Preschool–Grade 5

The Rich Man and Lazarus Craft

Let them hear them · Luke 16:19–31 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



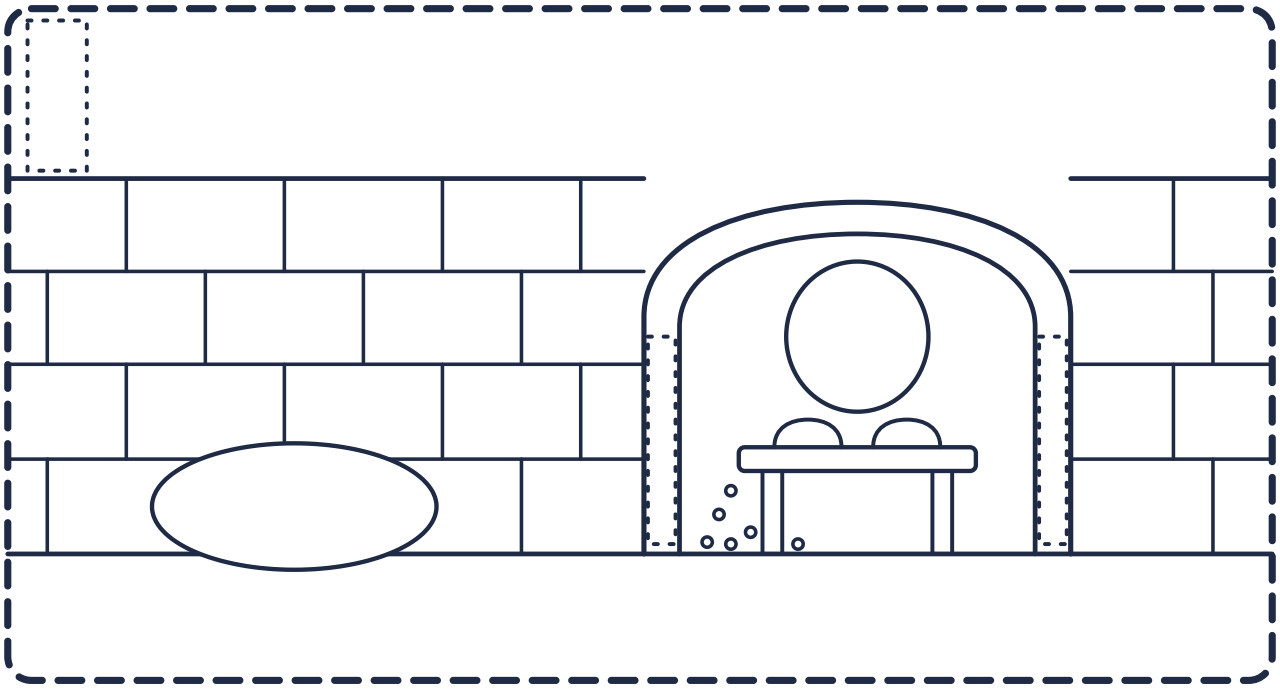
Harder

Both levels are a card with a light blue sky, a gray stone wall, the rich man's gate with a yellow frame and two brown doors that open, and light brown ground. Lazarus lies in the long window by the gate, "laid at his gate" (Luke 16:20). Open the doors to see the rich man in purple at his brown table, with yellow bread and the crumbs that fell (16:19–21). Medium (left): the card with the doors open. Harder (right): the same with a rolled paper scroll in a red ring in the sky, for "Moses and the prophets" (16:29).

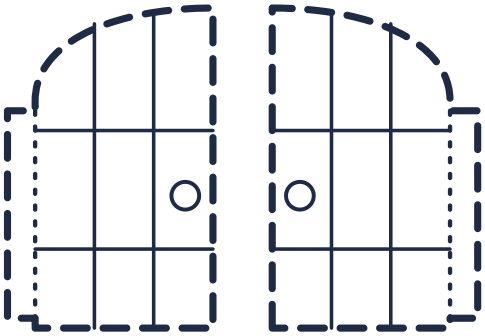
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, wall gray, gate frame yellow, ground light brown, table brown, bread and crumbs yellow. Leave the two windows and the rest of the inside of the gate white.



gate doors: color them brown and the handles yellow; fold the tabs back

And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Luke 16:31 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Draw the rich man in purple in the top window and Lazarus by the gate in the long window. Cut out the card, the two doors and the verse strip. Glue the door tabs on the dotted spots on the gate frame. The dotted spot in the sky is only for the harder level.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

