LET IT SHINE
9. The Lost Coin

OBJECTIVES
Show that the Bible, the Word of God, is more important than any amount of money!

PREPARATION
Before you go to class, find several shiny pennies. If you don't have any at home, perhaps you could buy a roll at the bank, or ask friends if they have any shiny ones you could use. When you get to class, hide them around the room before the children arrive. Do not let them look for the pennies until after you teach the lesson. Give each child a small baggie or envelope into which they can place the pennies they find. Print the booklet on #24 paper if you have it available. Otherwise regular copy paper will work fine. Print the rugs and cut them out. (Although it appears in the graphic on the CD that part of the rugs won't print out, I tested it and all three print out completely.) If you are using the CD, they would look attractive printed in color. They are just the right size to fit on the page in the booklet. Tape a shiny penny under the rug, and only glue one edge of the rug, so it can be lifted.

BIBLE STUDY: Luke 15:8-10

LESSON
Color your booklet. When you talk about finding the penny, mention that we don't know where she found the money, but it could have been under a rug (or in a corner, or under a chair…). Mention that their money was not like ours, but you are using the penny to show that she thought it was important to find the money. Stress that finding what God wants us to do in the Bible is much more important than finding money! We should be so thankful for our Bibles!

ACTIVITIES
Work on the maze together. When the children match the hands that are the same, talk about how the woman used her hands to find the money, just like we use our hands to hold the Bible! Let the children color their booklets.

Game: Find the pennies. Give each child a small baggie or envelope into which they can place the pennies they find. If some find many, and others find only one or two, have the ones with more share with those who have less. If you feel this will cause too much commotion, have them complete the activities before they get to play the game.

SONGS AND PRAYER
Thank God for our Bibles, and ask Him to help us learn from the Bible stories in class. Sing songs about the Bible, such as: "The B-I-B-L-E," "Read Your Bible and Pray Every Day," and "There's Not a Book Like the Holy Bible." When you use the flashlights to sing "This Little Light of Mine," point out that they didn't have flashlights when Jesus told this parable! Mention that the woman lit her candle so she could see better to find the money.