

Mark 10:13-34 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

Little Children Are Brought to Jesus

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus. They wanted him to place his hands on them to bless them. But the disciples told them to stop. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was angry. He said to his disciples, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. God's kingdom belongs to people like them." ¹⁵ What I'm about to tell you is true. Anyone who will not receive God's kingdom like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ Then he took the children in his arms. He placed his hands on them to bless them.

Rich People and the Kingdom of God

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him. He fell on his knees before Jesus. "Good teacher," he said, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good except God. ¹⁹ You know what the commandments say. 'Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not be a false witness. Do not cheat. Honor your father and mother.'" (Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20)

²⁰ "Teacher," he said, "I have obeyed all those commandments since I was a boy."

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. "You are missing one thing," he said. "Go and sell everything you have. Give the money to those who are poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me."

²² The man's face fell. He went away sad, because he was very rich.

²³ Jesus looked around. He said to his disciples, "How hard it is for rich people to enter God's kingdom!"

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter God's kingdom! ²⁵ Is it hard for a camel to go through the eye of a needle? It is even harder for someone who is rich to enter God's kingdom!"

²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed. They said to each other, "Then who can be saved?"

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "With people, this is impossible. But not with God. All things are possible with God."

²⁸ Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"

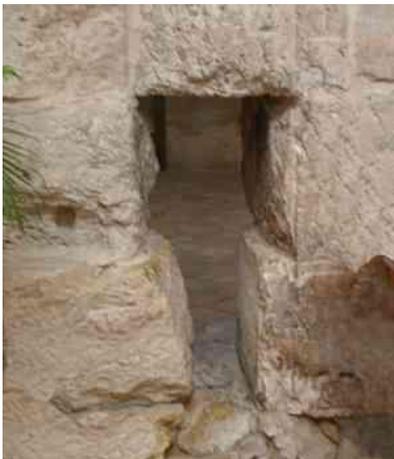
²⁹ "What I'm about to tell you is true," Jesus replied. "Has anyone left home or family or fields for me and the good news? ³⁰ They will receive 100 times as much in this world. They will have homes and families and fields. But they will also be treated badly by others. In the world to come they will live forever. ³¹ But many who are first will be last. And the last will be first."

Jesus Speaks a Third Time About His Coming Death

³² They were on their way up to Jerusalem. Jesus was leading the way. The disciples were amazed. Those who followed were afraid. Again Jesus took the 12 disciples to one side. He told them what was going to happen to him. ³³ "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said. "The Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will sentence him to death. Then they will hand him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴ They will make fun of him and spit on him. They will whip him and kill him. Three days later he will rise from the dead!"

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Background for the Teacher:



Interesting Note: The "Eye of the Needle" is a gate in Jerusalem. (pictured left)

A man would have to dismount his camel (sign of wealth) before passing through this gate. (It was used at times when the main gates were closed.) Could this be the reference Jesus was using in verse 24?

Another note: Look at the paragraphs before this story and after. Before (highlighted in yellow): Jesus talks about entering the Kingdom of God as a child (humble, admitting need).

After (highlighted in green): Jesus talks about his own upcoming death (the ultimate sacrifice...much more than giving up money or other forms of wealth).

Notes for Rich Young Ruler and Jesus during Children's Sermon

Rich Young Ruler:

(Lines are highlighted)

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"Good teacher," he said, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good except God. ¹⁹ You know what the commandments say. 'Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not be a false witness. Do not cheat. Honor your father and mother.' "

(Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20)

²⁰ "Teacher," he said, "I have obeyed all those commandments since I was a boy."

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. "You are missing one thing," he said. "Go and sell everything you have. Give the money to those who are poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me."

²² The man's face fell. He went away sad, because he was very rich.

Jesus:

(Lines are highlighted)

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him. He fell on his knees before Jesus.

"Good teacher," he said, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good except God. ¹⁹ You know what the commandments say. 'Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not be a false witness. Do not cheat. Honor your father and mother.' "

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Hand/Heart Craft

Quick and easy! Fold an A4 sheet of paper in two. Place your hand close to the fold to make half a heart's shape between your thumb and index finger. Trace your hand. Cut out – but don't go all the way through on the thumb and index finger.

Fold the Hands/heart to just look like a hand. (Fingers at the bottom) Write, "...Store up riches in heaven that will never be used up..."

Open and write, "...Your heart will be where your riches are."

