

## Little Lost Lamb

It was a beautiful day out in the pasture. The sheep were grazing peacefully in the warm sunshine. One little lamb grazed by himself, apart from the rest of the flock. Now and then he would glance over to make sure the shepherd wasn't too far away.

After a while the lamb began to wonder if there wasn't some better grass to eat in another field. He wandered to the very edge of the pasture he was in. He looked at the green grass far off in the distance. He thought to himself, I guess it wouldn't hurt if I just go a little farther and try that nice green patch

over there. I'll come right back after I eat it. So off he went.

But once he'd tried that patch, he decided it wasn't as good as he had hoped. Then he saw more green grass farther off that looked like it would be better. By now he couldn't see the shepherd and the flock because of the hills he had crossed.

As the day passed, he kept going from field to field, never feeling satisfied with what he found. After a time the sun began to set. The little lamb knew that he was far, far away from the kind shepherd who kept him safe from wolves and other dangers. He was all alone.

It got darker and darker. He began to hear noises that frightened him. He wanted to run back to the flock, but he couldn't remember which way he'd come. He was lost! He began to run in circles helplessly. Then he fell down a steep place and got his foot caught between two rocks. He was trapped! He bleated and bleated, but no one heard him. What if the wolves found him there?

Meanwhile, the shepherd had gathered the rest of the flock together for the night. He counted to make sure they were all there. Wait! One little lamb was missing! Quickly he grabbed his staff and went out into the dark night. He searched and he searched. Would he find the lost one?

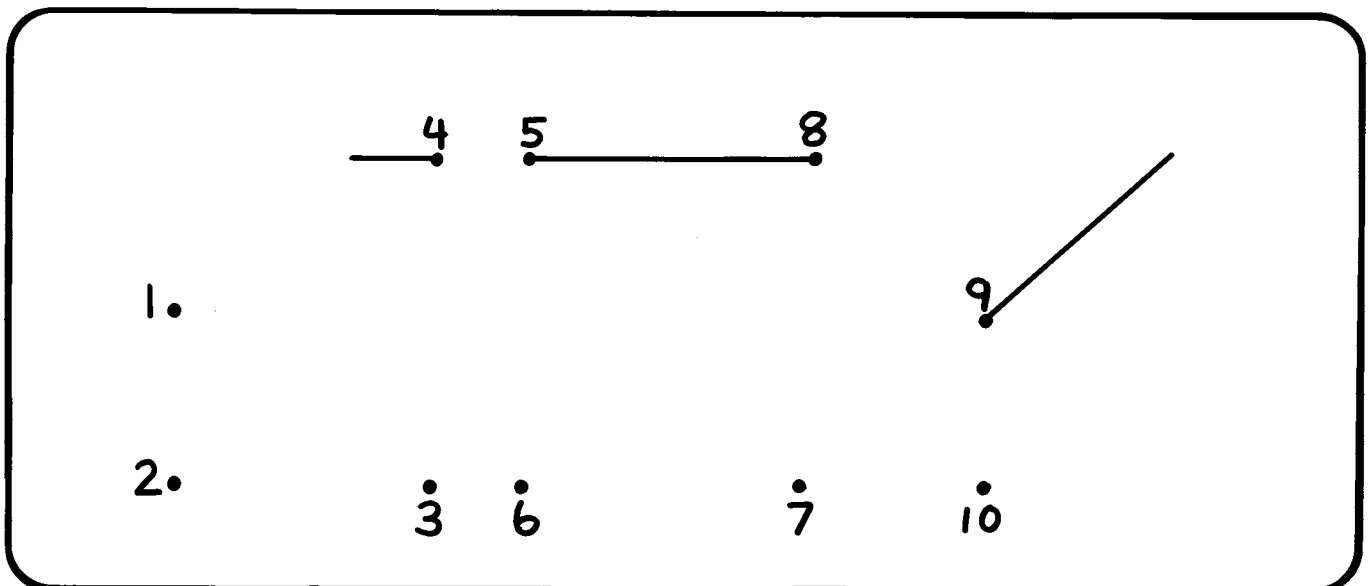
At last he heard a faint bleating coming from the rocky hills. With a shout of joy he ran toward the sound. He climbed down to the scared little lamb and freed him. The shepherd carried him on his shoulders back to the safety of the flock. He was so happy to have found the lost lamb before the wolves had.

How wonderful it is to be safe and sound, thought the little lamb as he snuggled down to sleep. I never want to wander away from the shepherd again.

Just like the kind shepherd who cares for his lambs, God loves and cares for each one of us. When we are lost in the darkness of sin, Jesus seeks for us in love.

