

Children's Ministry Good Stewards Challenge



Scripture

Read this parable with your child:

Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' 26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Application

Altogether, our church, children and adults alike, would like to raise \$250,000 or even \$500,000. How long does it take you to count to a hundred? Imagine counting to a hundred ten more times, that is 1,000. Now imagine counting to 1,000 two-hundred fifty times! That is a big number! Not all of this money is going to come from one person, but from everyone. Some

families are not going to go on vacation. Some families are going to stop getting starbucks. And some families might get extra jobs.

Here is your challenge, just like the servants in the parable, use the money given to you to make more money. The money you make will be donated to the church for the "Room to Grow" Campaign. If the Children's Ministry raises \$100, then they will receive a pizza party. If they raise \$200, then with the pizza party, they will get a cake too.

Take a look at the ideas listed for ways you can raise money.

Bake Sale

Using your seed money, buy the supplies for cupcakes, brownies, cookies, or anything else you can bake. Then sell the baked goods. Say you spent \$5 to bake 12 cupcakes. Then you sell each cupcake for \$0.75. You would make \$9! That is nearly twice as much than you started out with. But, what if instead of ending with the \$9, you buy and bake 12 more cupcakes for \$5. Then you sell those for \$0.75, making \$9 more. Altogether, you have made \$13! ($\$9 - \$5 = \4, $\$4 + \$9 = \$13$) You can do this as many times as you want. Remember to do the math to see if your sale price will put you over \$5.

Drink Sale

Using your seed money, buy the supplies for lemonade, tea, gatorade mix or anything else you can drink. Then sell the drinks. Say you spent \$5 to make 3 gallons of lemonade. Then you sell each 8 oz. for \$0.25. You would make \$12! That is over twice as much than you started out with. But, what if instead of ending with the \$12, you buy and make 3 more gallons for \$5. Then you sell those for \$0.25, making \$12 more. Altogether, you have made \$19! ($\$12 - \$5 = \7, $\$7 + \$12 = \$19$) You can do this as many times as you want. Remember to do the math to see if your sale price will put you over \$5.

Jewelry Sale

Using your seed money, buy the supplies for necklaces, bracelets, earrings or anything else you can make. Take an afternoon or a Saturday and make the jewelry. Then sell the jewelry. Say you spent \$5 to make 4 necklaces. Then you sell each for \$2. You would make \$8! That is almost twice as much than you started out with. But, what if instead of ending with the \$8, you buy and make 4 more necklaces for \$5. Then you sell those for \$2, making \$8 more. Altogether, you have made \$11! ($\$8 - \$5 = \3, $\$3 + \$8 = \$11$) You can do this as many times as you want. Remember to do the math to see if your sale price will put you over \$5.

If there are a lot of kids who want to sell something, we can work out a time on a Sunday for kids to sell their items during church.

(Whatever)-a-thon or Kick-a-thon

How it works:

- Each child finds an unlimited number of sponsors. These sponsors can donate an amount of money per (whatever) the child does. (ex. \$1/kick or \$1/lap)

- On a set day, **for a run-a-thon**, the child runs around their church, house, block, or baseball/softball diamond and the number of laps the child does in a set time (15 min.- 1 hour) For each lap, the sponsor would pay for the agreed amount. (if the child does 20 laps in one hour, the sponsor donates \$20)
- On a set day, **for a kick-a-thon**, the child kicks a pad for 1 min. For each kick the child gives, the sponsor donates the agreed amount (if the child does 60 kicks, the sponsor donates \$60)
- For a set time period, **for a read-a-thon**, the child reads books during that time (1 day or week or month). At the end of the period, they tally up the number of books they read and the sponsor donates for the agreed amount (ex. \$2 per book read over a one week period. If they read 5 books, the sponsor donates \$10). *The books read should be in the child's reading range. (No board books for 5th graders)

Who can be a sponsor?

- Anyone can sponsor! They could be a teacher from school, a coach, an adult at church, anyone!
- Let's say you get 3 sponsors for a kick-a-thon who each donate \$0.50 per kick given in 60-seconds. In your 60-seconds, you give 72 kicks. So each sponsor donates \$36. But, since you have 3 sponsors, each donate \$36, making your total \$108!

How to ask someone to sponsor you:

"Hello Mr./Mrs./Ms. (Name). My church is doing a fundraiser to better help foster families and help our building be better used by the community. I am doing a (run/kick/read/whatever)-a-thon. For every (lap/kick/book) I do/read, a sponsor will donate \$0.25/\$0.50/\$0.75/\$1. Would you like to sponsor me?"

What to say

Someone asks you what you are selling:

- Tell them what you are selling (cupcakes, cookies, lemonade, tea, necklaces, bracelets) and tell them why you are selling it. Here is an example:

"I am selling cookies to help my church better serve the community. We want to better help foster families, make our building more useful to the community, and do more outreach. Buying a cookie helps us help foster families and more in our community."

If someone asks you what you get for selling whatever, you can tell them:

"If the Children's Ministry raises \$100, we get a pizza party. If we raise \$200, then we get cake too."

If someone asks why you are selling something, you can tell them:

"Jesus taught us to use our money to give generously. I am wanting to raise money to better help foster families and serve the community with our church building."