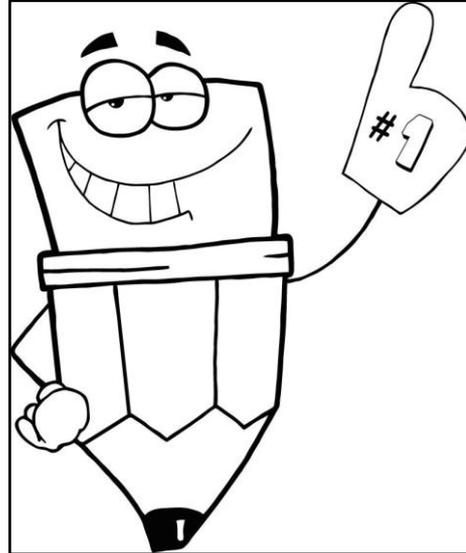
Luke 12:32-34 NIRV

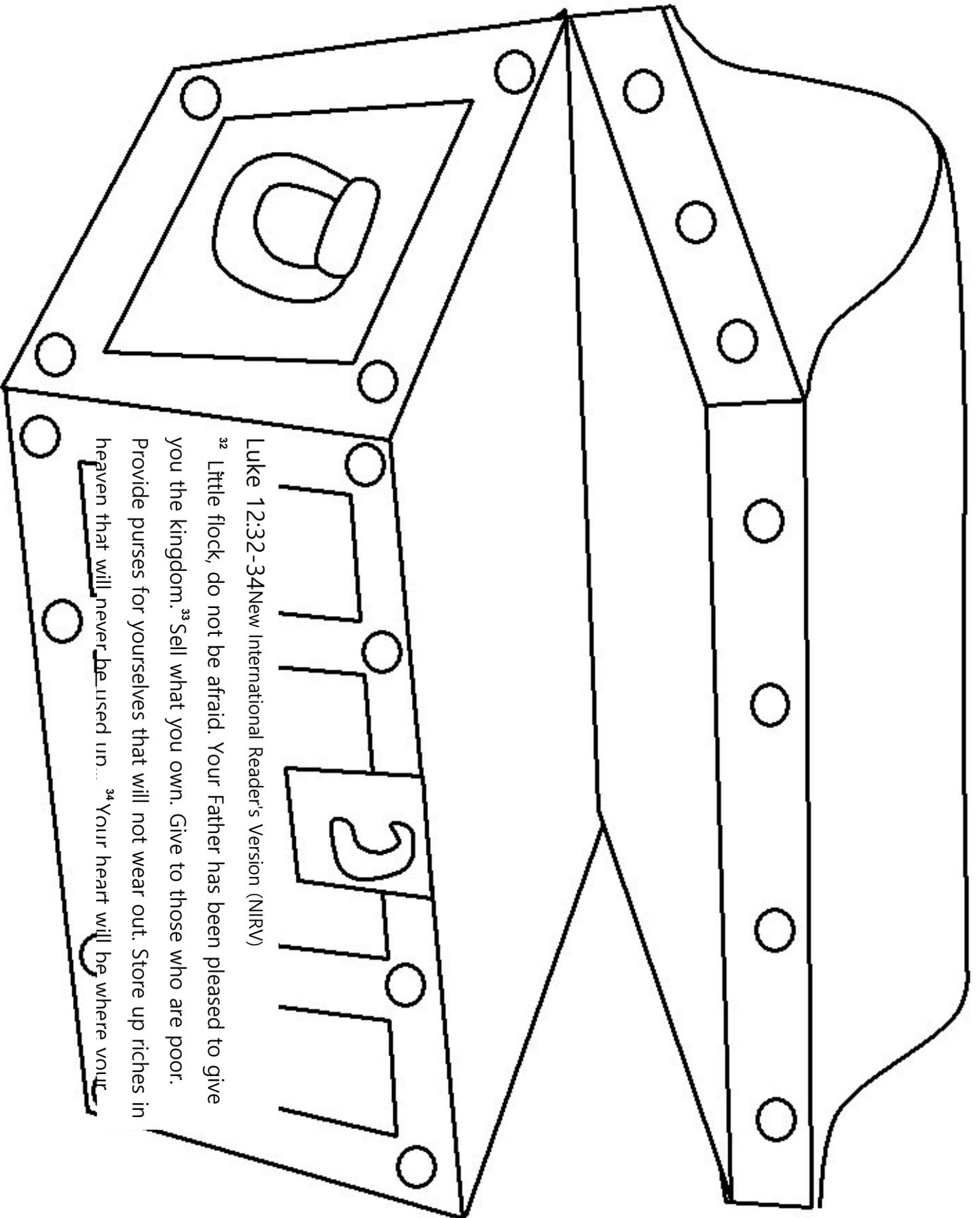


A little Bible humour...

The rich young ruler thought he had measured up;
But Jesus knew he'd missed the point.

Mark 10:13-34





Luke 12:32-34 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

³² Little flock, do not be afraid. Your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell what you own. Give to those who are poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out. Store up riches in

heaven that will never be used up. ³⁴ Your heart will be where your