## Dot-to-Dot

Connect the dots and find a special word that tells what the angels feel when a sinner is saved.



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

It is important for primary children to realize how much God cares for them, and that He is seeking to bring each individual to Himself. This lesson visualizes that concept through the story of a shepherd who is searching for his lost sheep.

As you study this story with your child, explain that the lost sheep represents the sinner. The shepherd who searches for him is like the Lord who goes to great lengths to find and bring back the one who has wandered away from Him.

To go with this lesson, allow your child to cut several sheep from white paper. Cover them with cotton. Make a sheepfold of stones, using a piece of cardboard for the base. Place small thorny twigs on top. Make a shepherd by wrapping a clothespin with a piece of cloth.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Luke 15:10

MONDAY: John 10:11

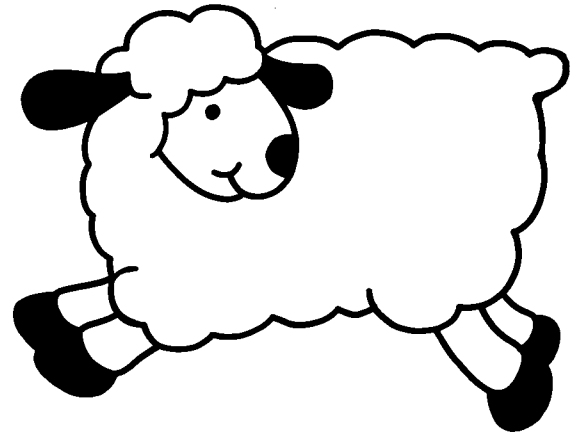
TUESDAY: Matthew 18:12,13

WEDNESDAY: Luke 19:10

THURSDAY: Psalm 23:1

FRIDAY: Isaiah 40:11

SATURDAY: Psalm 119:176



## *Bible Text*

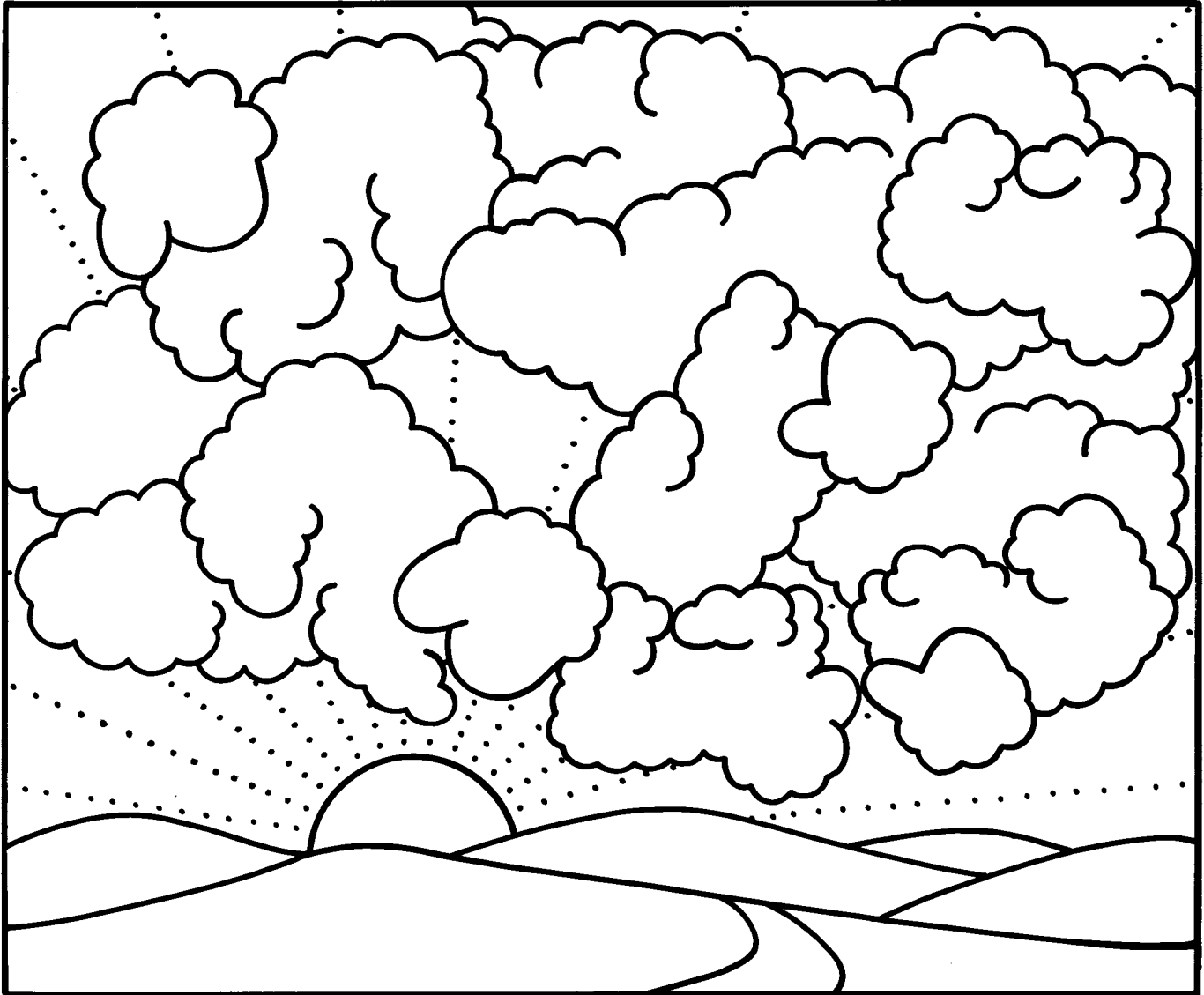
Luke 15:1-7

## *Memory Verse*

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. — Luke 15:10

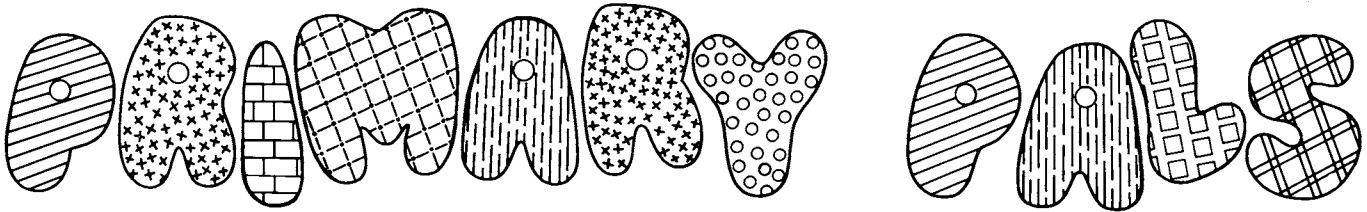
# Lost Sheep

The shepherd found his lost sheep. See how many sheep you can find in the picture. Each time you find a sheep, write the word JOY on a line below.



_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Japheth's Big Problem

Japheth wiped a tear that rolled down his cheek. He watched the pigs eat the corn husks he had brought them. His stomach hurt from hunger. He found himself wishing that he could eat the pigs' food himself.

Japheth thought back to when he still lived with his family. There they had servants to wait on them and always plenty of food. But he had become unhappy living there. He had asked for his share of his father's money and then left home to live in a country far away. He had wanted to have fun and not have anyone telling him what to do!

At first it had seemed wonderful to be young and have lots of money. He

had gone to parties and made friends who liked to help him spend his money. Japheth had thought he was really having a good time.

But before long all his money was gone. Japheth had gone from being rich and merry to poor and sad. The people he had thought were his friends didn't care about him anymore. Nobody would help him. He had to become a servant. He was sent into the fields to feed pigs.

So here he was in the pigpen, lonely, ragged, and hungry. He began to think about how bad things were. No money, no food, and feeding pigs. Why, even the servants in my father's house are better off than I

am. They have more than enough to eat. I have done nothing good with my life. I'm so sorry for what I've done!

Japheth thought about going home to his father. But would his father love him after he had wasted everything his father had given him? How ashamed he was! Finally he decided to go home and see if he could work as a servant in his father's house. He knew he did not deserve to be called a son anymore.

