in the world. Resources include creation, gifts and talents, money, time, and the Gospel.***

Our hope is that through these Parent Connect resources, your children will learn to give with joy. Whether it's giving time by volunteering at church or in your community, giving time and effort by sharing and helping others, or giving financially and sharing the resources God has blessed you with, any act of stewardship should be done with joy. We hope that these lessons will help children understand how they should use their resources over a lifetime.

Today's lesson is taken from Jesus' teaching on the mountain. He was speaking to a large crowd of followers in what is known as the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is teaching that our hearts follow what we treasure most. God is not interested in half-hearted followers. He wants our whole heart. Jesus came, died, and rose for our whole-hearted devotion and affection. There are things we treasure on earth, like money or possessions, which do not last. They are temporary. But by loving and serving God, we focus our minds on heaven where treasures are eternal. We do not focus on gaining earthly possessions, but we focus on following God's commands. We must not let temporary things of the earth distract us, but we set our hearts on loving and serving God.

## BIBLE TRUTH

Today's verses remind us that our hearts only find lasting joy in God's eternal treasure and we will gain eternal reward when we gladly invest in God's work. Life with Jesus is our greatest treasure.

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## SCRIPTURE

**READ: Matthew 6:19-21**

- What are some of your treasures?
- Are there things that others have that you want very much? Does this make you jealous?
- Can you think of something you really wanted at one time, but now you barely care about it? Or maybe it's now lost or broken?
- The things we treasure most are what consume our minds and emotions. We should treasure God most so He consumes our minds. God wants our hearts free for greater joy that is eternal.



# ACTIVITY

**Start conversations each night at the dinner table. Everyone should share!**

- Each person can share one thing God gave them that day.
- Share one thing they did to show others God's love.
- Share one thing they plan to do to show God's love in the next few days.

# THANKFUL

## APPLICATION

Can you read your Bible for five minutes every day? The Bible is how we learn about Jesus. He wants you to know Him and to show you the best way to live.

How can you give to others? You can give by helping someone or giving money in the church offering or the Bible bank. By giving, you show others the love of Jesus. When we gladly give out of obedience to the Lord, our treasure lasts forever.

## PLAY LIKE KIDS IN LATIN AMERICA



**Kids in Colombia play a game known as Fuchi.**

Children use their feet to perform tricks with a footbag (a hacky sack) without letting it touch the ground. This game can be played alone or in a group.

When playing by yourself, you can twist your feet and legs in various ways as long as the bag does not touch the ground. You can also toss the bag around to the beat of music and develop your own dance.

In groups, this game can become very competitive. Each player tosses the bag up in the air, then tries to catch it on their foot. If they drop the bag, they lose. The last person standing is the winner. Some players choreograph their fuchi moves to music; there are even fuchi dance contests! Since soccer is a popular sport in Latin America, fuchi helps young people develop their foot skills.

