

Faith Talk *Activity* - Mar. 1, 2026

Family-Friendly Activity: Trading Treasures for Christ

This activity helps families visualize Paul's radical perspective that everything we achieve or possess is worthless compared to knowing Christ, reinforcing that salvation is a free gift received through faith alone.

Materials needed:

- Play money or tokens
- Small items family members value (toys, books, devices - just for illustration)
- Large treasure chest or special box
- Picture or cross representing Jesus
- Index cards and markers

Instructions:

1. Set up the marketplace:
 - Give each family member play money/tokens
 - Display items they value around the room
 - Place the Jesus picture/cross in the treasure chest
2. List your credentials:
 - Have each person write on cards things they might be tempted to trust in:
 - "I go to church every week."
 - "I'm a good kid."
 - "I pray before meals."
 - "I don't do bad things."
 - "My family is Christian."
 - Stack these cards next to their play money
3. The exchange demonstration:
 - Ask: "If you could buy salvation, how much would it cost?"
 - Let them try to "purchase" the treasure chest with money and cards
 - Show that it's locked—can't be bought or earned
4. The gift revelation:
 - Open the treasure chest freely
 - Inside: the cross/Jesus picture with a tag reading "FREE GIFT"
 - Explain: All our credentials and good works are worthless for earning salvation
 - Only faith in Jesus' finished work saves us

5. Paul's list activity:

- Read Philippians 3:4-8 together
- Make a "Paul's List" on one side, "Knowing Christ" on the other
- Dramatically move all of Paul's credentials to a trash bag
- Label it "DUNG" (kids will giggle, but it makes the point memorable!)

6. Personal application:

- Each family member shares:
 - What they're most tempted to trust in besides Jesus
 - One way they want to "know Christ" better this week
- Write these on cards to keep in Bibles as reminders