Japheth began the long trip home. His father saw him coming even

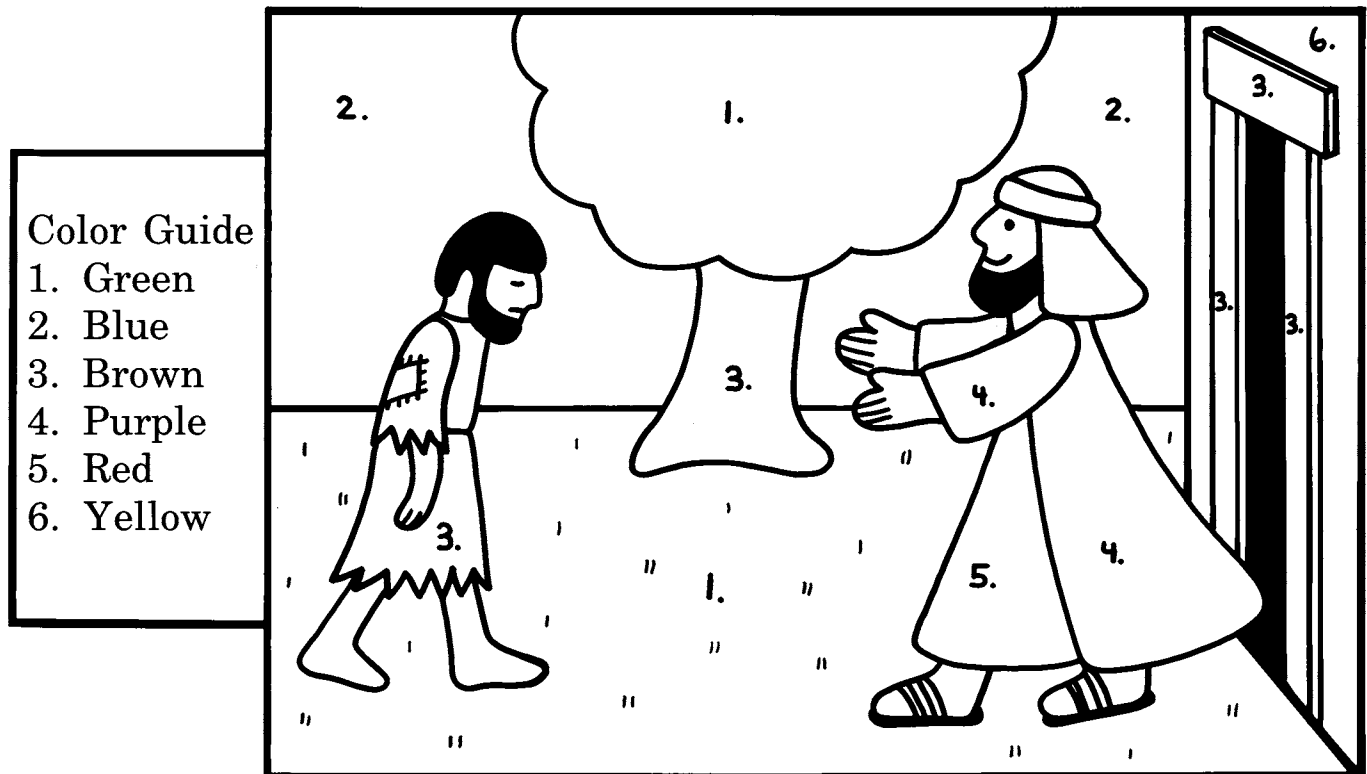
before he got to the house. He ran out to meet his son with love and joy in his heart.

Japheth cried as he fell into his father's arms. "Father! I've sinned against God and you. I don't deserve to be your son anymore, but will you take me back as a servant?"

"Oh, my son! I'm so happy you've come home." Japheth's father told the servants to bring the best clothes and to prepare a dinner in Japheth's honor. The father was happy because the lost son was alive and had come home.

## Color by Number

Use the color guide and color the picture of the prodigal son going home.



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## ***Parent's Corner***

Our Bible story is the parable of the prodigal son. This is a very descriptive story, and the primary child can easily visualize the progression of events beginning with the son's leaving home, turning to riotous living, and eventually repenting and returning to his father's house.

As we study this lesson together, we will be focusing on the thought that sin will bring trouble, but Jesus will forgive and restore all those who will return to Him.

Let your child use modeling clay to form the main elements in this story: the son, father, money, things purchased, pigs, and pigpen. When completed, he might wish to act out the story for other family members, utilizing the clay figures.

## ***Time Together for Family Devotions***

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: James 4:8

MONDAY: Psalm 73:28

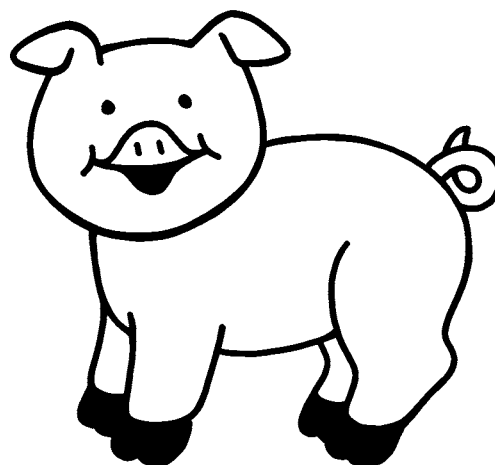
TUESDAY: I Peter 2:25

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 55:7

THURSDAY: Psalm 34:18

FRIDAY: II Corinthians 7:10

SATURDAY: I John 1:9



## ***Bible Text***

Luke 15:11-24

## ***Memory Verse***

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. — James 4:8

# Returning Home

Start at HOME and follow through the maze to find out what happened to the prodigal son because of what he did.

