

Big Idea: A Wise Heart

Jesus reminds us that eternal life cannot be bought or achieved through completing a list of tasks, but only by being in relationship with God. Loving God is the most important thing we can do, and that must come first.

Bible Story: Mark 10 17-31

As Jesus was walking along the road, a man came running up to him. He fell down on his knees and began to ask Jesus a question. 'What must I do to have eternal life?' Jesus looked at the man kneeling in front of him: 'You know the answer to that! You must obey God's laws.' 'I have obeyed God's laws all of my life,' replied the man. Jesus looked at the man kneeling in front of him with love. He explained a little more. 'There is one more thing you must do. Go, sell everything you have, take the money and give it all to the poor. Then come and follow me.' This made the man very upset. You see, he was very rich. He loved his money and his possessions more than he loved God. As the man got up and walked sadly away, Jesus turned to his disciples. He said, 'It is so hard for rich people to enter the kingdom of God.' The disciples were shocked by this, so Jesus explained. 'Money can become more important to people than loving God. More important than loving other people. It's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's kingdom.' The disciples were even more confused and asked, 'How can anyone enter God's kingdom then?' 'Remember, with God, anything is possible,' Jesus replied. 'We left everything to follow you,' Peter said. 'Yes,' Jesus replied. 'And anyone who gives up things for me will be given a hundred times more. Those who appear to be important in the world are not important in God's kingdom. Those who seem unimportant in the world will be very important in God's kingdom.'

I wonder...?

What things are very important to you?

What was the most important thing in the rich man's life?

How can we work out what is most important to us?

Creative Activity: What fills our hearts?

You will need: *a large heart shape, scissors, magazines, glue, pens/crayons.*

Give your child a large heart shape and talk together about the things that fill our hearts or things that are important to us. Ask your child to cut and stick pictures or draw and write the things that can fill our hearts. Explain that these things are all important and can take up lots of space but ask them to leave some empty space for where God is in their heart. Finally, ask them to draw/illustrate where God is in their hearts

Prayers

May we put you first this week Lord.

May we be aware of others' needs rather than what we want.

May we give rather than take and serve you better. **Amen.**

God of love, we pray for those
with no toys, food, nice clothes or games.
May all who have more than enough share it,
so we show your love to all we meet. **Amen**