

FOOTPRINTS

Leader's Guide for LESSON 5

For Kids

Your Time, Talents and Treasure

Welcome (7 Minutes)

As the parents/mentors and children arrive, give each a warm welcome. Encourage a young person to help you greet others as they arrive. Begin your group time together by inviting the participants to share by asking, "Where have you seen God at work in your life this past week?" (Acknowledge all responses.)

All we have
belongs
to Jesus



Say: Last week we learned that Jesus wants to spend time with us every day. Find someone who is not in your family to share with, and briefly tell what you did with T.A.G. this past week.

Use the "M.M." ball (see Curriculum introduction for instructions) to ask the families about their use of *Mentoring Moments* for family worship at home.

Goals for this lesson

By the end of this lesson, participants will:

- **Know** that their time, talents and treasure are gifts from God
- **Feel** happy to use their time, talents and treasure for God
- **Respond** by choosing specific ways to use their time, talents and treasure for God

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who lives every day
to love Jesus and bring others to Him.*



The Bridge (10 Minutes)

Activity

Give each participant a copy of the handout and a pen/pencil. Instruct them to ask questions of the other participants and collect one or more signatures beside each description. Allow 4 to 5 minutes then call time and have everyone return to their seats.

Debrief

Say: Raise your hand if you got to sign someone's paper. We are all good at something. There is a word for things that we can do well; what is that word? (Talent.) Where did you get the talents you have? (From God.) Is there anything on this list that isn't a talent? Is there anything on the list that cannot be used to serve God? (No.)

Say: Today we are going to discover three things that God has given each of us to use for His service – time, talents and treasure.

Prayer: Pray or invite a volunteer to pray for the Holy Spirit to direct this meeting.

You need

- One *Find Someone Who* handout for each participant
- Pens/pencils

Ahead

Make copies of the *Find Someone Who* handout.



Into the Word (25 Minutes)

Write this lesson's *Footprint* on the board:
All we have belongs to Jesus.

Characters:

- The Master
- The first servant
- The second servant
- The third servant
- 4 narrators

You need

- White board and markers
- Bibles
- Pens/pencils
- 4 copies of the script
- 15 coins of the same denomination
- Small coin purse or money bag

Ahead

Assign the narrative, reading and character parts. Tell characters to listen to the script and act the parts as the story is read. Give the master the money bag full of coins with instructions to use the coins for talents prompted in the story. Give servants 1 & 2 the extra coins they will need to return to the master at the end.

Write the Bible Discovery Scripture references for numbers 2-5 on separate slips of paper for distribution among the families. Be sure to include the number reference.

Activity

Based on Matthew 25:14-29, NIV.

Narrator 1 One day Jesus told a story that went like this: The kingdom of heaven is like a man who planned to take a journey. He called together his servants and said, “I’m going to take a journey, and I want you to take care of my property while I am gone.”

Narrator 2 To the first servant, the master gave five talents.

Narrator 3 [Pause while the master gives the coins.] To the second servant, the master gave two talents.

Narrator 4 [Pause.] And to the third servant, the master gave one talent, each according to his ability. [Pause.] Then the master went on his journey.

Narrator 1 The first servant who had received five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the second servant with two talents gained two more.

But the third servant who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

After a long time the master returned and called his servants to report to him.

Narrator 2 The first servant came and said, “Master, you gave me five talents, and I have gained five more.”

The master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with what I gave you, so I will give you even more!

Narrator 3 The second servant came and said, “Master, you gave me two talents, and I have gained two more.”

The master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with what I gave you, so I will give you even more!

Narrator 4 The third servant came and said, “Master, I knew that you were a hard man, and I uh, well, I was afraid that I might lose the talent you gave me and so I, uh, well, I hid it in the ground. Here it is.”

Narrator 1 The master was not happy. He said, “Why didn’t you at least put it in the bank where it could earn some interest? Give your talent to the first servant. And now get out of my sight. You’re fired!

Bible Discovery

Distribute the Scripture texts to the families and instruct them to look up their verses and be prepared to read them to the class. Encourage family groups to assign a student to read the verse to the whole group when called. Allow 2-3 minutes.

Write on the board: Time, Talents and Treasure.

- 1 Review Matthew 25:14-29.** Which servants took responsibility for their master's treasure? (First and second.) What did they do to show they were responsible? (Put their talents to work.) What do you think Jesus wanted us to learn from this? (To use responsibly the talents that God has given us.)

Write on the board: Talents bring responsibility

Ask: What did the master say to the first two servants? (Well done. Now I can give you more.) What do we learn from this? (When we use our talents God will give us more talents.)

Write on the board: Those who use their talents get more talents

Ask: Why did the servant with one talent choose to do nothing with it? (He was afraid.) What happened to the servant who hid his talent? (He was rebuked by his master, lost his talent and lost his job.)

Write on the board: Talents – use them or lose them

Say: In Bible times a talent was an amount of money. Today a talent could mean an ability like being able to sing well or run fast.

