

# HIDDEN TREASURES

## Set-up Instructions



*You will need small boxes or bags and stickers or markers to number the packages. Fill and mark the packages as follows, then place them in baskets in the center of each table.*

- Package 1 one die
- Package 2 black fabric or paper
- Package 3 lemon drop
- Package 4 paper clip
- Package 5 rubber band
- Package 6 safety pin
- Package 7 penny
- Package 8 cotton ball
- Package 9 ticket to heaven (*print or type on a small piece of paper: "One Ticket to Heaven. Price fully paid."*)
- Package 10 reminder of baptism/salvation

# HIDDEN TREASURES



What special activities did you enjoy as a child? A special activity at many houses was scavenger hunts. Some treasures have been “hidden” for you today. Look for packages at the center of the tables. There are ten packages scattered among the tables. They are numbered to help us. Those who wish to participate may pick up a package. Observe its number and be prepared to open the package when instructed. As we open each package, we will think about the many freedoms we have as God’s children.

**Leader:** If you have package number one, open it. *We sometimes think daily life is a roll of the dice. We never know exactly what will happen or how things will add up. We don’t have to worry about rolling the right number and winning membership into the family of God.*

**Group:** **With God as our Father, we are free from worrying about our right to be with Him. But now, this is what the Lord says – he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.”** *Isaiah 43:1 NIV*

**Leader:** Open the number two package. *We often think things look black. We may feel like that. It blinds us, but Jesus has provided a way out.*

**Group:** **With Jesus as our guide, we are free from being lost to the darkness of sin. When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”** *John 8:12 NIV*

**Leader:** Look in package number three. *We sometimes feel like life give us sour lemons, times of illness, want and disappointment. Because we know we are God’s children, we have the strength to “make lemonade.”*

**Group:** **Knowing God is with us, we have the freedom to be positive even when times are hard. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.** *Romans 8:28 NIV*

**Leader:** Open packages numbered four and five. We may feel like everything in the world is trying to pull us away from God. We want to fasten ourselves to Him for strength.

**Group:** **Even when we are pulled in so many directions, it is comforting to know we are free from being pulled away from God. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** *Romans 8:38-39 NIV*

**Leader:** Look in package number six. There are times when all of us feel like our lives are being held together with safety pins. We try to hold together the parts of our lives as we live as Christians in a non-Christian world, and we aren’t always sure the safety pins will hold.

**Group:** God our Father has freed us from being alone in our work for Him. *No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.* *Joshua 1:5 NIV*

Leader: Open package number seven. We sometimes wonder if there will be enough to go around; enough food, enough clothes, enough money.

**Group:** As God's children we are free from need. *Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear."* *Luke 12:22 NIV* Thank you, Lord for taking care of us.

Leader: Open package eight. We know we sin. We know we cannot be pure apart from Christ.

**Group:** As God's children, we are free from the stain of sin. *"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Thought your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."* *Isaiah 1:18 NIV*

Leader: Open the ninth package. We know that our sins keep us from being able to earn a place in God's kingdom. Because of Jesus' loving sacrifice, we are adopted into His family, welcome members and children of God.

**Group:** Because of our brother Jesus Christ, we are free to enter into heaven. *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* *Romans 6:23 NIV*

Leader: Now open the tenth package. We children of God know the whole story and have our place in heaven, but our faith cannot take anyone else along. They need their own faith.

**Group:** We are free to share the Good News. *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* *Matthew 28:19-20 NIV*

Leader: Precious Savior Jesus, we come to You with humble hearts. You have done what we cannot. You have paid with Your blood so that we may be acceptable to God the Father. Thank you for calling us to be children of God. Help us to live as Your children should. In Your Name we pray, Amen.

Closing Hymn: *Go My Children* (All God's People Sing – 102; Hymnal Supplement 98 - 887)

