

Upper Elementary Large Group

MAY 2025

WEEK 3

Key Question:

How can you use what you've been given?

Can you think of a time someone has complimented you about something that seemed to come naturally to you? God has given each of us unique gifts and wired us all differently, not just for the betterment of ourselves, but to impact those around us too. We hope this question allows preteens to start thinking about how the ways God made them are impactful.

In week 3, we head to Matthew 25:14-30 Jesus told His disciples a story about a rich man who left for a long journey and entrusted his servants with some of his money. Each one received a different amount, but at the end of the journey, the man was proud of his servants for using what they were given to double the investment. All except for one...

Bottom Line: Look for ways to use what you've been given. We've all been given something. Whether that's knowledge and a big brain, money, skills, or something else! God has entrusted each of us with a gift and talent to use in various ways to make an impact. Some ways may not be as noticeable, but we can ask God for help as we figure out what God has in store for us and use what we've been given.

Bible Truth

Parable of Talents

Matthew 25:14-50

MEMORY VERSE

"NONE OF YOU SHOULD LOOK OUT JUST FOR YOUR OWN GOOD. EACH OF YOU SHOULD ALSO LOOK OUT FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS."

PHILIPPIANS 2:4, NIRV

INITIATIVE

SEEING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND DOING IT

- All **yellow highlighted text** are cues for visual and audio slides.
- The text in **red** indicates stage directions.

SUPPLIES

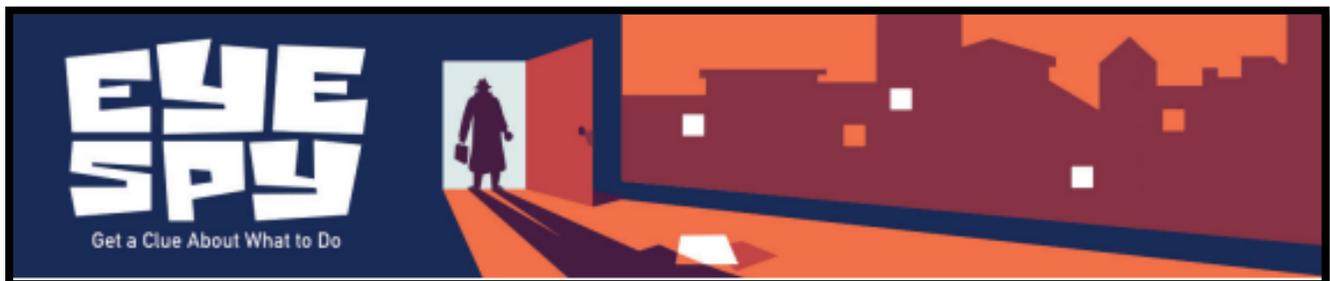
- Bible
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Eye Spy -- Week 3 Teaching Outline:

Start at 15 after (if service is expected to be about an hour)

1. Intro: **Welcome kids, get them excited**
2. Game Time: **WYR Spy challenge**
3. Worship
4. Intro: **Eye Spy**
5. Bible Lesson Video: **Parable of the Talents**
6. Application
 - a. Weekly Bottom Line: **Look for ways to use what you've been given.**
 - b. Virtue: **Initiative -- Seeing what needs to be done and doing it.**
 - c. Memory Verse: **None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. -- Philippians 2:4 (NirV)**
 - d. Prayer
7. Small Groups: 15 minutes

End of the hour



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WEEK 3

OPENER 3 minutes

(Welcome kids)

Hello, my friends! It's always great to be here with you at Flatirons Kids.

We've been doing a little spy training this month . . . which will help us SPY what other people need. (Circle your hands around your eyes like binoculars.) Then we can do something to help them. That's a great way to show God's love!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Share campus-specific announcements. See your Kids Director for details)

GAME TIME

For today's game, I'd love to find out about your spy preferences. In other words, I want to know how you spy best! This is a game we can all play, so everyone jump up on your feet. This game is kind of like a 'Would You Rather?' challenge... but with sneaky spy questions. For each round, I'll give you two choices. You can decide which of those two choices you like better ... then turn to the side of the room that matches your answer.

Ready? Let's get started!