The maze is a square grid with a path leading from the 'HOME' scene at the top right to the 'WELL-FED PIGS!' scene at the bottom right. The scenes are as follows:

- HOME:** Located at the top right, showing a house with a chimney and a path leading to it. Two arrows point left towards the house.
- FRIENDS and MONEY:** Located at the top left, showing two men in traditional attire; one is handing a stack of money to the other.
- GOING HOME:** Located in the middle right, showing a man with a beard and a head covering walking away.
- NO MONEY! NO FRIENDS!:** Located at the bottom left, showing a man looking distressed with his hands outstretched.
- WELL-FED PIGS!:** Located at the bottom right, showing a man standing next to two large pigs.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# PARABLES



## The Selfish Rich Man

There once was a man who was very rich. He owned many houses and lots of land. His fields were wide and green. His fruit trees were loaded with fruit. His figs were the biggest. His grapevines had the most grapes. In fact, everything he planted grew wonderfully well.

After a while it was time for the harvest. What would the rich man do with all of his crops? He had more food than he could ever eat. He had more money than he could ever spend in his whole life. He built barns to store all of the food and treasures he owned. But soon his barns were so full that they couldn't hold anymore. What would he do now? He decided to

tear the barns down and build bigger ones.

But he never thought about sharing with anyone. Most of the people who lived nearby had less than he had. Some were beggars, blind, or crippled. They had no homes. They would have been happy to have some bread or figs once in a while. But the rich man was too selfish to think of giving anything away. He wanted to keep everything for himself.

The rich man was pleased as he looked at what he owned. He said to himself, "I've done very well. I have enough to last me many years. I don't need to work anymore. I'll just sit

back and relax. I can eat and drink and have a good time for the rest of my life.”

That was not very smart, was it? He did not stop to think that God had sent the sun and rain for his crops. He never thanked God for strength to work in his fields. He only thought about himself and his riches.

But God knew what the rich man was thinking. God said, “You have been a fool. Tonight you are going to die. Who will get all these riches then?”

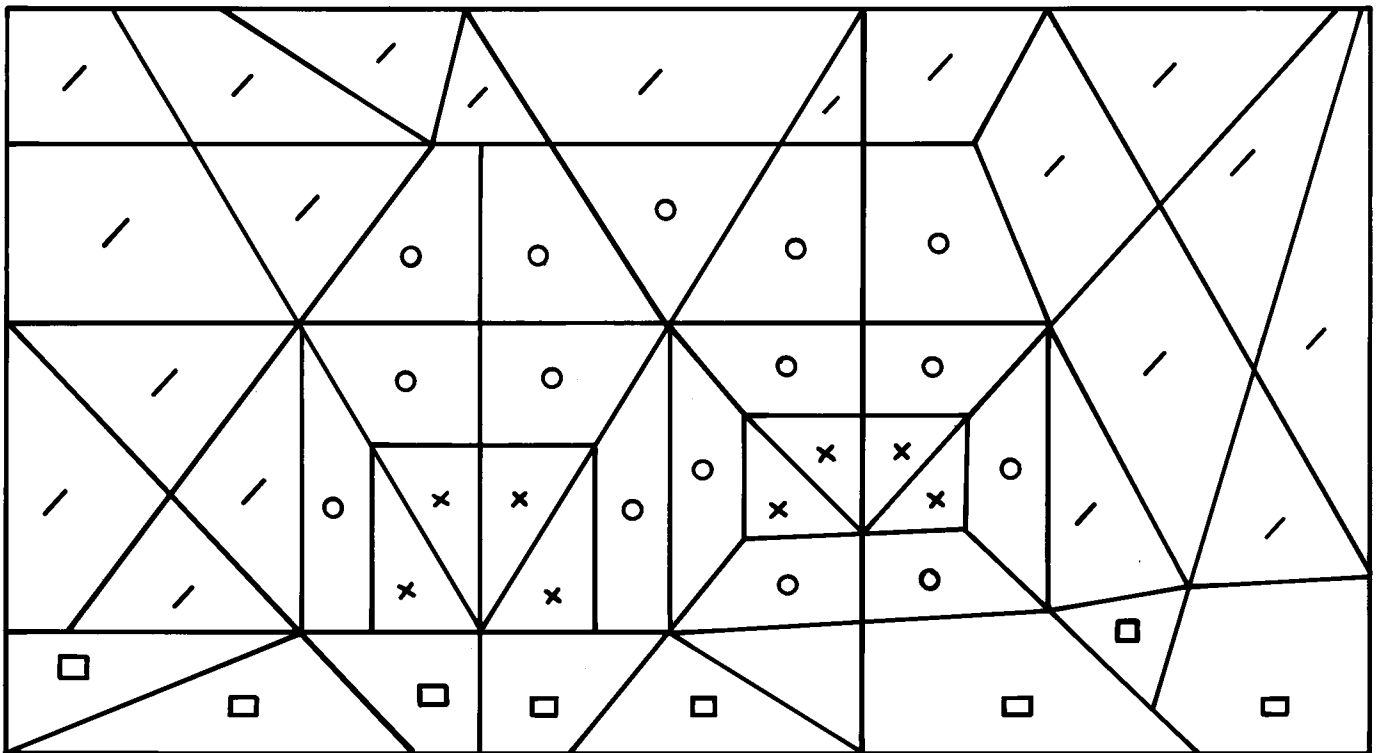
The rich man never did get to enjoy his riches, because he had not loved and obeyed God. He had spent his life being greedy and selfish.

