

City LG—January 10th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Give It Away (Bigger Barns) • *Luke 12:16-21*

Today's Bottom Line: Share what you have.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large.* Luke 16:10a (NIV)

WORSHIP: Something Good and Rising Up

“Hello, everyone! (Hold up Bible.) I’ve got a great story for you that’s actually a story Jesus once told. Jesus wanted people to understand something about responsibility that will also help us today.

“When we read the Bible, one thing we find is that EVERYONE wanted to hear what Jesus had to say. Everywhere Jesus went, large crowds followed Him. One day, a man asked Jesus if He would do something for him. He wanted Jesus to tell his brother to share all the things their family owned. Really, the man wanted more stuff for himself—and he hoped that he could get Jesus to take his side.

“Jesus told him . . .

Open the Bible to Luke 12:14-15 (NIV) and read.

“*Friend, who made me a judge or umpire between you? Then he said to [everyone], ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.’*

“Then, Jesus explained what He meant by telling a parable, or story. Here’s how it began.

Open the Bible to Luke 12:16-17 (NIV) and read.

“*A certain rich man’s land produced a very large crop. He thought to himself, “What should I do? I don’t have any place to store my crops.”*

“Okay. So there was a rich man who had a large crop—which would have meant grain or something else that grows in the ground. And this man had a LOT of it. His crop was so large that he didn’t have enough room to store it all! That’s what this week’s Episode is all about. Let’s watch!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)

What a great story! Remember the man who was talking with Jesus at the very beginning? He wanted Jesus to tell his brother to give him more of what their family owned. We don’t know how the man responded after he heard Jesus’ story. Maybe he stopped worrying about getting more of his family’s stuff. Maybe he thought more about sharing what he DID have with his brother.

“But I think Jesus’ story gives US a great Rule for Life. We can choose to be generous with the things we have. And it’s not just about gumballs! We can share ANYTHING God has given us—like our time, our talents, our money, or the things we own. We have a responsibility to share what we have with other people. “It’s simple.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Share what you have.

“There’s no sense in trying to keep everything for ourselves. Instead, we should **[Basic Truth]** treat others the way we want to be treated. We should think about other people and what THEY need—and not just think about ourselves.

“I know it’s not always easy to share. But with God’s help, we can do it! Let’s pray and ask God to help us.”

SLIDE: Theme Background

PRAY: “Dear God, thank You so much for this story Jesus told. It helps us understand why it’s so important to share what we have. Help us be brave enough and generous enough to share what You’ve given us. Please give us the wisdom to think about what others need, instead of just thinking about ourselves. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Did you know that EVERYTHING we have comes from God? It’s true! Maybe you’re really good at drawing. Maybe you can tell funny jokes that make people laugh. Maybe you have things that you own. Jesus’ story reminds us that ALL of us have something to give. ALL of us can choose to share what we have to make things better for someone else.

“Sometimes it’s hard for us to want to share—especially when we’re sharing something that we really love. But it’s not like Jesus was saying you can’t enjoy those things. He was simply saying that we should be willing to share with others.

“Of course, Jesus knew all about being generous. He treated others with love and kindness. He spent time with people who others had forgotten. He even gave His life on the cross so that we could be forgiven!

“Let’s remember today’s Rule for Life.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Share what you have.

“What does that look like for you? You can ask your little sister if SHE wants the last piece of cheese pizza. You can ask your friend if he wants a turn to play with your cool new toy or video game. You can draw a picture or write a fun note to your grandma and grandpa. I’m sure that would make their day better!

“Remember, we have a responsibility to share with others. So don’t just worry about what you can get for yourself. Be willing to **[Bottom Line] share what you have!** Let’s watch this while we get ready for our ALL Together Activities!”

CG: MC Haggis Video (Runtime: 3:00)