

## City LG - October 14 & 15, 2017

**Bible Story:** Parable's Got Talents (Parable of the talents) • *Matthew 25:14-30*

**Bottom Line:** Use your things wisely.

**Memory Verse:** "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

### **WORSHIP: Won't Let Go and Good Good Father**

"Hey, hey, hey! I hope you're as excited as I am to be hanging out together today! My name is [your name], and I want to kick off our time with a game. Who in here likes to play games? Ok, great! Here's how to play..."

### **GAME TIME: Balloon Shake**

**Prep before service time: blow up 30 balloons**

*You'll need: a towel, and 30 inflated balloons, 3 teams of 2 kids*

*What You Do: Pick 2 volunteers from each grade to be a team.*

*Say: Pretend each of these balloons represents one of your most valued things. Let's play a game to try to keep all 10 balloons in the air at once. Have kids each hold the edge of one end of the towel and stand apart so the towel is taut. Then have the kids shake the towel. Encourage them to continue to shake it as you add each balloon. Continue for 30 seconds after you've added all the balloons, and replace any balloons that fall.*

*Ask: What was it like to keep all the balloons in the air? Explain whether that's like or unlike trying to be wise with our things. Why do you think it's helpful for your life when you take care of your things?*

**(PLAY A FEW ROUNDS AS TIME ALLOWS)**

"So, City, I have a few quick questions. How many of you have a cat at home? That's right—a cat. Raise your hand if you have a cat. *(Pause.)* How about a brother? Raise your hand if you have a big brother. *(Pause.)* Or how about a backyard? Raise your hand if you have a backyard. *(Pause.)* All of those things and people—and all of the things and people in the entire world—all actually belong to God. And He allows us to have them for a time—some to enjoy and others to use wisely."

"The Bible includes all sorts of ideas and stories that God wanted us to know about how we can do those things HIS way, including one story that we'll look at today! And can you guess who told this story first? Jesus!"

“Jesus told this story to a group of people kind of like you. They were people who wanted to learn. And when Jesus wanted to teach them something sort of hard to understand, He made up a story to make it easier. Those stories are called parables. What are they called?”

**KIDS:** “Parables!”

“Yes! And I’m going to tell you one of those parables right now. This parable is about a boss who took off on a journey and left his servants with all of this money. What do you think the workers did with their boss’s money while he was away? Let’s find out...”

**CG: Lesson 3 Video**

“When the boss returned, he wanted to know what his servants did with the money he gave them. After all, he trusted them, right? The reason Jesus told this story was because He wanted everyone to know—including you—that anything you’re given is from the boss. You know who the boss is? That’s right: God. And God wants us to use the things He’s given us wisely. That’s our Bottom Line.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** “Use your things wisely. Say it with me.”

**KIDS:** **[Bottom Line]** “Use your things wisely.”

“One more time! How should we use our things?”

**KIDS:** **[Bottom Line]** “Use your things wisely.”

“Use your things wisely. For a moment, let’s think about how can we do that. It starts with knowing the things we have, doesn’t it? Things we have can be our toys, our video games, our clothes, our sports equipment, our stuffed animals, our . . . whatever! What are some of the things you have? *(Pause for a few responses as time allows.)* Taking care of what you have doesn’t mean you seal everything up in your closet or under your bed and never ever touch it. Instead, you should use your things the way they were meant to be used.

“And, if you’re given something, like the people in Jesus’ parable, you should do something with it. You can find a way to help others with what you have. Like if you have a video game, invite some friends over so you can share it with them. If you have a soccer ball, don’t just kick it against a wall. Find a friend and play pass with them. If you have art supplies, use them to paint somebody a picture to show that person you care. Whatever you have, use it wisely. Let’s pray..”

**PRAY:** “God, You have given us so many things to be thankful for: our family, our friends, our beds, and our toys. God, help us to look at all these things like they belong to You, because they do! Help us to share, to be generous, and to be responsible. Help us to use our things wisely and to be good stewards. Amen.”

**(DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS)**