This story in the Bible is a warning to us. God does not want us to let money become too important. We must not forget Him or forget to think about helping others. Heaven is more important than the things we have in this world. Someday everyone who loves and obeys God will receive treasures up there. Do you want treasures in Heaven?

## Color the Spaces

What did the rich man build? To find out, use the color guide and color the spaces.

Color Guide: O = Red      X = White      / = Blue      □ = Green



# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

The focus of this lesson is the importance of sharing. Learning to express love for others through sharing is a necessity in the primary child's life, though it is often a difficult concept to master.

The Bible account chosen to illustrate this point is the story of a rich man who thought only of himself. As a project to go with this lesson, give your child some Love Money. Use play money, old money from board games, or be creative and design your own bills from the Love Money National Bank.

Give your child twenty dollars of Love Money, all in one-dollar bills. The assignment for the week is to share with friends and family members. Each time he shares, he is allowed to present the recipient with a Love Dollar. At the end of the week, if he has distributed all his dollars, reward him with a small prize or special treat.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Acts 20:35

MONDAY: Luke 6:38

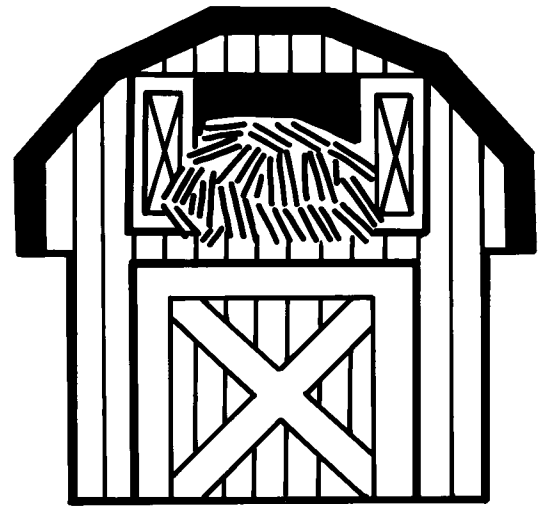
TUESDAY: II Corinthians 9:7

WEDNESDAY: I Corinthians 10:24

THURSDAY: I Corinthians 13:4,5

FRIDAY: Philippians 2:4

SATURDAY: Romans 15:1



## *Bible Text*

Luke 12:15-21  
I Timothy 6:6-11,17-19

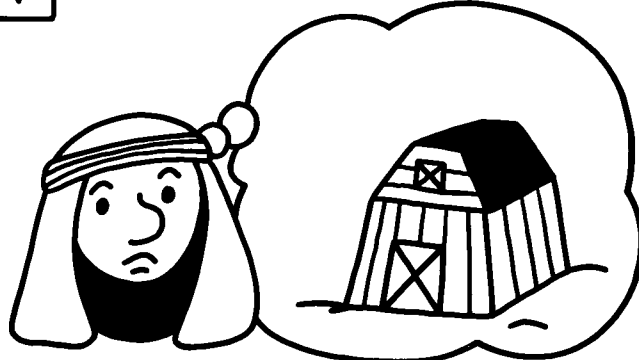
## *Memory Verse*

It is more blessed to give than to receive. — Acts 20:35

# Bigger Barns

Look at each picture and write, in your own words, the parable of the rich man. Where were the rich man's treasures? Where should your treasures be?

