

***Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way***

July 30, 2017

Eighth Sunday of Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5-12

Psalms 119:129-136

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



The Price is Right. Objects: None.

Every day, we have to make choices about the value of things. We ask ourselves, "How much am I willing to pay?"

Jesus once told a story about a man who found a treasure which someone had hidden in a field. He was so happy that he immediately went and sold everything he had and bought the field so that the treasure would be his. (Matthew 13:44)

Jesus told about another man who went in search of fine pearls. When he found a pearl that he thought was the very best, he sold everything that he had so that he could buy the pearl. (Matthew 13:45-46)

These men both found something that they thought was worth giving everything they owned so that they could have it. Do you know what this thing was that Jesus was talking about? He wasn't talking about buried treasure or beautiful pearls, he was talking about the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom of heaven is the greatest treasure one could ever desire. It is more precious than silver, gold, or jewels. That is why Jesus calls us to give up all that we have and follow him. Is that too great a price? I don't think so. In fact, I would say, "The Price Is Right!"

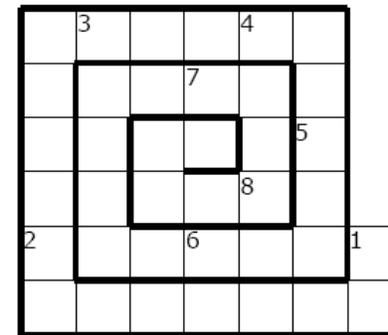
Father, nothing we have can compare to life in the kingdom of heaven. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia. (Matt. 8:11)

Spiral Puzzle

Look at the numbered clues. Choose the correct word and write it in the puzzle. Each numbered square starts a new word.



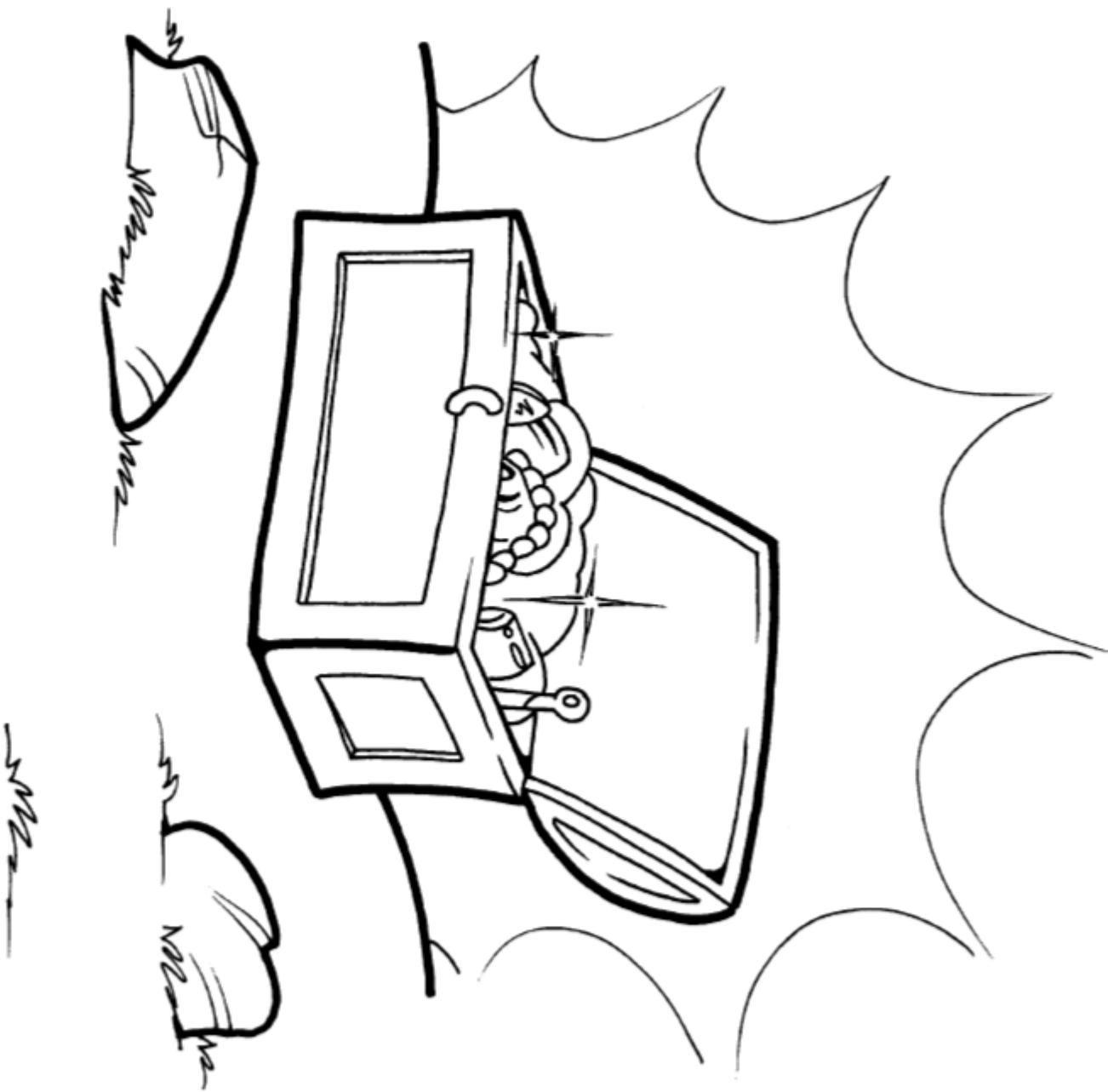
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|---|--|
| 1. Something of great value; gold, silver, or jewels, for example | 5. Gave something in exchange for money |
| 2. A small, shiny, hard ball that forms inside some oysters | 6. A territory or country ruled by a king or queen |
| 3. A feeling of great happiness | 7. An adult male human |
| 4. To put in a place where something cannot be seen or found (past tense) | 8. The worth of something in money |

VALUE	PEARL	HID	KINGDOM
TREASURE	MAN	SOLD	JOY

TREASURE BOX: Let the child build and glue a treasure box together with craft sticks, or with folded construction paper. Give markers and stickers to decorate the box to represent a GREAT treasure. Bible verses on small slips of paper could be put inside the treasure box when it is finished and encourage the child to read ONE Bible verse a day!



TREASURE CHEST



The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field,
Which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes
And sells all that he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44