




# OPTIONAL *Pastor's Sermon Outline*

## Hi Pastor!

Thank you for showing your church family the importance of involving children in the church service, and giving your kids the opportunity to lead! The following materials are suggestions and options you might include as a short homily in follow-up to their program. We know that every pastor has different methods within their preaching, so we suggest that you adapt the materials as needed or prepare a sermon that aligns with the theme of “God’s treasures”. These materials are best used at the end of the full program, and will help provide further application of its theological points.

## *Suggested Sermon Outline*

1. Affirmation to children and helpers: include statement of thanks and acknowledgment of children’s leadership as well as gratitude to the leaders and volunteers who assisted with the program.
  2. Transitional statement: tie the program’s key theme of being God’s treasure to your sermon with a thought that ties the two together.
  3. Key scripture passage: Build your sermon on a central scripture
  4. Object lesson/Illustration: choose a visual for your sermon
  5. Explanation of passage: Connect your visual to the scripture passage
  6. Closing and appeal: Summarize your key points and provide an appeal
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## Sample Sermon Concept

*(affirmation to children and helpers)* It is so wonderful to have our children bless us as leaders, presenters, preachers, and teachers! We thank all who worked to help prepare *(if possible mention names)* There were many hands involved in putting this program together and we have been uplifted on this wonderful sabbath day.


*(transitional statement)* Our theme throughout this program has been that we are treasured by God. And what an important message that is to remember, especially when there are so many things that try to make us forget it. There are many challenges that we face each day. But we have the reassurance of God's promises, and the knowledge that Jesus is going to come again to take his treasures home.

That is the ultimate treasure. Many other treasures will fade. If I have an expensive car, eventually it will lose its value. If I have money, it may be spent. If I have gold or silver, it might be lost, or lose its shine. But Jesus, and this message of hope will do no such thing.

*(Key Passage 2 Corinthians 4 - treasure in earthen vessels)* The Bible tells us of this in 1 Corinthians chapter 4:7-10. But we have this treasure in earthen containers, so that the extraordinary greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying around in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

## Illustration: Geode

Take a look at this rock. When looking at it on the outside, it may not seem like much. If I were walking on a road I might pass it by without giving it a second glance. But this rock is special. It carries something on the inside of it. Lets put some pressure on this rock and see what's there *(open geode)* When the geode is broken open, we see the beautiful gem inside!





## *Explanation of Passage*

This is similar to what the writer meant when he talked about earthen vessels holding a treasure. Though we may look ordinary on the outside, what we carry on the inside is of much value. no matter what we go through or the circumstances we have, we carry something with us that can not be destroyed. We might be afflicted but not crushed. We might be perplexed but we won't despair. We might be struck down but we won't be destroyed, because we carry Christ with us.

Jesus took the penalty for our sins, he died on the cross for us. He rose again, he is coming to take us home.

## *Appeal*

Verse 16 tells us, Therefore we do not lose heart, For our momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, 18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

If there is anyone who might be hearing the call to place their eternal hope in Christ, I invite you to pray with me....

*(prayer)*