**And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets,
neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.**
Luke 16:31 (KJV)

scroll: color both end bands brown, on the front and the back. Leave the middle white.



ring: color it red; glue the dotted end under the other end

How to add the scroll

1. Make the gate card from page 2 first.
2. Color both end bands of the scroll brown, on the front and on the back. Leave the middle white. Color the ring strip red. Cut out the scroll and the ring strip on the dashed lines.
3. Put glue on the back of the left brown end of the scroll. Press it on the dotted spot in the sky, with the verse facing up.
4. Roll the scroll up tightly from the right end toward the left, with the verse on the inside, until it sits beside the glued end.
5. Wrap the red strip around the rolled scroll. Glue the dotted end under the other end to make a ring. Don't glue the ring to the scroll, so it slides off.
6. Tell it: the rich man asked Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his five brethren (Luke 16:27–28). Abraham said, "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them" (16:29). Slide off the ring, unroll the scroll and read Luke 16:31 together.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/lazarus-and-the-rich-man-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), crayons or markers in light blue, gray, yellow, light brown, brown and purple, crayons for drawing Lazarus and the dogs, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a red crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the two gate doors and the verse strip ahead of time. Fold the door tabs and glue the doors on the gate frame.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue the doors on the gate frame. Kids color the card, draw Lazarus and the rich man in the windows, and open and close the gate. Help them glue the verse strip on the back.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut, fold the tabs and glue the doors. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then add the scroll from page 3 with Luke 16:31 inside, rolled up in the sky and held by a red paper ring, for "Moses and the prophets" (Luke 16:29). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the sky light blue, the wall gray, the gate frame yellow, the ground light brown, the table brown, and the bread and crumbs yellow. Leave the two windows and the rest of the inside of the gate white.
2. **Draw:** in the top window inside the gate, draw the rich man in purple clothes (Luke 16:19). In the long window by the gate, draw Lazarus lying at the gate, with the dogs beside him (16:20–21).
3. **Color the doors:** color the two gate doors brown and their round handles yellow.
4. **Cut:** cut out the card, the two gate doors and the verse strip on the dashed lines. Don't cut out the windows.
5. **Fold:** fold the tab on each door back on the dotted line.
6. **Glue the doors:** put glue on the back of each tab. Press the tabs on the two dotted spots on the gate frame, so the doors close over the gate and meet in the middle.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, and read it together.
8. **Tell it:** Lazarus was laid at the rich man's gate (Luke 16:20). Open the doors: there is the rich man in purple, and his table (16:19). Point to the crumbs: Lazarus wished he could be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table (16:21). Then say Abraham's words: "They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them" (16:29).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the top window. What did the rich man wear, and how did he eat? *(Purple and fine linen; he fared sumptuously, feasting in rich style, every day, Luke 16:19)*
- Point to the long window. Who was laid at the gate? *(A beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, 16:20)*
- Point to the crumbs. What did Lazarus wish for? *(To be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table, 16:21)*
- What came to Lazarus at the gate? *(The dogs came and licked his sores, 16:21)*
- When Lazarus died, who carried him, and where? *(The angels carried him into Abraham's bosom, close beside Abraham, where he was comforted, 16:22, 16:25)*
- How many brothers did the rich man have? *(Five, 16:28)*
- What did Abraham say the brothers already had? *("Moses and the prophets," God's Word: "let them hear them," 16:29)*
- Who are people near you who need help, like Lazarus at the gate?

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: purple and fine linen** means the most costly clothes; **fared sumptuously** means feasted in rich style; **beggar** means a very poor man who asks for food or money; **sores** means open hurts on the skin; **Abraham's bosom** means close beside Abraham, a place of comfort; **brethren** means brothers; **Moses and the prophets** means the Scriptures, God's Word; **hear them** means listen to God's Word and obey it.
- **What the Bible says:** Lazarus "was laid at his gate" (Luke 16:20), and the crumbs fell "from the rich man's table" (16:21). Jesus did not say what the gate or the house looked like, whether the gate was open, how many dogs there were, or what the rich man ate. The wall, the gate's shape, the doors, the bread, the scroll and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** each child draws the rich man and Lazarus in the windows. Keep the drawing of Lazarus simple and kind; kids don't need to draw his sores.
- **Keep it gentle:** the craft shows only the gate on earth (16:19–21). Talk about the rest of the story calmly, the way the lesson tells it. This Lazarus is not the Lazarus of Bethany whom Jesus raised (John 11).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the doors on ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child open the gate and find the crumbs.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free rich man and Lazarus lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/lazarus-and-the-rich-man.

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