When we look at the talents people have we can see there are differences – some people are more talented than others. But when we look at the gift of time we know that every person has exactly the same amount.

- 2 Read 1 Corinthians 10:31.** What other activities that take our time could we put into this verse besides “eat” or “drink?” (Use the computer, watch TV, listen to music, play sports, play games, read etc.) What does this verse tell us to do with our time? (Do things that glorify God.)

Write on the board: Do things with our time that glorify God

- 3 Read Psalm 90:12.** What do you think “number your days” means? (Be careful about how you use your time.)

Write on the board: Use time wisely

Say: Time is one thing that is equal for each and every person. Some people have more talents than others; some people have more money than others, but everyone has exactly the same amount of time

- 4 Read Malachi 3:10.** What is tithe? (One tenth of the money we make.) What does this verse promise to people who give their tithe to God? (He will give them more blessings than they will be able to receive.)

Write on the board: Give a tithe back to God

- 5 Read 2 Corinthians 9:7.** What attitude does God want us to have when we give our money in offerings? (Cheerful.)

Write on the board: Give offerings cheerfully

Ask: Why is it important for us to use some of our money to help others? Identify some projects we can use our offerings to help. (World Missions, ADRA, homeless shelters, etc.) Distribute church offering envelopes to each participant. Point out the line where tithe would be written. Point out church needs that are noted on the envelope. Encourage each participant to use the envelope this coming Sabbath.

Review/Quiz

Steps to follow:

1. Review the summary points written on the board.
2. Cover or turn the board around and quiz the class by asking, “What have we learned about our time, talents and treasure?”
3. Encourage adults to allow students to answer the questions and assist only if needed.



My Choice (5-8 Minutes)

Say: Everything we have belongs to Jesus. Everything we have can be used by Jesus. He can use your music, your smile, your used clothes, your ability to work hard raking leaves or cleaning houses, your words of encouragement, your knowledge.

You need

- One copy of *My Choice* handout for each family
- Pens/pencils

Leader Share briefly an experience you have had when you were blessed or others were blessed when you used your time or talents or treasure for God.

Distribute one *My Choice* handout to each family group.

Say: Parents and mentors, move your chairs into a family circle and follow the instructions on *My Choice* with your child. When you are finished with *My Choice* turn the paper over and continue with *My World*.



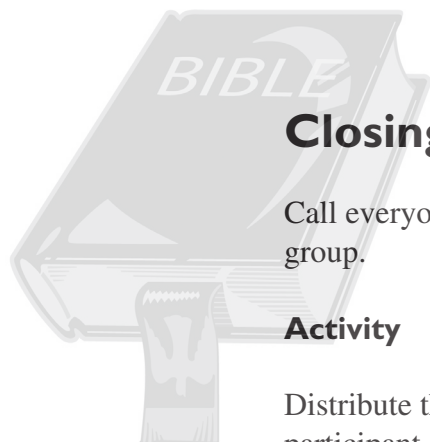
My World (5-8 Minutes)

Leaders: While the families are working together, the leader and co-leader pray for each of the parents/mentors and children.

If some families finish early, as leader you can: 1) engage those families by asking them about their family circle time or 2) give a time “warning” to the other families such as, “Please finish in three more minutes.” Let them know they can finish their *My World* time together at home.

You need

- One copy of *My World* handout for each family
- Pens/pencils



Closing (2 Minutes)

Call everyone back together as a large group.

Activity

Distribute three pennies to each participant.

You need

- Three pennies for each participant
- One *Mentoring Moments* handout for each family

Say: One of these pennies represents your talents, one your time, and one your treasure. Jesus wants you to use all three of them to share His awesome love with others.

Share your coins with three other people: one to represent your time, one to represent your talents, and one to represent your treasure. Each time you share a coin tell how you plan to use your time or talent or treasure for Jesus.

Model this activity for the participants by showing a penny and saying “This penny represents my talent of writing. I want to use my writing talent for Jesus by writing welcome cards to mail to people who are visitors to my Sabbath school class.” Personalize this with one of your talents.

Allow time for all participants to complete the activity.

Say: When you choose to use your time, talents, and treasure for God, He will do amazing things in you and through you!

Say the *Footprint* together: **All we have belongs to Jesus**

Ask: Did you think of specific things you can do this week to use your time, talents and treasure for God?

Grace Point — Say: Next week I will invite you to share how you used your time or talents or treasure for God this coming week

Close with a prayer or invite a volunteer to pray:

- thanking Jesus for the talents, time and treasure we have been given
- asking Jesus to show each participant how to use their gifts for Him

Distribute *Mentoring Moments* and instruct the families to use these at home to build on the concepts developed in this lesson.

My Choice

1. Say the *Footprint* together: **All we have belongs to Jesus.**
2. Parents/mentors: **Review** with your child the points made in this lesson by going over them one at a time and asking, “Do you understand what this means?” or “Do you have any questions about this one?” Clarify any points as needed.

