



# The Treasure Hunter

**MEMORY VERSE:**

**John 15:13**, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (KJV)

**BOTTOM LINE:**

I am of great value to my Heavenly Father.

 **TO THE TEACHER:**

- The purpose of this lesson is to reveal how valuable we are to Father God.
- We are like buried treasure and He is the treasure hunter.

In Matthew 13:44-46, we find the two parables - the pearl of great price and the parable of the buried treasure.

In the pearl of great price, the merchantman represents the Father God. The pearl of great price represents you and me. The price that the Father paid for you was His only Son (John 3:16). No greater price has ever been paid than what the Father paid for you.

In the parable about the treasure in the field, the man who found the treasure represents the Father God. The buried treasure represents you and me. The Father sold all that He had (His Son) in order to buy the field.

When the world looks at us they might just see a bunch of dirt (sin). It is not that God doesn't see the dirt (sin), He just looks beyond the dirt and sees a valuable treasure. You are of great value to Father God - so much so that He gave His only Son to win you back to Him.

Our Heavenly Father is like a treasure hunter looking for buried treasure. What is the treasure He is looking for? He is looking for you. Draw close to Him because He wants to be close to you.



# The Treasure Hunter

## LARGE GROUP SCHEDULE

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

WHO	LESSON OUTLINE	WHAT
_____	1. Participation Awards	
_____	2. Praise & Worship	
_____	3. Announcements	
_____	4. Offering	
_____	5. Motion Comic	Adventures of the Masked Hero #2
_____	6. Motion Comic Follow-up	
_____	7. Bottom Line	I am of great value to my Heavenly Father.
_____	8. Memory Verse	John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (KJV)
_____	9. Drama	"What's In A Name?"
_____	10. Object Lesson	Buried Treasure
_____	11. Short Film	"The Baseball Card of Great Price"
_____	12. Short Film Application	
_____	11. Inter-Active Lesson	The Treasure Relay
_____	12. Altar Call	
_____	13. Digital Review Questions	
_____	14. Small Groups	



MOTION COMIC

*The Adventures of the Masked Hero  
Finding God: Episode #2*

► TO THE TEACHER:

**Goal:** get the kids to laugh and introduce the lesson.

- Johnny was playing ball and he found a large pile of baseballs.
- One of the baseballs was real valuable. Why was it so valuable?
- How did Johnny know which was valuable?
- Other people might have thought it was a dirty old baseball, but it was more valuable than the new baseballs.
- This reminds me of what we are talking about today. The parable of the buried treasure.



Panel 1



Panel 2



Panel 3



Panel 4

**DRAMA*****“What’s In A Name?”***

**TAKE HOME POINT:** A modern version of the Bible story of Blind Bartimaeus.

**CHARACTERS:** Narrator (Rod Serling type character, very serious), Blind Bartimaeus (very passionate person), Myra (speaking part), Joshua (speaking part), Jesus (speaking part)

**PROPS NEEDED:** Bible clothes, tin cup for Bartimaeus

**DRAMA SCRIPT:**

(Skit opens with Blind Bartimaeus sitting in a corner. He quietly begs. Jesus enters from the back of the room and goes to Bartimaeus.)

Narrator: You may ask the question, “What’s in a name?” For most not very much. Yes it is an identity, but most people are not typecast or profiled because of their name. There is a story of one man that was very much hindered because of his name.

That man was Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus. Bartimaeus’ name quite literally meant, “son of the unclean.” He was the son of Timaeus whose name meant foul, defiled, polluted and unclean also.

Every time that someone called out to Bartimaeus they called him “son of the unclean.”

Not only did Bartimaeus’ name label him, but he was blind. He had no other way to survive than to sit by the road and beg.

Bartimaeus: Alms. Alms for the blind. (Quietly)

Narrator: When people looked at Bartimaeus they saw a blind, filthy, foul beggar. He was an embarrassment to the village. He was scorned. His reputation was one of disgrace. No one wanted to be around him, no one wanted to help him

*Continued on next page*



***“What’s In A Name?” Drama Script — Continued***

and no one wanted to see him. He was an eyesore. They wished he would just go away.

Let’s take a moment and look at Bartimaeus’ day.

Myra: (Myra and Joshua begin to walk across the front and then pass Bartimaeus.)

Hi, Joshua. How are you doing today?

Joshua: Very good. You are looking well.

Myra: Thank you. It is a beautiful day today.

Joshua: Yes, it is. (He looks at Bartimaeus.) Oh, Myra, walk over here. Don’t go near that beggar.

Myra: I don’t know why he stays there of all places. He should just go back from where he came from, wherever that is.

Joshua: He just doesn’t get it. No one wants him around here.

Myra: He is so filthy. Doesn’t he know he is a disgrace. . . .

(Myra and Joshua walk off.)

Bartimaeus: (He hangs his head in his hands and prays to God.)

God, help me. Don’t they know I am blind not deaf. Is this it really? I know I am a disgrace. I know I am filthy. Please help me, a filthy beggar. Please God.

Narrator: Day after day, Bartimaeus heard the words of others. He heard what they thought of him. They thought because he was blind that he could not hear. He heard every word. No one believed in him. No one cared about him. Not anyone. He was alone and by himself. His name said it all.

Narrator: One day something was different. Bartimaeus could tell by the way the people scurried by him and the muffled, excited tones in their voices. Yes, he could tell something was different.

*Continued on next page*



***“What’s In A Name?” Drama Script — Continued***

Myra:           Hurry, Joshua. We don’t want to be in the back of the crowd.

Joshua:        Yes, you are right. Let’s go this way. We may get a better chance of seeing him.

Bartimaeus:   (Stands up.) Seeing who?

Joshua:        Jesus, if it matters to you. You won’t be able to see him anyway. Go get back in your hole, Bartimaeus.

Myra:           Yes, don’t get in the way.

                  (Jesus begins to enter from the back of the room and the crowd is with him.)

Joshua:        Oh, there he is.

Myra:           Where, where. I don’t see Him.

Bartimaeus:   Jesus.

Joshua:        The crowd is thick. There, right in the middle.

Myra:           Oh, yes. Now I see Him. Oh. Jesus!

Joshua:        It looks like He may go over there, let’s go.

Bartimaeus:   Jesus! (He gets a little louder.)

Joshua:        (Turns and looks at Bartimaeus.) Shut up.

Bartimaeus:   Jesus! Son of God!

Myra:           Bartimaeus, be quiet. Jesus doesn’t want anything to do with the likes of you. He is pure and clean and you aren’t. Get back.

*Continued on next page*



***“What’s In A Name?” Drama Script — Continued***

Bartimaeus: (Ignores Myra and Joshua and gets louder yet.)

Jesus! Son of David, have mercy on me!

(Jesus is beginning to turn and go the other way, but then hears Bartimaeus’ cry. He stops and looks around but can’t see where it came from.)

Bartimaeus: Son of David! Jesus, have mercy on me!

Jesus: (He looks and sees Bartimaeus.) Bring him here.

Joshua: (Motions to Bartimaeus to follow him and then remembers that he can’t see. He takes him by the arm and directs him toward Jesus and then returns next to Myra.)

Myra: I can’t believe this. There stands Jesus. (She is in awe of Jesus.)

Joshua: (As he is wiping off his hands on his clothes.)

Neither can I. What does He want with Bartimaeus? Out of everyone here, He wants to talk to him.

Myra: Shhh. Let’s listen.

(Everyone freeze frames in place.)

Narrator: What would the son of David want with blind Bartimaeus? It was the shock of the village. Everyone knew Bartimaeus. They saw him everyday and were ashamed, disgraced, embarrassed, and disgusted by him. After all, he was a filthy beggar and his reputation was one of uncleanness. For Jesus to stop and call to him was something out of this world.

(Unfreeze frame.)

Jesus: What would you have me to do?

Bartimaeus: That I might see my Lord.

*Continued on next page*





Jesus: Be it unto you!

(Bartimaeus' eyes slowly open up. When they do he goes crazy. Jumping and laughing and looking at everyone.)

Bartimaeus: Thank you, Jesus!

(Jesus hugs Bartimaeus. Everyone gasps and takes a step back. Bartimaeus hugs Jesus back. They then begin to walk off together talking.)

Narrator: So you see, even though everyone in the village thought of Bartimaeus as trash and scum, Jesus didn't. He saw him as valuable. He looked past what was buried under the dirt and filth and saw something very precious and worth His time.

**THE END**





**OBJECT LESSON**

***Buried Treasure***

**TAKE HOME POINT:**

No greater price has ever been paid, than what the Father paid for you.

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

A large silver coin (such as a silver dollar and other coins), box of dirt, pitcher of water.

**PREPARATION:**

Bury the coins in the box of dirt. Place all other items on table in front of class.

**OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:**

(Pick up the box of dirt with the buried coins.)

There was a man who was digging in a field and he found buried treasure. (Dig through the dirt and pull out some coins.) He quickly reburied the treasure and then went and sold all that he had to buy the field with the buried treasure.

The man in this story represents the Father God. When others walked by the field they just saw a bunch of dirt. Father God looked beneath the dirt and saw buried treasure. Father God gave up His only son to buy the buried treasure which represents you and me.

After Father God finds us He takes us and cleans us up. He gets rid of our sin. (Begin to pour water over the dirty coins to clean it.)

