### EIGHTH GRADE

## LESSON 1 · Wants vs. Needs

# WANTS VS. NEEDS

### Key Concepts

- Wants vs. Needs
- Teach the students about being content.
- Teach the students the importance of using what God has given us.

### 2 Teacher Preparation

- Have the students read Matthew 25:14-30.
- Be ready to write things on the board.
- Be ready to go online.

# 3 Lesson

- Read Matthew 25:14-30
  - Talk about the 3 servants.
- Write on the board what they did with the talents that were given to them.
- A talent was about 20 years worth of wages. This was a huge amount of money.
  Each one was given an amount.
- When the master came back and only 2 grew their money, how did the master feel?
- Did the servant use what he was given wisely?
- Do we always use what we have wisely or do we want more?
- · God always gives us what we need.
  - -We never go hungry or go without clothes.
  - -We have a place to live and we go to a nice school.
  - -Things can be hard each day for some of us.
- Not all of us have been given the same amount.
  - -Some families have more than others, but we all have what we need.
- We don't have all the things we would like to have.
  - -We can find ways to earn money to buy those things.
- If we use our resources wisely, we can make things happen.
- If we don't use things wisely we are being wasteful.
- · God wants us to be smart, and use what he has given us.
  - -Don't bury your talent in the ground.
  - -Use your talent (things) or abilities wisely.
- He has given us each opportunities, just like the servant's received.
- He wants us to be happy with our gifts and help others.
  - -That is being content.
- The master was given great wealth.
  - -He shared some of that wealth with his servants.
  - -He helped them and in return, some of the servants grew what they were given.
- It is the same with us. God doesn't want us to be selfish with our possessions.
  - -We share and help those around us.
- Be wise and good stewards of the gifts we have been given.



I Timothy 6:8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

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#### **4** Conclusion

Use wisely the gifts God has given us. Use our gifts to help others. Don't want more. Be happy with what we have been given. Be content. Everything comes from God.

## **5** Echo Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for all of the gifts you have given us. Help us to use those gifts wisely. Make us aware of those that have needs around us. When we find those in need, give us the courage to help. Amen.

## **6** Resources

#### • Bible

• Webster's Dictionary

• www.youtube.com Search CIA Skit- Parable of the Talents. The students can watch this skit.

### **7** Vocabulary

Needs: a lack of something required Wants: to crave Stewards: keeper Talent: a measurement of money

## 8 Activity

Have the children come up with a modern day skit of this parable.