1




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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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3

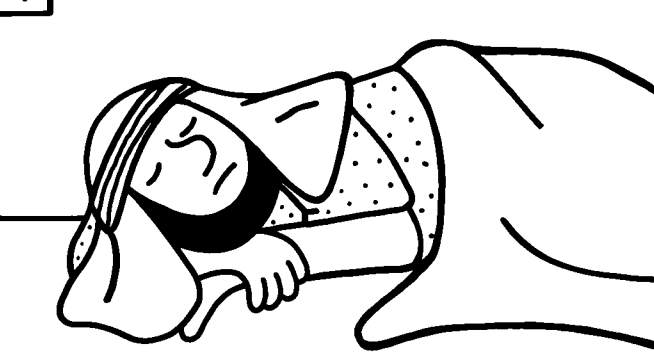


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4

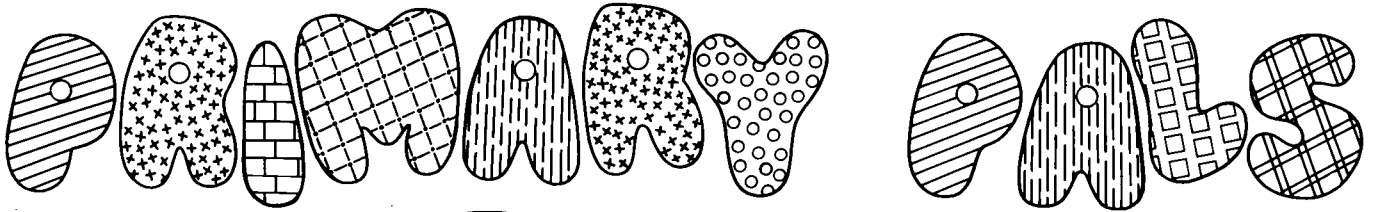


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Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## The Real Winner

Amy was so excited she could hardly wait to get to school! Today Miss Brown would announce the winner of the Student of the Year award. Miss Brown thought about several things in choosing the winner. Among them were good grades, helping after school, neatness, and being friendly.

As Amy and her classmate Jenny walked to school, they talked about the coming summer vacation. Then Jenny said that she had just remembered that today was the day for the Student of the Year award.

"How could you have forgotten that?" Amy asked with a surprised look. "Of course it means more to me than to most. I already have a place on

my wall to hang the award. I can't wait!"

Now Jenny looked surprised. "Did Miss Brown already tell you that you won?"

"No, but I'm sure I will. Really, Jenny, who do you think she would give it to besides me?"

"Well, I'm not sure," said Jenny. "But there are quite a few students who have done really well this year."

Amy said, "One of those is me, right? After all, I got straight A's on my report cards. My clothes are nicer than anyone else's. I always helped Miss Brown clean up the art area after school. And who is more popular than me?"

Jenny didn't know what to say. So she just prayed silently that God would show Amy that pride was an awful thing. If only Amy loved Jesus, she thought to herself.

The time came for the big announcement. Everyone was looking at the teacher. "I'm happy to say that Jenny Peters is the winner of the Student of the Year award," Miss Brown said.

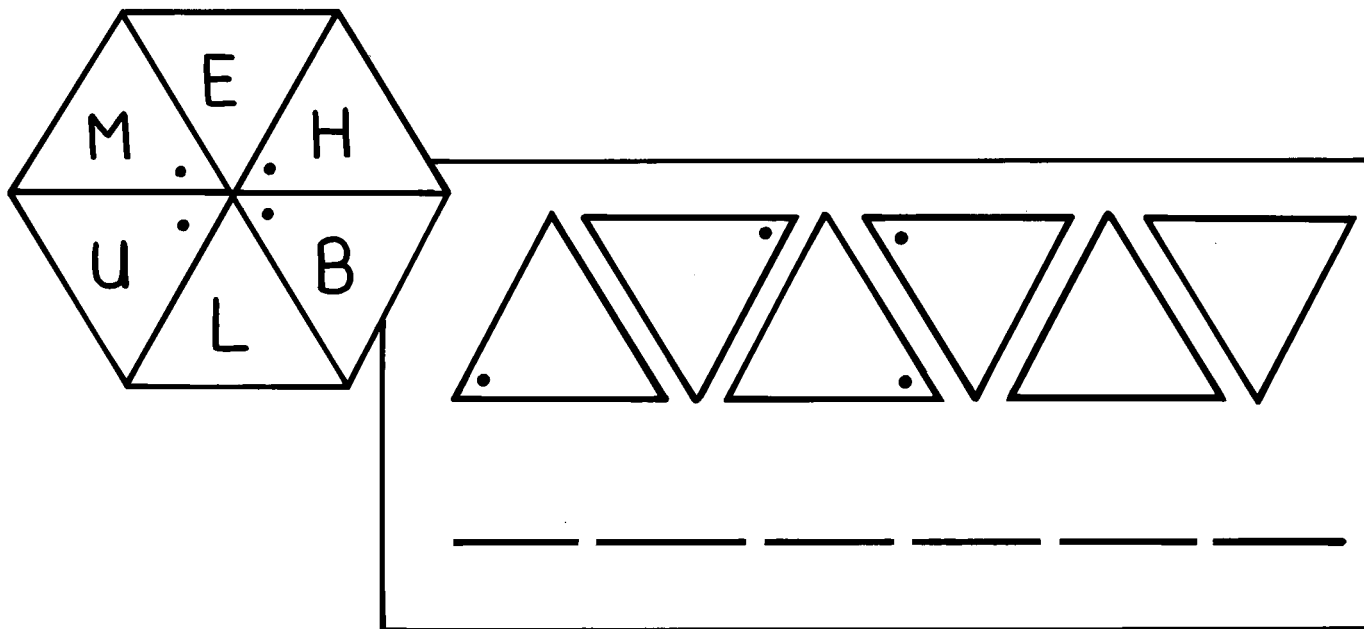
Amy had already started to stand up. She dropped back into her seat with a shocked look. Some of her classmates giggled because she had told them that she would win. Tears came to her eyes.