SHOW SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 1 (DOG SIDEKICK OR CAT SIDEKICK)

First question: Would you rather have a dog sidekick? Or a cat sidekick? Turn your body toward the direction of the answer you choose.

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 2 (USE A MAGNIFYING GLASS OR BINOCULARS)

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 3 (WEAR A TRENCH COAT OR COOL SPY HAT/FEDORA)

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 4 (WORK IN THE BIG CITY OR OUT IN THE WILDERNESS)

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 5 (BE INVISIBLE OR BE ABLE TO SPEAK EVERY LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD)

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 6 (USE COOL GADGETS OR LEAP OVER OBJECTS)

SLIDE: GAME SLIDE 7 (WEAR A FAKE MUSTACHE OR WEAR DARK SUNGLASSES)

That was fun! Some of our answers were the same, but I'd say all of us spy a little differently. God has given each of us gifts and talents and preferences so that we're all unique in different ways. And we can use the unique ways God has made us to make a difference for the people around us. All we have to do is be on the lookout!

WORSHIP 6-7 minutes

Everybody on your feet! It's time for us to sing and give praise to Jesus for all that He has done and all that He is doing RIGHT NOW in our lives! (Encourage kids to worship God through song and dance. Play worship songs)

Show Worship Song: Look Like You

Show Worship Song: Big House

That was great! Thanks guys! I love worshipping God with all of you. You can have a seat.

INTRO 1 minute

Show Series Graphic: Eye Spy

(Hold up Bible) I'm excited to be here to tell you a story that Jesus Himself told. We can find it here in the book of Matthew. This happened after Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. He told several stories, or parables, that explained what the kingdom of God is like. A parable is a kind of story that uses everyday objects and situations to help people understand something that's true. Let's check out our story!

BIBLE TRUTH 10 minutes

Show Video: Video_WK3_So&So_Show

APPLICATION 3 minutes

Show Series Graphic: Eye Spy

As we think about this story Jesus told, we should remember something important. God has given each of us unique gifts, talents, and experiences. We may have a lot or we may have a little. But with God’s help, we can use what we’ve been given to make a difference in the world around us.

Show Graphic: WK3_Bottom Line

[Bottom line] Look for ways to use what you’ve been given.

Say that with me! (Repeat with leaders and kids)

Jesus’ story makes me want to make the most of what I’ve been given. That’s what the first two servants did. They took what the man gave them and found a way to earn more gold while the man was away. But the third servant didn’t use what the man had given him.”

HOST: “It takes initiative to make good use of the things God has given us—whether that’s our talents, our time, our life experiences, or even our stuff!

Show Graphic: Virtue

Initiative means seeing what needs to be done and doing it.

If you want to use your gifts well, you can start by figuring out what those gifts might be. If you’re not sure, you can ask a parent or friend or another adult who knows you well. Maybe you can play piano, and you could use your gifts to cheer people up with your beautiful music. Or maybe you’re really strong, and you can help your mom or dad or grandma carry the groceries. Maybe you can use what you’ve learned at school to help a younger friend or sibling understand their homework. No matter how much or how little you think you have, there’s always a way to use it to share God’s love with others. That’s definitely the wise choice.

Our **[Memory verse]** also reminds us to love other. It is Philippians 2:4 (NIRV).

Show Verse: Philippians 2:4 (NIRV)

Let’s say it together! (Read with leaders and kids)

“None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others.” Philippians 2:4 (NIRV)

Show Slide: WK 3 KEY QUESTION

As you go to your small groups today, think about this: **“How can you use what you’ve been given?** Think about what exactly God has given you. Consider how God has wired you and gifted you. Imagine all the ways you can take initiative and use those gifts and talents

to show others how much you care about them and how much God loves them. And don't worry if you're having trouble thinking about what you've been given. You'll have a chance to talk more about this with your Small Group in just a moment. Before we head out, let's pray and thank God for the way He's loved us and given us so much. Let's pray.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank You so much for all the wonderful gifts and talents You've given to all of us. Help us to see the needs of the people around us, and give us Your wisdom to figure out how we can lend a hand. We want to make the most of the opportunities You've given us so we can truly make a difference in this world. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)

