LET IT SHINE
7. Parable of the Talents

OBJECTIVES
Help your students understand that even little children have talents. They can do things to please God. Children are much like adults. The more we use our talents, the more we can learn how to do new things, too.

PREPARATION
Print the activities on regular copy paper. If you are using the CD, the page where your students are to circle the children who are using their talents would look very attractive printed on a color printer. The money may be used to place in a billfold if you wish to use this as an illustration. It requires a lot of cutting out, so you may want to ask someone to help you. Print the money on green paper. If you have slightly thicker paper than normal copy paper, it would work nicely. If not, just regular green paper will work fine. Various colors of cover stock will make attractive billfolds. Cut one with a paper cutter to the size you will need to fit the money when it is folded in half. Then you will know exactly what size to make each billfold. Tape the left and right edges, leaving the top open to insert the money. Provide stickers and/or use the wording labels provided, so each child may decorate his or her billfold. Print the PRC cards.

BIBLE STUDY: Matthew 25:14-30

LESSON
Use the booklet to teach the lesson. Color yours before class to use as an illustration. Show the page with the addition if your students are old enough to understand. All ages should be able to learn from the application page showing children who are using their talents, and some who are not being nice.

ACTIVITIES
Depending on the ages of your students, they may be able to do some of the activities after you explain what to do, without your help. Younger ones will need to be shown what to do. Older students can trace the numbers on the addition page. They can do the maze without help, but younger ones will need to be helped, or you can draw a light line prior to class for them to trace. Young children will especially enjoy putting stickers on the billfolds. Talk about each of the talents printed on the money. When the children complete the other activities, give them the booklet to be colored. If time does not permit, send it home to be colored. Since there are several things to be taken home, it would be a good idea to use plastic bags or gallon baggies so nothing will be lost. Write each child's name on his or her bag, and then names will not need to be printed on each page.

SONGS AND PRAYER
Thank God for giving us each talents. Ask God to help the students learn to use their talents to serve Him. Some song suggestions are: "A Helper I Will Be," "Read Your Bible and Pray Every Day," and "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam."