

? ? ? Why Do You Worry? ? ? ?

By Brenda Carpenter

Children's Sermon

To prepare for today's lesson you will need to make a coin out of a small paper plate and cover it with aluminum foil similar to the one made in craft time today. Hide it in a visible place in the room. You will be using this for part of your lesson. Begin by being worried because you can not find something very special. Be sure to act very worried while doing this lesson.

"Oh no, my bag is empty. I am sure that I put something in it this morning. It was something very special that I wanted to share with you today. Has anyone seen a really big, shiny coin? It is about this big" (hold hands out to show the children how big it is) "and it is silver. Let's go on a hunt and see if it fell out of my sack.

"Oh, me--oh, my, I am so worried that it got lost. What am I going to do?" (After the coin has been found, meet back in a circle for lesson time.)



"This reminds me of a story in the Bible that Jesus told a crowd of people. It was about a lady who had 10 coins and lost one coin somewhere in her house. She became very worried and could not do anything else until she found her coin. She looked everywhere and cleaned under everything.

"Finally, when she found it, she was so excited, she ran out of her house and told all her friends. They all celebrated together that her coin had been found.



"God loves people so much that He will never, ever stop searching for any lost person."



Song: Oh Honey

(Words and Music by Mary Rice Hopkins)

Play and sing the song to introduce the Children's Sermon

Up in the attic in ev'ry room
Down in the basement with my broom
I've searched ev'rywhere from night till noon
Oh where did my little bitty coin go
Where did my little bitty coin go

(Chorus)

Oh honey I can't find my money
I'm sweeping and cleaning and feeling kind of blue
Oh honey I can't find my money
But when I find it I'm gonna kiss you
The angels will rejoice too

Oh my dear look at this mess
I've looked everywhere from East to West
Until I find it I won't rest
Oh where did my little bitty coin go
Where did my little bitty coin go

(Repeat Chorus)

In every cranny place and nook
Even in Granny's favorite book
With my dust mop I will look
Where did my little bitty coin go
Where did my little bitty coin go

(Repeat Chorus)

Jump for joy--it's been found
With ev'ry girl and boy in town
When one is lost and turns around
Rejoice with them in heaven
Rejoice with them in heaven.

Oh honey now I've found my money
Now I'm not feeling so blue
Oh honey I've found my money
Now I've found it I'm gonna kiss you
The angels are rejoicing too
Rejoicing too, Rejoicing too

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Coin Craft



We can tell how much our money is worth by the picture of an important president on it. Lincoln is on the penny, Jefferson is on a nickel and Roosevelt is on a dime. During craft time the children will get to design their own coins.

You Will Need the Following:

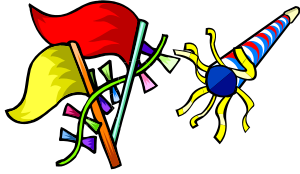
- Cardboard cut into paper-plate size circles
- Yarn
- Glue / Tape
- Scissors
- Aluminum Foil

Let the children cut up yarn and glue it onto the cardboard in a design that they would like to have on their coins. Once it is semi-dry and in place, give each child a piece of aluminum foil to cover the circle. Show them how they can rub the aluminum foil to make their design show through. Secure the foil by taping on the back of the "coin."

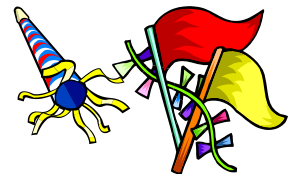
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Rejoice Streamers



The lady in our lesson was so excited that she found her coin she wanted her friends to rejoice with her. Let the children make some streamers they can use to wave and rejoice.

You Will Need the Following:

- Streamers
- Paper plates / Toilet paper tubes
- Glue / Tape / Stapler
- Stickers
- Any other items the children can use to decorate

Allow the children to create their own "Rejoicing" instrument. Use these instruments later in the day for a parade.

Rejoice in the Lord Always Parade

A great way to use the children's art items is to have a parade. Find a fun place to have your parade and invite others as you go along to join you. You will soon find there are others who have something to rejoice about, too.

Gold Coin Snack

Today the children will get to make a gold coin they can actually eat.

You Will Need the Following:

- Round crackers
- Bottle of cheese topping or gold colored frosting

Allow the children to spread their topping on the cracker to make it look like a gold coin. Use this time to talk about the lesson. Ask the children if they have ever lost something and could not find it. How did they feel? Did they get worried? Whenever you can't find something that is really important to you, stop and pray. Jesus knows right where it is, and He will guide you to it.



Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we want to thank you for always knowing right where we are. Even when we do the wrong thing and we want to hide, you are there to forgive us. We do not have to worry about anything because you are always in control.

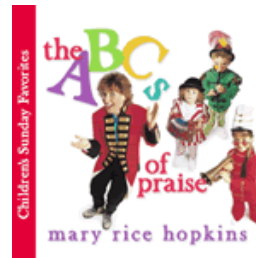
In Jesus Name, Amen

Other Resources by Mary Rice Hopkins

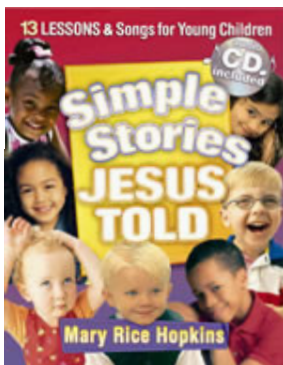
Why Do You Worry?
Sing Through the Year CD



Turn Your Frown Upside Down
ABC'S of Praise CD



Great for Teaching the Best-Loved Stories of Jesus



Published by Group

Story of the Lost Coin



Story of the Lost Sheep



Story of the Prodigal Son



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