



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: Jesus Is the King  
Winter Year 1, Lesson 42

# Give It Up to the King

**Primary Scripture:** Luke 12:34

**Key Verse:** Luke 12:34, “Your heart will be where your treasure is.”

## **How does this address a need in our kids' lives?**

Our kids live in a materialistic world. Much talk at school and home is centered on accumulating things or experiences. If merely glamorous things or exciting experiences are what we treasure, then we might miss the greatest treasure of all—Jesus. In Luke 12:33-34, Jesus encourages us to let go of our possessions. In a way, we are “giving them up” to the Lord. In so doing, we are storing our treasures in heaven and more fully taking hold of the relationship Jesus has won for us through his death and resurrection.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** Through Jesus’ perfect life in our place, his death on the cross, and his resurrection, he has purchased us from the debt of our sins. We can now live with him in his kingdom here in this world and the world to come.

**Jesus in us:** As we turn our lives completely over to Jesus and give up our selfishness to him, he becomes our treasure. His presence brings daily riches of love, joy, peace, and hope.

**Jesus through us:** As we loosen the grip of our own selfishness surrendering all to Jesus, we can make a dramatic witness to the world that so desperately clings to material things.

## Stamp of Excellence:

*Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

### Attention Grabber:

*Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.*

*Supplies:*

- *treasure box*
- *medal or trophy*
- *dollar bill*
- *report card or award certificate*

**In our worship today, we are going to talk about giving things up to God. That's what we do when we worship. We give up our heart and our love to him. But sometimes there are other things that we need to give up to God so we can better worship him.**

**Here is my treasure box. In it I have some very special treasures.**

Look inside the treasure chest and pull out a medal or trophy.

**Wow! Here's a medal from winning a basketball tournament. That certainly is a treasure.**

**Do you have something like this in your treasure box?**

Pull money out of the chest.

**Look at this! Here is some money. Maybe this is a treasure, too. Oh, and look at this.**

Lift out a report card.

**This is a copy of a report card. Making good grades could also be a treasure.**

**Is there anything wrong with a basketball medal? No. Is there anything wrong with money? No. Is there anything wrong with making good grades? No. There's nothing wrong with those things. In fact, they are wonderful things. They are part of the gifts that God gives us.**

**But thinking of them as our main treasure or our most important things in life is not pleasing to God. Do you know what God wants us to do? This!**

Open the treasure box and throw all the things up towards the ceiling, letting them fall back down.

**God wants us to give up anything that might be more important than him. We simply say, "Lord God, you can have this and do with it whatever you want." And often, he wants us to have those things and be blessed by them so he will give them right back to us.**

**It's just like these things falling back to the ground. I can still keep them, but maybe I don't want to keep them in my treasure box. Instead, my treasure box will be full of my love for Jesus. Because of that treasure, I'll have his joy with me now and forever.**

**Let's worship God, remembering that where our treasure is, our heart will be also. Our treasure is Jesus.**

## **Songs of Worship:**

*Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!*

## **The Power of the Cross:**

*Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.*

*Supplies:*

- *treasure chest*
- *dollar bill*

Refer back to the treasure box and the items that were in it. Take out the dollar and ask the kids:

**Who knows what it means to be greedy?**

Make a big deal about wanting money and celebrating all the wonderful things it can buy.

**Have you ever heard that money is the root of all evil? That is not really what it says in the Bible. In 1 Timothy 6:10 it says, “...*the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.*” Money is not wrong, but loving money is. When we love money too much, we can become greedy.**

**We can also be greedy over things other than money. Maybe we won’t share a special toy or we will do anything to get something we want. When we love something too much, we become greedy. That thing gets in the way of us loving God.**

**Can you think of anything that you have been greedy about? Can you think of something someone else had that you wanted so badly that you wished they didn’t have it so you could? That is what *envy* means. It’s a special kind of greed that wants what someone else has.**

**Think of a way you might have been greedy or had envy this last week. Let’s tell God about it so he can forgive us and change us.**

Announce forgiveness after confession.

## **Song of Response:**

*Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.*

## **Offering:**

*Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.*

*Supplies:*

- *dozen hula hoops or rope circles*

On the floor, have a dozen hula hoops or four-foot diameter circles made from flagging tape or rope. The children will put their money offerings in the offering plate and then stand in one of the circles. Explain that this is a symbolic way they can express offering their whole selves and their whole lives. Lead the kids in a dedication prayer as follows.

**Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that you have given us all that we have and all that we are. You have given us our families and our homes, our schools and our abilities. You have given us food and health, nice things, and toys. But none of these things are more important than you.**

**Just as you have given these things to us, we give them back to you as we lift up our hands. We give ourselves to you just as you gave yourself to us. Because of Jesus giving his life for us, we can live forever in heaven with you. Thank you very, very much. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Talk about your current mission project and where the offerings are going.



# The Word

## Learning Game:

*Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.*

### *Supplies:*

- *ten paper cups and a cafeteria tray for each group of eight to ten children*
- *obstacle course made with hula hoops or rope circles*
- *rope at the end of the obstacle course that is tied from wall to wall (or ladder to ladder) at a height of about seven feet*

The object of this relay race is for a team to get its pyramid of cups through the field of “chocolate sink holes” and over a high wire to the other side. Use the hula hoops or circles from the offering as the “chocolate sink holes.” The high wire can be a rope at the end of the obstacle course that is tied from wall to wall at a height of about seven feet.

Divide the children into teams of eight to ten players with an adult helping each team. The first objective for each team is to build a pyramid. On a cafeteria tray, stack ten very small paper cups with four on the bottom, then a row of three, then two, and then one.

One person from each team must take the tray of cups through the “chocolate sink hole” field to the high wire without the cups falling. If at any time a cup falls or a traveler steps into a “sink hole,” he must return to the starting line and let a second traveler try. Some team members will have to be at the starting line in case they are needed while other team members are at the high wire.

Once they reach the high wire, the kids must find a way to pass the tray of cups over the rope. They may not stand on chairs. The children can ask the adult working with their team to pass the tray of cups over the high wire for them. *The trick to successfully completing this game is to ask for help.*

After the game, discuss the learning point.

**If you and I are busy watching or focusing on things, we may go through life and run into some *real* “sink holes.” Even if we can do this balancing act and keep our things in order, our things will eventually disappoint us if they are all we have. By the time we get**

over the finish line of life, we cannot keep all our things intact because things wear out. We lose interest in things and they are not important enough to be all we live for.

For us to get over the finish line, we need to “give it up to God.” When we hand all of our things to him, it is like the adult who took the tray to help carry it over the finish line. Today we are learning how to “give it up to God.”

## **Bible Presentation:**

*Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.*

### **Lesson 1:**

*Supplies:*

- *purse or bag with holes*
- *pennies*
- *microphone*

Read Luke 12:33-34. Then interview kids with a roving microphone. Questions might include:

**What does God the Father want to give you?** *(Heaven.)*

**What kinds of things does the Bible verse mean by “wallets that wear out” and “treasures that get stolen”?** *(The treasures of money and things of this earth.)*

**Where should we store up our treasure?** *(In heaven.)*

**How do we do that?** *(By loving Jesus.)*

### **Lesson 2:**

*Supplies:*

- *slightly softened vanilla ice cream*
- *ice cream scoop*
- *dish*
- *heat lamp*
- *M&M's and candy corns*
- *graham cracker for each child*

Make an ice cream sculpture as you read “When Your Treasure Melts.” As this story is being told, scoop vanilla ice cream to make a snowman three layers high in a dish. Use M&M's for buttons and eyes and a candy corn for a nose.

It would be helpful if the ice cream were slightly softened, even at the very beginning of the story. The effect is for the ice cream snowman to melt quickly. Also have available a portable bright light and graham crackers.

## **When Your Treasure Melts, There Is Your Heart Also**

Joshua was very excited about his day together with his friends. It had just snowed and they had planned to get together to build snowmen.

When Joshua went to get his friend Zachary, he was eager to have Zachary come over to his house and help him build a snowman. When Zachary came to the door, he was already bundled up and ready to go outside.

Zachary said, “Good! I was just ready to come and get you. My mom asked me to finish shoveling the snow on our driveway and sidewalk. My next-door neighbor, Mrs. Ortiz, is an older lady who can’t shovel snow. I thought it would be good to help her by shoveling her driveway. Would you like to help?”

“Shucks no,” said Joshua. “I want to build a snowman. I don’t want to go shovel snow on some dumb driveway for some dumb lady I don’t even know.”

“Well, I’ll introduce you to her. And it really won’t be so bad.”

“Aw, forget it,” said Josh. “Come and get me when you’re through because I’m gonna build a snowman.”

