

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## Lesson Focus:

God is greater than any treasure - or candy.

## Objective:

Kids will learn that once we realize how great God is, we will value Him more than anything else in the world.

## Key Scripture:

Matthew 13:44-46, The Stories of the Pearl and the Treasure

## Introduction:

There's a beautiful story you may have heard or heard your parents talk about during the fall. It's a tale about a powerful, supernatural being who brings untold joy and blessings. It's the story of a young man who possesses a child-like faith in this strange creature, a child who will do anything to be there when this special, mystical being rises up so he can see him with his own eyes.

I am talking, of course, about the Great Pumpkin. Have you seen this Charlie Brown classic?

Every year we watch as Linus prepares for what he hopes will be an encounter with the Great Pumpkin. We listen as he tells his friends the legend of the Great Pumpkin. We feel his pain as everyone, from his sister to his neighbor's condescending beagle, laughs at him. Even though no one else believes like he does, Linus will not be deterred. He is willing to give up not only wearing a costume and gathering treats, but social acceptance in general. Everyone thinks Linus is crazy, but once Linus finds the perfect pumpkin patch, with nothing but sincerity as far as the eyes can see, there is no price he won't pay to fulfill his dream!

Many of Jesus' most famous teachings were stories, called parables. These stories were about ordinary people and things, like Linus and the pumpkin patch, but they have a far deeper meaning. One of these parables is a story very much like that of the Great Pumpkin. It's the story of a field that contained a hidden treasure and a man who would sacrifice everything so he could possess the land and its treasure.

**Read:** MATTHEW 13:44-46

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