

## **Lesson 9 Student Guide - *The Promise of a Cross on Earth and Treasure in Heaven***

**Lesson goal:** The goal of this class is to encourage students to recognize that God does not promise material wealth on Earth but that he promises a cross on Earth and eternal blessings in Heaven.

**Pre-Lesson Preparation:** Read Luke 16:19-31.

### **Think**

If I love God, will he make me wealthy? Will God give me material wealth if I ask for it? Is the worth of my earthly blessings an indication of my spiritual position?

### **Evaluate**

1. Who are the characters in the story?
2. What are the objects in the story?
3. Where did the story take place?
4. When did the story take place?
5. What is the problem?
6. What happened in the story?
7. Was the problem solved?

### **Learn**

8. What is the main theme of the lesson?
9. What sin does this lesson teach you to confess?
10. Where do you see the love of God in the lesson?
11. What does God teach you to do in the lesson?

### **Lead**

12. What would be a good situation in which to share this message?

### **Additional questions**

13. What is the "Prosperity Gospel" and what passage is used as a Biblical support for this teaching? (Read James 4:2).

14. What does the context around this passage teach us?
15. One of the requirements of the prosperity gospel is that the person who is asking must be living a righteous life. To what graphic image does the Bible (Isaiah 64:6) compare our “righteous acts”?
16. Jesus did not preach a gospel of prosperity. Read Mark 8:34 and 1 Peter 4: 12-16. What did Jesus tell us about earthly blessings in these passages?
17. Read Colossians 3:1-3 and Revelation 2:10. Where do these passages tell us to focus our attention?
18. Are there earthly blessings to living a Christian life? (Read 2 Corinthians 9:6, Philippians 4:19, and Matthew 6)?

**Lesson wrap-up**

19. If I love God, will he make me wealthy?