

CITY LG – January 13- 14, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Never Enough (Bigger Barns) • *Luke 12:13-21*

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)

LG Supplies Needed: 3 blind folds, container with animal names on strips

WORSHIP

Live Differently

Give My All

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Group

SLIDE: Theme

What's up, everybody? I'm [Host's name], and I'm so excited to be with you today. This month in The City we're talking about responsibility.

SLIDE: Virtue

Responsibility is **showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you.**

SLIDE: Theme

We all have responsibilities in life. You have things that you're expected to do at home and at school. It's important that we see it through and show people that they can trust us to do what we've said we'll do. If you have a pet at home, you definitely know what responsibility is all about.

And I have a fun pet-themed game for us to play today, and I need three Small Group Leaders to come up and play. This game is called 'Blindfolded Pet Charades'!

Choose three Small Group Leaders to play the game and give each of them a blindfold. (They don't have to put it on yet.)

Here's how we play. In just a minute, each of these leaders will take turns pulling from this container a slip of paper with the name of a pet or animal on it. They'll show that piece of paper to me so I know what the answer is. Then they'll quickly put on their blindfold and act like that animal while all of YOU try to guess what the animal is. *(to contestants)* Leaders, you can act like the animal, but you cannot make any sounds unless I tell you!

Once I hear the correct answer, the next leader will do the same thing. We'll keep going until we hit our goal, which is ten animals in two minutes. Do you think we can do it? *(Pause for response.)* Let's give it a try. [Leader's name], you're up first. Remember, draw an animal name and show it to me, then put on your blindfold and act it out. Ready, set, go!

VIDEO: Two-minute countdown

Let the first leader pick a piece of paper from the cup, show it to you, then put on their blindfold. Listen to the kids' answers while the leader acts like the animal. Once you hear someone say the correct answer, call it out so everyone can hear and move on to the next leader.

Note: If the kids have a hard time guessing, you can give them a hint by letting the leader make sounds.

Keep going until the kids guess all ten animals. (You'll need to average about 10 to 12 seconds per animal in order to beat the clock.) Celebrate BIG when you hit the goal!

That was AMAZING! You did it! Give a friend a high five to celebrate!

Today, we have another important story to look at in the Bible that will help us understand how to live with responsibility.

We can find this story in the book of Luke in the New Testament. Luke is one of the four Gospels—the books that tell the story of Jesus' life. During the time Jesus lived here on Earth, He traveled from town to town, teaching people about God. Jesus often told parables to help people understand what God is like and how we should live if we want to follow God.

Parables are short stories about everyday objects and familiar situations. Jesus' parables were easy to remember. They made people think for themselves and understand things about God and life. Let's check out the parable we're going to learn about today...

VIDEO: Bible Story

You know, when Jesus told the story of the man who wanted bigger barns, really He was helping us understand something about responsibility.

Everything we have is a gift from God. Everything! None of it really belongs to us. If we think of our stuff that way, then it's much easier to be generous and share what we have with others. That's one of the biggest ways we can show others that God loves them.

Listen to what Jesus said in our memory verse, Luke 16:10.

SLIDE: 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)

Let's show we can be trusted by living the way Jesus said to live.

This is what we need to remember today. Check this out...

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Share what you have.

That could mean letting your friend play with your favorite toy or letting them have a turn on your video game. It could mean that you share your time by listening to a friend who's having a bad day. Or maybe you could talk with your friends and family about how you can use what you have to make a difference for people who live in our community. We can all be generous and share what we've been given.

Let's pray and talk to God about that.

SLIDE: Theme Background

"Dear God, thank You so much for this story Jesus told that reminds us to be willing to share. Help us remember that every good thing we have comes from You! Help us treat others the way we want to be treated and be generous, instead of trying to hold onto things for ourselves. Show us how to be responsible with the things You've given us and use those things to make a difference for other people. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

OFFERING

Guys, I am so proud of you! We totaled up all of the money we sent to Missions of Hope last year from our Parkview Kids Weekend Offering. This is just the money we brought in on the weekends. **We raised \$3583.83!** and they were able to buy **100 food baskets** with that money! Way to go helping kids on the other side of the world in Africa!

I'm excited to tell you about a brand-new ministry that we are going to be supporting with our offering until the summer. It's called **Morning Star Mission** and it's located right near here, in **Joliet, Illinois**.

SLIDES: Morningstar pictures (*scroll through as the leader talks about the mission*)

Since its beginning in 1909, Morning Star Mission has had one main goal — to help people in need. Morning Star Mission helps people who are struggling to have enough money to live. They have a shelter that gives them a place to live if they don't have a home. People in the community can go to the mission to get clothes and food if they need it too. AND they tell people about Jesus and his love for them while they are helping them, how cool is that?

Morning Star doesn't just stop there. They have many programs that they offer people to help them get in a better financial place so that they don't need the help anymore. Morning Star is a mission that is changing lives in our area!