*Continued on next page*



***Buried Treasure*** Object Lesson — *continued*

Father God is like a treasure hunter. There is a lot of buried treasure in the world. People that don't know God are like buried treasure. The world sees them as trash, but God sees lost people as valuable and precious. He gave up His only son.

You are valuable to the Father God. No greater price has ever been paid, or ever will be paid, than what the Father paid to have a relationship with you.



## SHORT FILM

### APPLICATION: *“The Baseball Card of Great Price”*

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In the short film, Junior sold all of his baseball cards to buy a Micky Mantle rookie card.

This short film reminds me of a parable that Jesus called, “The Pearl of Great Price.”

In the story Jesus said there was a merchantman that was shopping for precious stones. One day he found a giant pearl. This pearl was of great value. The merchantman went and sold everything that he had to buy the one pearl.

What does this story mean (allow for response)?

The merchantman represents the Father God.

The pearl represents you and me.

The price that the Father paid for you and me was His only son - Jesus.

No greater price has ever been paid than what the Father God paid to have a relationship with us. That is how valuable we are to Him.



**INTER-ACTIVE  
OBJECT LESSON**

***The Treasure Relay***

**WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:**

We can look for buried treasure in others.

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- 1 large tub of rice (10 lb bag) or dirt
- 10 Quarters
- Masking tape
- Stopwatch

**PREPARATION:**

- Place rice in large tub.
- Hide quarters in rice.
- Place table at one end of the room.
- Put masking tape on floor for finish line at other end of room.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Pick 3-5 contestants.
- Contestant 1 runs to tub, finds the coins, and runs back.
- Use the stop watch to time how long it takes.
- Before Contestant 2, have adult helper hide the coins in the rice tub.
- The winner is the one who did it in the least amount of time.

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**SPIRITUAL APPLICATION:**

Did you see how motivated everybody was to find the buried treasure? This is just like the parable Jesus told about the buried treasure. Matthew 13:44 says, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field." (NIV) In this parable who does the merchantman represent? What does the buried treasure represent? How can we look for buried treasure today? God sees each one of us as treasure.



# The Treasure Hunter

## DIGITAL REVIEW QUESTIONS

NEEDED: Review Prizes (penny candy for right answers)

### ▶ TO THE TEACHER:

The **Digital Review Questions** are a part of “The Masked Hero” download.

Once you get to the Memory Verse, then **PAUSE** the video.

After you have done your teaching then **PLAY** the Digital Review Questions.

You can turn this into a **Review Game** by rewarding kids for correct answers.

1. In Matthew 13:45, who does the merchant man represent?
  - a. **Father God**
  - b. Elvis
  - c. You
  - d. Me
2. Who does the pearl of great price represent?
  - a. The President
  - b. Father God
  - c. Mr. Oyster
  - d. **You and Me**
3. Who does the buried treasure represent?
  - a. Jesus
  - b. Good people
  - c. **Lost people**
  - d. Caterpillars
4. John 15:13 says, “Greater love has no man than this, \_\_\_\_.”
  - a. that you share your toys
  - b. that you share your lunch
  - c. that you give away your video games
  - d. **that a man lay down his life for his friends**
5. What is the greatest price that has ever been paid?
  - a. **When Jesus died on the cross**
  - b. One trillion dollars
  - c. One billion dollars
  - d. One million dollars



# The Treasure Hunter

## PROP LIST (Props, supplies, costumes and characters)

\_\_\_\_\_ Participation Awards (Large candy bars or prizes)

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed?

\_\_\_\_\_ Review Prizes (penny candy)

### Drama: "What's In A Name?" — Pages 4-8

#### Characters

\_\_\_\_\_ Narrator (Rod Serling type character, very serious)

\_\_\_\_\_ Blind Bartimaeus (very passionate person)

\_\_\_\_\_ Myra (speaking part)

\_\_\_\_\_ Joshua (speaking part)

\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (speaking part)

#### Props

\_\_\_\_\_ Bible clothes

\_\_\_\_\_ Tin cup for Bartimaeus

### Object Lesson: Buried Treasure — Pages 9-10

\_\_\_\_\_ Large silver coins (such as a silver dollar)

\_\_\_\_\_ Box of dirt

\_\_\_\_\_ Pitcher of water

### Inter-Active Lesson: The Treasure Relay — Page 12

\_\_\_\_\_ Large tub of rice

\_\_\_\_\_ Ten quarters

\_\_\_\_\_ Masking tape

\_\_\_\_\_ Stopwatch

### Small Group: What Is This?

\_\_\_\_\_ An ear of corn

\_\_\_\_\_ Bag of popcorn (enough to share with your small group)

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed?

### Special Edition: Pastoring Your Kids

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed?