

Let nothing get in the way of loving God



Sign of the Cross.

Let's think back to last week's gospel and how lucky we are to have such a loving Father. Let's sing his praises. (See p. 170.)



quietly by yourselves

Can you do two things at once?



when each child has had time to think

(If they claim to be able to, let them show you. Ask the children to pat their head with one hand and rub their tummy with the other at the same time.)

See it's very difficult. If you do one well, you make a mess of the other. You have to choose which to do.



Jesus this week is telling us that we really can't do two things at once properly. We have to choose.

welcome the Gospel. Sing Alleluia. (See p. 220)



all stand (adapted from Luke 16:13)

No one can do two things well at the same time.
You will do well at one
and make a mess of the other.
If you spend your life making money,
thinking about money
and loving money all the time
you will forget God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

If you spend all your time thinking about money what kind of person might you become? Is that kind of person serving God?

Does God want us to do without money?

Of course not, we need it. He is trying to say to us that if we make it the first most important thing in our life soon we will forget him.

Would you like to put some money in the box in church?

Don't worry if you only have a penny to give, whoever gets it will be pleased.

BE A WISE SERVANT

VISUAL AIDS

- > Some price tickets with reduced prices.
- > An assortment of goods marked half price.
- > Price tag shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Saying together:

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Jesus was rich,
 but became poor for your sake,
 so that he could make you rich.
 Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News given to us by Luke.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus told his friends this story;
 'A rich man once had a very lazy servant, who wasted the rich man's money. The rich man sent for this servant and said
 "Because you're lazy and have wasted my money, I'm going to sack you." The servant wondered what he

DISCUSSION

- How did the lazy servant make friends?
 - by letting people off with half of their bill.
- How do we reach our home in heaven?
 - by not letting wealth take us over.

- How could wealth take us over?
 - if we worry too much about getting more
 - if we are tied by what we own
 - if we worry too much about losing what we have.
- Encourage the children to give examples.

SHARING

Have the children look at the goods and the reduced price tickets.

Would you go to a shop where you knew things were dearer?

In a shop would the children look first at full price goods? at reduced price goods?

Today Jesus tells us about a man who needed to make friends quickly. Listen to how he did it.

Would they pay the full price if they could get the same thing cheaper elsewhere?

would do. He wasn't strong enough to dig; he was too proud to beg. Then he had an idea. He sent for everyone who owed his master money, and for every single one, he cut the debt in half. If someone owed 100 measures of wheat, the servant changed it to 50. When the master heard this, he saw how cunningly clever the servant was, and praised him for it.

Then Jesus said to his friends 'Just as this man used the world's goods to make friends who would give him a home, so you must learn to use things wisely to gain your home in heaven. You must never be the slave of money.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTIVITIES

Just as the servant used the things of this world to make sure he had a home, so we must learn to use the things of this world wisely and properly to reach our heavenly home.

> Give out the price tag cut-outs.

> On them have the children write or draw what they will share or give away next week
 c.g. give up time to help wash the dishes, tidy the house, etc.
 e.g. give up places in the dinner queue, etc.

We are wise when we share.