Time, Talents and Treasure...

1. Talents bring responsibility.....Matthew 25:14-29
2. Those who use their talents get more talents.....Matthew 25:14-29
3. Talents – use them or lose them.....Matthew 25:14-29
4. Use time to glorify to God.....2 Corinthians 10:31
5. Use time wiselyPsalm 90:12
6. God blesses those who tithe Malachi 3:10
7. Give offerings cheerfully2 Corinthians 9:6, 7

3. Parents/mentors: **Share** briefly a time when you were blessed by using your time or talents or treasure for God.
4. **THE CHOICE — Ask:** Would you like to choose to use your time, talents, and treasure for Jesus? If your child says “Yes,” affirm his/her decision. If your child is not sure or says “No” or “Not now,” **Say:** It’s all right if you need time to think about this or want to wait. **Ask:** Can you tell me why? Is it okay if we talk about this next week?
5. **Prayer:** Form a family prayer circle and ask Jesus to help you use your time, talents and treasure for Him.

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who lives every day
to love Jesus and bring others to Him.*

My World

1. Use the chart below to **brainstorm** for ways your child can use his/her time, talents and treasure for God. For each section begin with the question: “What do you think Jesus would like you to do?”

Time (Example: Spend 15 minutes each day doing something to help around the house without being asked.)

Talents (Example: Use musical ability with an elderly person to brighten his/her day. Use math ability to help a classmate do homework.)

Treasure (Example: Begin paying tithe on his/her “income.” Give offerings for specific projects from his/her own money.)

2. Parents/mentors: **Share** with your child one specific thing you will do this coming week to use your time or talents or treasure for God.

3. **Ask:** What would you like to do first from the list? What can I do to help you?

Grace Point — Next week you will be invited to share how you used your time or talents or treasure for God this coming week.

Next Week Parents/mentors, you will be asked to share an experience when you made a choice that honored God or honored your body or honored another person.

Your Time, Talents and Treasure

Mentoring Moments for Lesson 5

Mentoring Moments are meant to extend the lesson you studied with your small group. Each *Mentoring Moment* choice contains a Scripture, an activity, discussion questions, and a prayer point grouped around a particular topic. They are perfect for use in family worship. If time does not permit the completion of the activity, using just the Scripture and discussion questions can provide a *Mentoring Moment* anywhere, even in the car.

Choice One

Scripture: Romans 12:6-8

Activity: As a family, share what strengths you see in each other.

For Discussion: A sixth-grader named Alicia said: “One of my gifts from God is being outgoing. Our church is involved in a ministry that helps homeless people and gives them shelter. When I go there to visit, I talk to the homeless kids and sometimes give them crafts that I’ve made. One little second grader told me that nobody at her school liked her, so I decided to be her friend.”

Identify two of Alicia’s talents. What strengths do you have that you can use for Jesus?

Prayer Point: Ask Jesus to show you your talents so you can use them to help others.

Choice Two

Scripture: Matthew 25:21

Activity: Begin a talent journal where you write down what talents you think you might have and how you plan to use them for Jesus. Note how your talents and the opportunities to use them change or increase when you dedicate them to God.

For Discussion: What is the difference between giving our talents to God and giving them to the world? Talk with your family about ways you can get together with others as a group and share your talents for God.

Prayer Point: Dedicate your talents to God and His service.

Choice Three

Scripture: Mark 12:41-43

Activity: Using a concordance, do a Bible study on money and how to use it.

For Discussion: What do you think is more important to God: the size of your gift, or your willingness to use it for Him? Is any gift too small?

Prayer point: Ask Jesus to make you willing to give all your talents, time and treasure to Him.

Choice Four

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-13

Activity: Take a survey of your friends, church members or classmates and ask them what they think your talents and strengths are.

For discussion: Do we always recognize our talents and strengths? How can others help us know how we have been equipped to serve?

Prayer Point: Pray that God will help you discover your talents and show you how to best use them for Him.

Choice Five

Scripture: Matthew 25:28, 29

Activity: Brainstorm with your family and find someone in the Bible who was reluctant to use his or her talents or resources to serve God. What happened?

For discussion: How do you think it would feel to stand before God and tell Him you didn't want to use the talents, time and treasure He gave you to serve Him?

Prayer Point: Ask God to make you willing to give all your talents, time and treasure to Him.



Find Someone Who...

1. Is good at math _____
2. Likes to smile _____
3. Plays a musical instrument well _____
4. Draws or paints well _____
5. Is good at fixing things _____
6. Is a good reader _____
7. Knows how to bake bread or cookies _____
8. Can whistle _____
9. Can juggle _____
10. Speaks more than one language _____
11. Is a good storyteller _____
12. Makes friends easily _____
13. Makes other people laugh _____
14. Is good at making crafts _____
15. Likes outdoor activities _____