

FOLLOWING JESUS GIVES US TREASURE

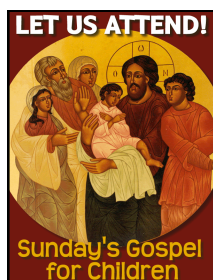
Jesus said, “Listen carefully, I want you to remember this. If someone has hurt you, or stolen something from you, or lied to you, you must forgive them. Why? Because you, too, have done wrong things, and God needs to forgive you. Indeed, God will forgive you, but first, you must forgive those who have done wrong to you.”

Jesus also taught us about fasting. He said, “When you are fasting, do not make a big deal about it, as if you were so very special. Keep quiet about it because the only one who needs to know what you are giving up is your Father in heaven. And when you get to be with Him, He will give you your reward. God wants you to be kind, unselfish, sharing, and caring. You may not find a treasure because of what you do, nor get a big reward for being kind, but in heaven you will. Do the works of God, with kindness in your heart, and your treasure in heaven will be great.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Jesus taught us how to be His disciples, or followers. If someone has done something wrong to us, or is mean to us. What should we do?
2. If we forgive someone who has hurt us, what will God do?
3. God doesn't want us to brag about ourselves, even when we are doing something good, like fasting.
4. God knows when we do good things. Jesus told us we add to our treasure in heaven when we follow what He taught us. What are some ways you have followed what Jesus taught?



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Pre-12



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One day, our Lord Jesus reminded His followers about some very important things. He said that we need to forgive others when they do something wrong or hurt us. Jesus said that if we forgive others, God will also forgive us when we sin. But if we do not forgive other people, God will not forgive us.

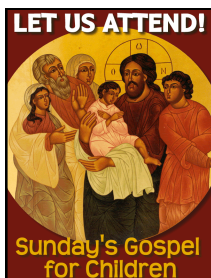
Our Lord also said that when we fast, we should look and act like we usually do. He said that hypocrites (people just pretending to be godly) show off by how they look and act when they fast. We should not fast so that people see how good we are. We should fast so that God can see that we want to be more like Him.

Then our Lord Jesus said we should not care so much about things we can get here on Earth. The earthly stuff we have can break, get rusty, or someone could steal it. Instead, we should care about heavenly things, which can't break, get rusty, or be stolen. Our Lord reminds us that whatever we care about the most is where our hearts will be.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus say we need to do if someone has done something wrong to us? Why?
2. What will happen if we do not forgive others?
3. How should we act when we are fasting?
4. Who should know about our fasting, other people or God?
5. What happens to the things we get, here on Earth? What happens to heavenly things?
6. Where do you care about the most? Earth or Heaven? Are you living in a way that shows that?



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The Lord said, “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

“And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but

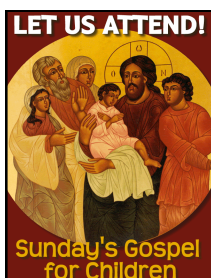
by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What are trespasses?
2. What does our Lord say will happen if we forgive others for their trespasses? What if we don't?
3. How should we look when we fast? Why?
4. Where should our treasures be?
5. What do you think our Lord means when He says, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also?”
6. What do you treasure? Are you spending your days trying to get earthly stuff? Or are you following Christ and building up heavenly treasures?



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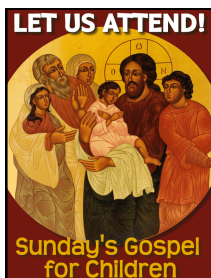
Characters: Narrator, Jesus

Narrator: The Lord said,

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YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

The Lord said, “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

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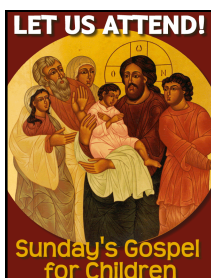
reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your

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“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What do we say about trespasses when we pray the Our Father?
2. What does it mean to forgive someone? What do you have to do in order to do that? How do you have to change?
3. How is forgiving others doing God's will “on earth as it is in heaven”?
4. What does this Gospel say will happen if we forgive others?
5. How is this God doing his will “on earth as it is in heaven?”
6. Do you think doing God's will is difficult or easy? Why?



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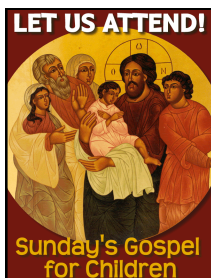
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does the opening of this Gospel say we need to do in order to receive God's forgiveness?
2. What is comforting about this? What is scary about this?
3. What does this suggest about God?
4. What happens to you as a person when you choose to forgive someone?
5. Why would God think that is a good thing? Why would God want that?
6. What does this suggest about God?
7. Do you like this picture of God and of us? Why or why not?



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