Miss Brown went on, "Jenny won the award for many reasons. She has good grades. But even more important, she is kind and helpful to her classmates. She helped James with his reading after class and showed Glenda how to bat a baseball. Jenny knows that it is good to think of others and not just herself."

Amy was very unhappy. But after a few days she began to think about how full of pride she was. She thought of how happy and caring Jenny always seemed to be. Is it because she is a Christian? Could Jesus help me to be happy? The first chance I get I'm going to ask Jenny.

## Triangle Code

Use the triangle code to find the main word in this lesson. Match the triangles and write the correct letters on the lines in the box.



The diagram shows a large hexagon on the left, divided into six triangles by lines from its center to each vertex. The letters in the triangles are: top-left (M), top-right (E), middle-left (H), middle-right (L), bottom-left (U), and bottom-right (B). Small dots are placed at the center of each triangle. To the right of the hexagon is a large rectangular box containing a sequence of six triangles. The first triangle is upright and has a dot at its top vertex. The second is inverted and has a dot at its bottom vertex. The third is upright and has a dot at its top vertex. The fourth is inverted and has a dot at its bottom vertex. The fifth is upright and has a dot at its top vertex. The sixth is inverted and has a dot at its bottom vertex. Below this sequence of triangles is a horizontal line with a dashed middle section, intended for writing the answer.

# Preparing for This Bible Lesson

## *Parent's Corner*

Even the primary child is able to recognize the great difference between a proud and humble spirit. Given the chance, he will probably be able to relate some specific examples from his own experience. The importance of having the right spirit is the thought that we will emphasize in this lesson.

In your time together this week, explain to your child that God wants us to put others before ourselves. This is what He expects of His followers. Be sure to present some examples relative to your child's age and experience. If your child knows the chorus, "J-O-Y," it would make a good theme song around your home during the week, as it emphasizes the thought, "Jesus first, yourself last, and others in between."

As a hands-on project during this time, let your child make up his own dot-to-dot activity to form the letters J-O-Y.

## *Time Together for Family Devotions*

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Proverbs 16:18

MONDAY: Proverbs 11:2

TUESDAY: Habakkuk 2:4

WEDNESDAY: James 4:10

THURSDAY: Proverbs 29:23

FRIDAY: Proverbs 16:19

SATURDAY: Luke 18:14



## *Bible Text*

Luke 14:7-14  
Matthew 6:1-4

## *Memory Verse*

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.  
— Proverbs 16:18

# Humble or Proud?

Find and circle the words hidden in the puzzle below.

ALMS  
POOR  
RICH  
EXALT  
FATHER  
HEAVEN  
HUMBLE  
LOWEST  
OPENLY  
REWARD  
SECRET  
BLESSED  
HIGHEST  
TRUMPET  
HYPOCRITES

C F U R E W A R D F A  
B E A R E H U M B L E  
L S A T V X B C L F A  
E D P Y H S A S G Z L  
S T J O M E Q L I A M  
S H Y P O C R I T E S  
E E Z E G R U W R L H  
D A H N Y E M V U O O  
K V P L P T X J M X K  
R E F Y R I C H P N G  
I N E T N L O W E S T  
B Q H I G H E S T W D

Name: \_\_\_\_\_