

UNBOXED

WEEK 4

BIG IDEA

We can care about what God cares about.

BIBLE

Treasures in Heaven: Matthew 6:19-24; (John 8:12)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Treasure See and Sort ▲

- Welcome back! This is week four of our series, "Unboxed," where we're talking about gifts from God! Today, we're learning about gifts that are like treasures to us. The Bible talks about two kinds of treasures. One kind of treasure can break while the other lasts forever. But how do we sort them out?
- Well, first, let's play a game about sorting!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, place [acrylic gems](#) of two different colors inside of a [treasure chest](#). Split the kids into two teams. In each round, one person from each team has ten seconds to sort out the gems, placing each type on its own paper plate. Continue rounds until everyone on the team has had a chance. Whoever has the most number of items correctly sorted out wins!*
- **Would you have been able to do this activity with your eyes closed?**
- We need our eyes to see the colors!

ACTIVITY | Seeing Things ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the picture of the yellow and green heart

- Take a look at this heart. What are its colors? Green and yellow! When I say, “Go,” you’re going to stare at the black dot in the center of this heart for twenty seconds. Then, when I say “Time,” look at the black dot on that white board and tell me what you see. Ready? Go! [Allow some time for the kids to do the exercise.]
- **What colors do you see the heart in on that white board?** [The kids should see red and blue instead of green and yellow.]
- Isn’t the human eye amazing? The part of your eye called the retina absorbs light, and another part of your eye, called cones, reads colors. When you stare at certain colors, like yellow and green, the image stays on your retina for a little bit while the cones trigger other colors, like blue and red.
- The way we think and feel depends a lot on how we take in information, and one of the ways we do that is through our eyes. Today, we’ll explore how the way we see things affects our minds and our hearts!

QUESTION | Ever Lose or Break Something? ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask a few of the kids to share stories of a time when they lost or broke something they really cared about. How did it make them feel? If no one has a story, share your own story.*
- Stuff falls apart or gets lost over time. And while these are all things we might care a lot about, today we are going to talk about some other things we can care about!

THE BIG IDEA | We can care about what God cares about. ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Unbox this week’s Big Idea box.*
- We’ve been talking about different gifts from God. **But do these gifts come in a box? Can you buy them in a store? Can you order them online?**
- **No? Then where do they come from?** That’s right, they come from God! And God doesn’t give us gifts you can buy, break, or lose.
- God gives us gifts that last forever. God does this because God cares about you! God cares about your heart, your mind, and your soul.
- And if these are what God cares about, we can care about them, too.

VIDEO | Unboxed, Episode 4



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's [teaching video](#).*

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 6:19-24



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the script provided and make enough copies for everyone involved. You can either rehearse and perform it with your leadership team, or ask for four kid volunteers while you play the role of the narrator. Provide props and costumes, too!*
- **What are some things we learned about treasure through this play?**
- **What does God want us to care about?**
- The greedy pirate saw treasure as the greatest thing ever, and it made them worry all the time. The trusting servant, on the other hand, saw God's love as the greatest thing ever, and it made them joyful and filled with peace. The Bible tells us that it is better to care more about the joy, peace, and love God gives us than material things in our lives.

VIDEO | How the Human Eye Works





- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Watch [this video](#) on how the human eye works.
- This simple, animated video explains how light allows the eye to send information to the brain. Isn't it amazing how God created our eyes?

SCRIPTURE | John 8:12



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the Bible verse and read it aloud.
- The Bible says Jesus is the light we need to be guided safely. When we are following Jesus, we don't need to follow anyone or anything else!
- Is money forever? No, it's not. Money can run out, get stolen, or be destroyed by fire. Can our cool toys and electronics last forever? Or what about being popular? Nope! Only God's promises are forever.
- We need to follow the light, which is Jesus, to see what God cares about and, ultimately, what we can care about, too!

NOW WHAT?

REFLECTION | Treasure Lists



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place a poster board on the wall and divide the poster board into two columns. Ask the kids about all the things they care about. Write them on the poster board in the first column. Then, ask them what they think God cares about and write those in the second column. You can share

some of these to get them started: being kind, obeying God, sharing, standing up for what is right, believing in Jesus, telling others about Jesus, getting along with others, etc.

PRAYER

- Dear God, light my path so I can see the things You care about. Help me remember that You care about things that are forever. Thank You for loving us and caring about us so much that You gave us the Bible to light our path and show us the way to a happy life.

MEMORY VERSE | Group Puzzle

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the memory verse .jpg file (available in your Programming folder for "Unboxed") so that it takes up a full page. Make several copies if you have a large group. Then cut or tear the memory verse image into random segments and hand a piece or two out to each kid. Then have them work together to put the puzzle together. Once it is complete, have them recite the verse together a few times.*

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What could happen to treasures on Earth?**
- **Where does Jesus say to store our treasures?**
- **What does it mean that the eye is the lamp of the body?**
- **Read Matthew 6:21. Why do you think our heart is where our treasure is?**
- **What do you think are some examples of heavenly treasures?**
- **What do you think Jesus meant when he said he was the light of the world?**
- **How can we be a light to the people around us in our everyday lives?**

ACTIVITY | Glow Stick Lamps



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Punch a hole into a strip of paper and attach it to a glow stick using yarn. Give each kid a glow stick and tell them to write "Jesus is the light" (or a Bible verse like Psalm 119:105) on the paper strip in marker or crayon. You can print out the verse for younger kids. Encourage them to decorate the strip however they'd like.*
- The Bible says God's Word is like a lamp that shows us where to go when it's dark. Remember, we need light to see what God cares about, and that light is Jesus! Jesus shows us how we can care about the things God cares about!

MEMORY VERSE | I Peter 4:10 (NIV)



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce kids to this month's memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.*