Zachary said, “Okay,” and headed out with a snow shovel. He went across the street to get some of the other neighborhood friends to come and help, too. Before long, there were three kids helping Zachary shovel driveways and sidewalks. They didn’t just stop at Mrs. Ortiz’s driveway but they went to some other houses as well.

Meanwhile, Joshua went back to his yard frustrated at his friends. Wouldn’t they rather build a snowman with him? He decided he couldn’t wait and started to build a snowman by himself.

Joshua worked all morning until lunch and even worked after lunch. By afternoon, it was getting warm and Joshua had to take his coat off and work in his sweater.



**Sometimes it was hard work putting a snowman together by himself, but Joshua knew that when he finished it would be a masterpiece. All his friends would feel bad that they did not help him. Obviously, it would be the best snowman in town.**

**By now the sun shined in full force. Joshua felt pretty proud of himself as he watched the snowman glisten all the whiter in the sunshine.**

Turn on a bright heat lamp and point it at the ice cream snowman. (It would be helpful to have an assistant hold the lamp.)

**Joshua went to look for his friends and found them all laughing and playing in Mrs. Ortiz's yard. They were having a great snowball fight from the snow they had piled up after shoveling. Mrs. Ortiz had even made them hot chocolate. Joshua's friends were having so much fun that it even became too hot for them to wear their coats.**

**Joshua joined in for a minute, but all he could think about was how he had just made the greatest snowman in the whole world. He couldn't wait for them to see it. He was sure they would wish they had helped him.**

**When Joshua invited his friends to come see his snowman, the kids didn't want to come at first. They were having too much fun playing. Finally, after enough asking, Joshua took all his friends to see his most treasured creation.**

**When they got to his house and looked in the front yard, what do you think they saw?**

Point to the melting ice cream snowman. Hopefully it is looking pretty sorry by now!

**The snowman had melted! Joshua had spent all day trying to make the world's best snowman and it didn't even last long enough for his friends to see! He had spent a lot of time and energy trying to impress others. He even turned down an opportunity to help someone else because he was making the snowman for himself.**

**Zachary pretended to think that Joshua's snowman was still pretty cool. Then he made an invitation to Joshua.**

**“You know, the most fun I had today was doing something for someone else,” Zachary said. “Just like we’ve talked about at Kids Church, doing something for someone else is just like doing it for Jesus—especially if you talk to that person about Jesus. I feel like I have a treasure that won’t melt, even if it’s only one kind act that I did for someone else. I hope next time we can help someone together.”**

**Joshua looked at his pathetic, melting snowman and nodded in agreement. “Yeah, this snowman thing is kind of dumb. It just melts anyway. Next time I think I’ll do something like you did. Something that will last.”**

Offer graham crackers as dipping spoons for kids to dip a scoop of ice cream for a bite. This can be done as they exit Kids Church. Remind the children that they should do something that will last forever and not melt away, just like the snowman.

### ***Lesson 3: (Optional)***

*Supplies:*

- *book, Adam Raccoon in Lost Woods by Glen Keane (Chariot Books, David C. Cooke Publishing Company, 1987)*

For a life application story, read this delightful book, which tells how hanging on to too many things can slow us down in following Jesus.



# Witness

## Witness and Tell:

*Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.*

**Think of something you *really* wanted but once you had it, it didn't make you happy or satisfied.**

**Tell about a time when you received or bought something that allowed you to help others—"give it up to God."**

## Prayer:

*Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.*

## Blessing:

*Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.*

## Song of Sending:

*Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.*

# Supplies:

## *Attention Grabber:*

- treasure box
- medal or trophy
- dollar bill
- report card or award certificate

## *The Power of the Cross:*

- treasure chest
- dollar bill

## *Offering:*

- dozen hula hoops or rope circles

## *Learning Game:*

- ten paper cups and a cafeteria tray for each group of eight to ten children
- obstacle course made with hula hoops or rope circles
- rope at the end of the obstacle course that is tied from wall to wall (or ladder to ladder) at a height of about seven feet

## *Bible Presentation:*

- purse or bag with holes
- pennies
- microphone
- slightly softened vanilla ice cream
- ice cream scoop
- dish
- heat lamp
- M&Ms and candy corns
- graham cracker for each child
- book, *Adam Raccoon in Lost Woods* by Glen Keane (Chariot Books, David C. Cooke Publishing Company, 1987) OPTIONAL—order from <http://www.alibris.com/search/search.cfm>

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