

Share Your Treasure

By Julie Filby

God gives every individual gifts that are uniquely theirs, making each person like a treasure chest filled with valuables . . . valuables to be shared. In this exercise, family members convey the gifts and talents they see in each other by listing them on individual treasure chests.



For

Young Family

Season

Summer

Needed

Treasure chest template (see next page or design one of your own), pens or pencils, optional: crayons or markers

Prepare in Advance

Make a copy of, or otherwise prepare, a treasure chest for each person in your family.

Activity Plan

1. Gather everyone together and give each person a treasure chest and a pen or pencil.
2. Have each family member write his or her name on the treasure chest (the littlest ones may need help with the writing portion of this activity); then write two special gifts or talents that they possess on the treasure chest.
3. Ask each person to pass his or her treasure chest to the right; then have that family member write two things they think are special about the person. Keep passing the chests until everyone has added "treasure."
4. Afterward, give everyone his or her chest and take turns reading treasures aloud.
5. Discuss the following questions:
 - What did you learn about yourself that you didn't know before?
 - Did you discover any treasures that you and no one else in your family possess?
 - How often do you tell others about their special qualities and "treasures?"
6. Optional: color and otherwise decorate the treasure chests (after or during the discussion). All are encouraged to keep their treasure chest to review every now and then as a reminder of their God-given gifts and talents.
7. Close with the following prayer:

Gracious God, thank you for revealing yourself through the gifts and talents you have bestowed on each of us. With your grace, help us to use these gifts to serve one another and bring you greater glory and honor. Amen.

You are a treasure

