

Heavenly Investments

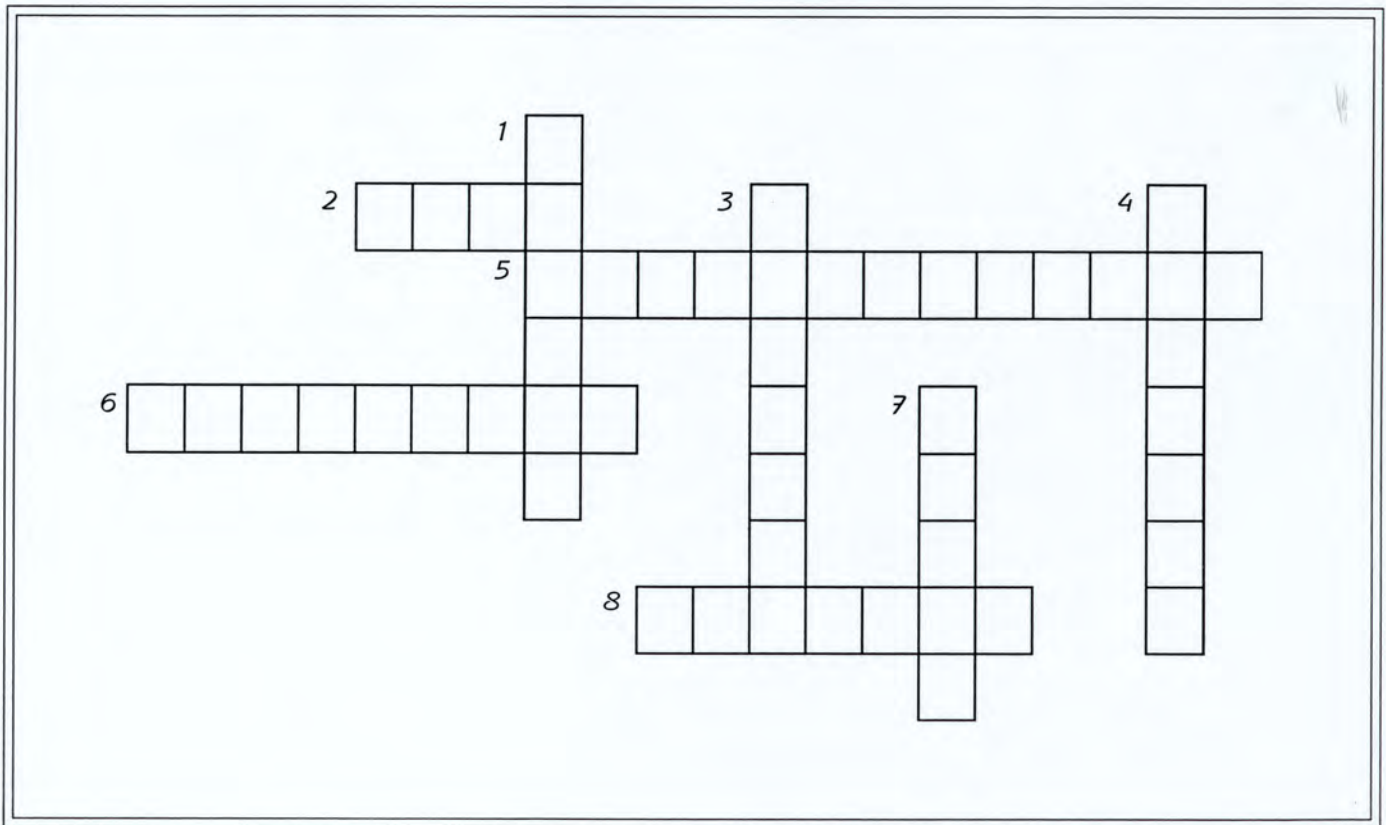
The Bible tells us not to long for the things of this world but to "lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." The Answer story has an example of someone who worked hard to own the things of this world, but died without having made any heavenly investments. Some of the answers to the crossword puzzle below can be found in the Answer story. As you do the crossword puzzle, think about where your treasures are.

DOWN

- 1 We are to lay up treasures in _____.
- 3 The Lord's Prayer tells us to _____ our debtors.
- 4 What we can take with us to Heaven:
- 7 This lesson is based on Jesus' Sermon on the _____.

ACROSS

- 2 What Darla saved her money for:
- 5 Mr. Ostenheimer had a fabulous a _____ c _____.
- 6 "But lay up for yourselves _____ in heaven."
- 8 Some people say they are just "_____ up with the Jones!"



“HEAVENLY INVESTMENT” LESSON PLAN — LESSON 150

OPENER

Bring a box with several of your favorite things in it. These objects might represent investments such as stocks, dolls, antiques, or passions like hobbies, recreation, or employment. It is important that they be things that you have a love for and enjoy doing. Take a few minutes to discuss why these things are so special to you. Use this object lesson as a way to discuss what is most important in your life and why.

BIBLE/HYMN RESPONSE

Read Matthew 5:19-21. What happens to the things which we put away as treasures on earth? in Heaven? Jesus tells us that our heart will be bonded with what we love most. It is His desire that He be the center of our joy, our all in all. Another expression of that thought is found in the song, “All to Jesus, All to Jesus.” Give each student a copy of the song and the following three questions, to be answered individually or in small groups:

1. The song writer deeply desires to give all to Jesus. What does she specifically list as gifts that she wants to give Jesus?
2. What are the results of her decision to follow Jesus?
3. What does she say that Jesus gives to her?

BIBLE EXPLORATION

One Minute Sermon

Write the lesson texts on file cards and ask students, either individually or in small groups, to prepare a one minute oral response to the verses which one person from each group presents to the whole group: Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 13:44-46.

APPLICATION TO LIFE

Ask each student to answer the following questions on a file card.

1. Who or what do you love most in the world?
2. Are you pleased with your investment of time?
3. Is there anything that you would like to change?

Ask if some of the students want to share.

Or, say that in Matthew 6:20, Jesus tells us that we should lay up treasures in Heaven. How do we invest in or store up treasures in Heaven?

Or, use How Do You Rate? from the Answer, page 22.