

Activities for the Parable of the Hidden Treasure - Matt 13:44 (14th June)

This is another week where the children's theme is different from the adults'.

The kingdom of God (or heaven) is like a family with Jesus in charge as king
'The kingdom of God' is the place where Jesus rules and is in charge. Do we want Jesus to be the king of our lives and in charge of every aspect of it? What could that mean for us? For younger children it might be easier to think of 'being part of God's family'. Being in God's family with Jesus as king is the best thing ever! Draw your family on a piece of paper and then draw a big crown shape round it.

Hiding and finding treasure

Hide some treasure in the house or garden. This could be a box of coins, a thimble, or a packet of sweets. Give clues to where it is hidden, or give 'getting warmer' directions, or draw a map with X marking the spot. How do you feel when you find the treasure? Hide it again. Jesus said the 'kingdom of heaven' is like this treasure. Knowing and obeying Jesus is the best thing we can do.

Make a treasure box

Find a box such as in ice cream carton or shoe box and decorate it with coloured, shiny paper, or stick on the treasure box picture from the resources section. What treasures do you have? What would you put in your treasure box? Talk about what is important to you. It could be something which is valuable because it costs a lot, or valuable because it is important to you or has a special meaning.

Your treasures and God's treasures

Make a list of your treasures (if there was a fire in your house, what would you save?) and a list of God's treasures. Are they the same? Have another look at Jesus' sermon in Matthew 5-7. What sort of things does God treasure and value?

Wax resist picture

Draw a simple picture on white paper with a white crayon or candle. It could be a treasure box, or a cross, or a person. (Do it in sunlight or near a lamp so you can see the wax easily.) Say that there is a hidden treasure on the paper to find. Make some watery paint and paint over the paper to reveal the hidden picture.

Treasure prayers

Draw a picture of the people you know who are in God's family or write a list of the things you treasure. Tape the picture of the treasure box in the resources along one side. Lift the flap to open the treasure box and pray for what's inside.