



# Construction Crew/ Kid Builders!

Where worship and fun collide!

525 Garden Dr., Marysville, OH, 43040

## Something for Nothing?

**Memory Verse:** "All the tithe of the land...is the LORD's; it is holy to the LORD. **Leviticus 27:30**

**Lesson Overview:** In this lesson, children will learn about the practice of stewardship. Children need to learn responsibility for the things God has given them, even at an early age. Many times, they receive an allowance for which they can learn to tithe from. They can also give of their outgrown cloths or toys to less fortunate kids. They also need to learn how to take care of the things God has entrusted to them. Perhaps just as importantly, children need to respect God's house and the property therein. By the end of this lesson, children should understand the concept of stewardship, and how tithing and offerings are part of good stewardship.

### Requirements for the lesson:

1. A big box or jug (empty or full) of Tide <sup>TM</sup> Detergent
2. A clear container, such as a bucket or bowl
3. Water to go in the bowl
4. A few dollars
5. Possibly some fruit or a sandwich

### Object Lessons and Lead-in to the Lesson:

**"Tiding" Your Money!"** This is a simple skit that can help the children see—in a funny way—the importance of giving to the Lord. After the skit, ask the children what they thought.

You may want to open with these riddles:

Was there any money on Noah's Ark?

Yes, the DUCK had a BILL and the FROG had a GREEN BACK!

What would you have if you put 50 pigs with 50 dear?

100 SOWS an' BUCKS!

# The Lesson:

DO THE OBJECT LESSON: *"Tiding" Your Money!"*

1. Introduce The Following Parable: (Mt 25)

14 "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property;  
15 to one he gave **five talents**, to **another two**, to **another one**, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

16 He who had received the **five talents** went at once and traded with them; and he made **five talents more**.

17 So also, he who had the **two talents made two talents more**.

18 But he who had received the **one talent** went and **dug in the ground** and **hid his master's money**.

19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

20 And **he who had received the five talents** came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here **I have made five talents more**.'

21 His master said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master**.'

22 And **he also who had the two talents** came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here **I have made two talents more**.'

23 His master said to him, '**Well done**, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'

24 **He also who had received the one talent** came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow;

25 so I was afraid, and **I went and hid your talent** in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'

26 But his master answered him, '**You wicked and slothful servant!** You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed?

27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming **I should have received what was my own with interest**.

28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents.

29 For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. (RSV)

## 2. About The Parable

**QUESTION:** How much do you think a talent of money was worth in dollars? About \$1000.00

**QUESTION:** Why did the master get angry with the servant with one talent? He didn't use what was given him.

**QUESTION:** Why do you think the servant thought the master was wicked? Because the master expected a lot from him. The servant was lazy and didn't use what the master had given him.

**QUESTION:** The master did expect a lot. Is that a bad thing? No.

Explain the parable this way: The master is like Jesus and the servants are like us. Some people do a lot with what Jesus gives to us, and some don't. When we go to heaven, God is going to check everyone's heavenly bank account to see how much we have done with all He has given us. If we didn't do anything with His blessings, then they will be taken away from us and given to others.

Jesus has given us eternal life. He expects us to tell others about His "salvation", so they will have eternal life too. We call this command the Great Commission (Mt 28:16-20). If we don't tell others, then we could have what we have taken away.

## 3. Stewardship

God has given us much to be thankful for. We all have things that are special to us. Some of you may have toys, stuffed animals, or dolls that are special to you. No one could replace these things—not even with a new one just like it. These are all things we have because God gave them to us. Since God makes it possible for us to have things, we should always take care of all the things that He gives us. We call this "stewardship".

**QUESTION:** What are some special things that you have that God has given to you?

a. What Is A Steward?

**QUESTION:** What do you think that a steward is?

- A person who takes care of someone else's belongings, money, or affairs.
- A good Christian who takes care of God's belongings, money, or affairs.

God want all of us to be good stewards of the things that He has given us—even you. God wants to use you to help Him out right now.

