

Teacher Directions: Read story below during Guided Practice portion of the lesson.

Jesus was teaching His friends and other people. Jesus told them that there once was a very rich man. He had fancy clothes and everything he wanted. He never took time for God. He lived for himself and the things he wanted. Outside the rich man's fence was a man named Lazarus. He didn't have much. Lazarus had a lot of sores and was very sick and hungry. He was so hungry that he wanted the crumbs that fell off of the rich man's table. Lazarus loved God and knew that God would help him.

One day, Lazarus died and the angels took him up to Heaven. (Point up) The rich man also died, but he went down. (Point down) The rich man could see Lazarus and others in heaven. The rich man called to Father Abraham in Heaven and said to him, "Help me! Please send Lazarus to dip his finger in the water and touch my tongue. I am hurting in this fire." Abraham called back to the rich man and said, "Remember that in your life you had good things, while Lazarus received bad things. Now Lazarus is in comfort and you are hurting. There is too much space between where you are and where we are. We cannot come to you and you cannot come to us." The rich man went on. He asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his family to warn them about what would happen when they die. But Abraham said that they already had all of the writings in the Bible to warn them. He said they could read it whenever they wanted. The rich man said that if his family could see someone come back from the dead—THEN they would believe and change. But Abraham said it would not matter. He said that if they would not listen to the prophets of God, they wouldn't listen to someone coming back from the dead either.

The rich man was selfish; he was not willing to share even a little bit with the beggar. God wants us to love each other and share what we have with those in need. Jesus said, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Jesus was teaching about the attitude of our heart. If we believe in Jesus and give Him our life, we will follow His example. We will want to help others and share what we have with them. We will not be greedy and selfish. Have you given your life to Jesus? He loves us so much! God made a way for us to be forgiven of all our sins. Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for all the bad things we have ever done. Jesus can come into your life. He can help you to love others and help them.

<http://www.missionarlington.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/LOC09-39-RichManLazarus.pdf>