



HOUSE PARTY

PARENT GUIDE

January 17th

Life App Definition

Responsibility — showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

Main Idea

A businessman went on a journey and left three of his workers in charge of some of his money. Two of the workers turned a profit, while the third buried his portion, did nothing with it, wasted his opportunity for growth, and ended up having it taken away. God has given each of us responsibility over something—money, talents, even our stuff. Kids will discover some of the ways they can remember that everything they have comes from God. We pray kids will discover how they can use those things wisely.

Memory Verse

"Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large" (Luke 16:10 NIRV).

Bottom Line

Make the most of what you've been given.

Monthly Profession

I will follow the Good Shepherd, and I know His voice. The voice of a stranger I will not follow.

Small-Group Discussion

Review the story and use the following questions to reinforce the lesson learned from the story.

- What book of the bible is today's story from?
 - Matthew
- How many servants did the master leave his wealth to?
 - Three
- What did the first servant do with the five bags of gold he was left with?
 - He earned double the bags of gold, so ten total.
- What did the second servant do with the two bags of gold he was left with?
 - He earned double the bags of gold, so four total.
- What did the third servant do with the one bag of gold he was left with?
 - He buried it and didn't earn anything.

- What did Jesus want to teach us through this story?
 - God wants us to make the most of what we've been given.
- How do you think servant number one felt when his boss gave him that much money?
- How do you think servant number three felt?
- How do you think the boss felt when he saw that the first servant made the most of what he had been given?
- What are some ways you can make the most of what God has given YOU this week?

Object Lesson

The following activity is intended to help your children apply the lesson that was learned in today's House Party. Complete the activity as a family by following the steps below.

Supplies Needed

- "Use What You've Got" activity page
- Pencil

Activity

- Give your children a pencil and a "Use What You've Got" page.
- Encourage them to look at the list of things in the left column.
- Discuss how the things in the left column are all things everyone has.
- Instruct your children to draw a line from the things on the left column to something in the right column that needs to be accomplished in the world.
- Invite them to fill in the empty spaces on the page with their own ideas for things they have and what they can accomplish.
- Some of the connections kids make are somewhat abstract. Help your concrete thinkers stretch their minds a little bit. If they seem stuck, ask questions like these:
 - What could you use to help someone who needs someone to stand up for them?
 - What could you use to share the story of Jesus with someone?
- Share with your children that sometimes the world tells us we need even more, bigger, or better things to accomplish something great. But God tells us He will give us what we need to accomplish His plans. And His plans are really awesome!
- Remind them that this means all they have to do is look around and make the most of what they have been given.
- Wrap up by saying to your children, "These are all great ideas we just talked about. Which one of these things do you look forward to making the most of this week?" (Allow time for kids to share what they can do this week.)

Prayer

Spend a few moments in prayer with your children. Spend time asking God to help your children use what they have to encourage people in their lives.

Dear God,

Thank You so much that You made us to do good things. Thank You that one of the good things we can do is work hard. Help us work hard in everything we do at home, at school, or wherever we go. Thank You that when we work hard, we can show love to others and to You. We love You so much, Lord. Amen.

Draw a line from what you have to how you can make the most of it in the world around you.

What I have:

- **compassion**
- **a brain**
- **a skill**
- **a heart**
- **time**
- _____

What I can do:

- **cities need to be served**
- **lonely people need to be loved**
- **people need to be stood up for**
- **world-changing ideas need to be started**
- **people who need to hear about Jesus**
- _____
- _____