**QUESTION:** What do you think that you can do at home to be a good steward? At church?

b. Responsibility

**QUESTION:** Why is it important to take care of God's things?

- He expects us to.
- We expect others to take care of our things---why not God's.
- So we can show our appreciation \* for what He has given us.
- So we can have the tools we need to spread His Word.

**QUESTION:** Did you ever let someone barrow something from you, and they didn't take very good care of it? How did you feel about that?

God feels the same way when we don't take care of what He gives us. This is very important to Him.

c. God Blesses

**QUESTION:** What are some things God has given us?

- Money
- Family
- Cloths
- The Earth
- Friends
- Food
- Animals

God also gives us more when we take care of what He gave us before. Remember in the story about the man and the master's money? Each man who did what was right ended up with twice as much as he started out with. After this had happened, God even blessed them with more! When we take care of the little things He gives us, then He gives us more and more big things.

#### 4. Giving Back To God

God gives us a lot, but He expects us to give Him back a part of it.

**QUESTION:** What part of all that you have *belongs* to God? A little bit? Half of it? All of it?

All that you have. God just loans us things that He knows that we need. He still wants you to take care of it, even though He has given it to you.

Still, God does want us to give a part of what He gives us back to Him. We call this “tithing”.

##### a. Tithing

**QUESTION:** So what is Tithing?

Giving a tenth \* of what God gave you back to Him. Giving a tenth of your time, money (allowance), food, or other things.

When you get your allowance, you should be a good steward and give a tenth of it back to God.

\* For young children, you may want to show something divided into tenths—like a candy bar, etc.

##### b. Taking Care Of God's Property

Imagine you have a pet that needs special care. If you go away for a month, who'll look after it?

You'll probably ask a friend to take GOOD care of it. This is that special someone that you trust. You just know that you'll never have to worry while you are gone.

God is just like this. He has given us things to take care of until Jesus comes again. He wants you to take the very best care of everything you have. That's not just things and pets, but God wants us to take good care of our families too.

#### 5. Summary

**QUESTION:** So what have we learned today?

- God has given us everything
- We need to take care of God's things
- We need to give a tenth of what God gives us back to God.

# “Tiding Your Money!”

(A Twisted Stewardship Tale)

## Characters:

**Miss. Guided Steward:** Does not quite understand the term “Tithing” and is a bit scatterbrained as well!

**Wise R. Steward:** Miss Guided’s brother. Slightly more on the ball than sis. Actually, everyone is!

*This is the story of a poor misguided tither, that is clueless when it comes to the principle. Trough a misunderstanding, and a good hearted intention, Miss. Guided begins her comical version of tithing. The story begins with Miss. Guided at a table washing her money, and looking a bit puzzled at the results. Wise enters the room.*

**Wise R. Steward:** Hey Guided! *(Points at what she is doing)* What are you doing?

**Miss. Guided Steward:** Hey Wise! Well, I’m trying to practice God’s Word, but it doesn’t seem to be working too well.

**Wise R. Steward:** Just what part of the Word is it that you are trying to keep?

**Miss. Guided Steward:** You know, the part about Tiding your money and stuff! I tried to Tide™ my sandwich, but it tastes awful! *(Hold up a soggy sandwich)*

**Wise R. Steward:** No! It’s not Tiding, it’s *Tithing!*

**Miss. Guided Steward:** Oh... What’s that?

**Wise R. Steward:** That’s where you take at least a tenth of what God has given you and you give it back to Him--to show your appreciation.

**Miss. Guided Steward:** OH! But doesn’t He want us to wash it first? Certainly God doesn’t want dirty money.

**Wise R. Steward:** No silly! He doesn’t care about that. Remember, he made it. But he does want you to take care of what He has given you--*(in a low voice)* it’s really His anyway, you know.

**Miss. Guided Steward:** Yes! I see that!

**Wise R. Steward:** Why don’t you come with me and I’ll explain it all to you, OK?

**Miss. Guided Steward:** OK

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