



TREASURE CHEST

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e-NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE INVOLVED IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY.

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Remember the Good Times

George Bernard Shaw once said, "Write your sad times in sand, write your good times in stone." Too frequently, we allow our focus to be more permanently placed upon those trying or testing moments of life. We can allow a single difficult situation to become as a stone memorial to us which forever changes how we approach daily living. Regrettably, when we allow such negative single-mindedness an opportunity to be established in our thoughts, we then open the door to an ever-increasing deluge of discouragement. It is at that point when we begin to feel "Run Over." Are there weights of discouragement, disillusionment, or dissatisfaction holding you down in your Christian life or ministry?

The second part of Shaw's quote can be a reminder for us as believers to focus upon God's goodness in our lives. Look for God's daily blessings in your life. Let the blessings you experience, both great and small, be consistently spotlighted in your thoughts and conversations. You will soon begin to more quickly recognize that there are more blessings in your life than you would have ever imagined. Yes, indeed, God's blessings come on you and accompany you throughout each and every day! (Deut. 28:2) So count your blessings and remember the good times.



Adapted from Pastor Gary Linn - www.childrensministry.org

THE LOST TREASURE

THEME: Greed, Selfishness

VERSE: 1 Timothy 6:10

Once there were three friends who were hunters in the African jungle. They searched and searched but found nothing to capture. Just as they were about to go home, the hunters stumbled across two large chests. They removed the lids and found they were full of treasure. "We're rich!" they all cried out. They talked excitedly amongst themselves as to how they would spend the money. And they talked about how they would divide two chests of treasure among three people, but they couldn't agree. After many hours of arguing, one of the friends said, "I'm getting hungry. Let's all go to the village and buy some food."



"What'll we do with the treasure?" said one of the other hunters. "If we take it with us to the village, we'll get robbed, beaten and maybe even killed. If we leave it here, somebody else might find it and claim it as their own and we'll lose it all." "I know what to do," said the third hunter. "You two go to the village and buy food and I'll stay here with the treasure." "No way, we don't trust you," they quickly replied. "You'll only run off with all the treasure when we're gone."

(continued next page)...

Father's Day Ideas

Sunday, 2 September 2012

(Check out these websites - just click on them while you are online)

- * <http://cpn.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Fathers-Day-Ideas.pdf>
- * <http://cpn.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Fathers-Day-Ideas2.pdf>
- * <http://mrn.sa.uca.org.au/childrens-ministry/all-age-worship.html>
(scroll down to *Intergenerational Worship Resource for Father's Day*)
- * <http://re-worship.blogspot.com.au/2012/05/fathers-day-worship-resources.html>



Teaching Kids the Five Finger Prayer

Here is a helpful approach for teaching kids to pray. It's a format that allows children to recall and pray in their own words for five different groups of people. All this lines up with the five fingers of their hand.



Thumb (people who are close to you)

These are your close friends and family. Give thanks to God and ask his protection on your family, friends and classmates.

Pointer (people who point the way) These are leaders in your life, such as teachers and pastors. Offer God your thanksgiving for them and ask him to help them in their important work.

Tall Finger (people in authority) The big people in the world need prayer too. Ask God to give wisdom to our government, military and police.

Ring Finger (people who are weak) This is your weakest finger. We should remember others who are sick, live in poverty, or are treated badly. Pray that Jesus would give them new strength.

Little Finger (your own needs) God wants to hear your needs too, especially when you put others first. Pray for your own growth in mind, body, and spirit.

... (from page 1)

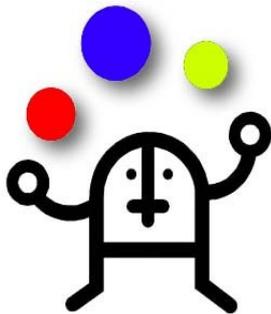
After arguing they finally decided that one hunter would go to the village to buy food while the other two stayed and guarded the treasure ... and each other.

When the hunter left for the village, greed started to get the better of the other two. They plotted to kill their friend when he came back with the food. Then they would only have to divide the treasure in two. "That's more for us," they greedily said.

As soon as the hunter returned from the village, the two pounced on him and killed him. Then picking up the food, they sat down to eat. "I wonder why he only brought back enough food for two people," they thought. "Maybe he already ate his in the village. I hope he enjoyed it," they laughed. As they ate they began to feel sick. But it was too late. The single hunter had poisoned the food hoping to get all the treasure for himself. The birds whistled as the two chests of treasure sat there ... and the 3 friends all lay on the ground dead!

Which of those greedy men ended up with the treasure? None. Greed and selfishness destroyed them all.

(Taken from 'Stories for Kids Worth More Than Gold' - OAC Ministries)



Balloon Juggle - filler game

- Each contestant is given 3 blown up (& tied) balloons approx the size of a basketball.
- Their task is, one at a time, for each contestant to juggle them for 60 seconds.
- They are not allowed to hold the balloons at any time from when the game starts. They must 'pat' them.
- If any balloon hits the floor before the minute is up, that contestant's game is stopped and they get the number of points related to the amount of time the balloon is off the floor (1 point per second. Therefore the full 60 seconds is worth 60 points.)
- The score is recorded and the next player then has his/her turn.

Needed: stop watch or countdown timer; balloons.

Variation: For younger children use just 2 balloons.

CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES FOR SOME KIDS MIN IDEAS OR ARTICLES

(Just click on the web address while you are online)

- * <http://www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk/find/all/ideas/1/prayer/>
- * <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/prayer>
- * <http://childrensministry.com/articles/partnering-with-parents>
- * <http://ministry-to-children.com/praying-with-children/>
- * <http://www.buildfaith.org/2012/03/07/building-faith-brick-by-brick/>
- * <http://www.buildfaith.org/2012/06/22/changing-times-changing-responses/>
- * <http://www.breadnotstones.com/2012/05/ten-things-i-want-to-tell-parents.html>

