



Grace Church Elementary

Camp Grace

LESSON 36

3rd and 4th Grade

Principle: Worship, celebration, and praise.

Bible Character(s): David

Scripture Reference: 2 Samuel 6



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, read 2 Samuel 6. David is now the

king of Israel. David is bringing the ark of God up to Jerusalem and there are a number of items to teach us about worship from this passage. Worship is acknowledging God and responding to who He is and what He has done. God is worthy of our worship, our full focus, and attention. How do you worship God? Do you worship Him with your whole heart? Are there times when you have a hard time worshiping Him? Do you ever feel ashamed to worship because of others watching? God does not care what we look like. He wants us to worship Him with our whole hearts, whether in prayer, dancing around singing praises, or being outside and recognizing the beauty of His creation. Whatever it is that we are doing to worship Him, He wants us to worship Him with our whole hearts. Spend some time thinking about how you worship God. Come prepared to worship with the campers.

PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

Ways to Worship God Worksheet (1 per camper)



BIG GROUP Time - 35-40 minutes

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts - fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

*Take your cabin flag to Big Group.

The Bridge to Small Group

Today we are continuing our study of David. We will study what worship is and how God wants us to worship Him by looking at how David worshiped God.

Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes

Getting Started

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

What did you learn about in Big Group today? Why was the counselor concerned about Adrian raising her hands in worship? (Some people might have been embarrassed; it was distracting; people may have thought she had a question and no one was answering it.) What did we learn about worship from David's life? (He worshiped God with all his might, without worrying about what others thought.)

Last week we learned about how David had the chance to kill Saul and get revenge on him. What did David do? Did he kill Saul? David chose not to kill Saul. Why did David not kill Saul? Because he knew that God would judge Saul. What does God call us to do? God calls us to forgive others who hurt or wrong us instead of judging them.

Now David is the king of Israel. He has waited patiently and served faithfully in many roles since Samuel anointed him as the future king of Israel. David has decided to bring the ark of the Lord, or the Ark of the Covenant, to Jerusalem. Do you remember what the Ark of the Covenant is? Can you remember what is in the Ark of the Covenant? (The Ten Commandments, Aaron's staff, and manna.)

Let's begin reading the Bible in 2 Samuel 6 [NLT].

2 Samuel 6:12-16, 20-22

12 Then King David was told, "The LORD has blessed Obed-edom's household and everything he has because of the Ark of God." So David went there and brought the Ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the City of David with a great celebration. 13 After the men who were carrying the Ark of the LORD had gone six steps, David sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. 14 And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly garment. 15 So David and all the people of Israel brought up the Ark of the LORD with shouts of joy and the blowing of rams' horns.

16 But as the Ark of the LORD entered the City of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked down from her window. When she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she was filled with contempt for him.

20 When David returned home to bless his own family, Michal, the daughter of Saul, came out to meet him. She said in disgust, "How distinguished the king of Israel looked today, shamelessly exposing himself to the servant girls like any vulgar person might do!" 21 David retorted to Michal, "I was dancing before the LORD...so I celebrate before the LORD. 22 Yes, and I am willing to look even more foolish than this, even to be humiliated in my own eyes!"

Why was David's wife, Michal, upset with David? (Allow responses.) She was embarrassed that her husband was dancing around in the street. She thought he was being shameful and foolish with his actions. Do you think David was worried about how he looked to others? (Allow responses.) David was totally focused on God, not what others were thinking. He wanted to celebrate and praise God, giving God the worship He deserves. Are you totally focused on God when you worship Him? Are there things that keep you from worshiping Him? (Allow responses.)

Let's take a look at how God wants us to worship Him.

Withholding Worship



The purpose is to examine the reasons why we withhold worship and praise from God.

Supplies:

Set of worship pictures (1 set per bin)

Show the different pictures to the campers and ask them what they think when they see these people worshiping.

Tie It Together



What do you think of these pictures? Do the people in them look embarrassed? Do they look silly? Do they look like they are worshiping God? (Allow responses.) The people in these pictures might look kind of silly to you, but they do look like they are worshiping God. They do not look distracted or concerned with what others think. They are totally focused on God, just like David was when he was worshiping God in the streets. Worship is acknowledging God and responding to who He is and what He has done. Are there times that you don't know how to worship God or you feel embarrassed to worship Him? Do you worry about what others might think about how you worship God? Many people are distracted by others, or worried about what others think and this makes it hard for them to worship God. When we are in Big Group, we have a chance to worship God. What are some reasons you might not sing or do the motions in Big Group? What is in our hearts when we choose not to worship? (Pride, selfishness, anger, fear.) These reasons keep us from worshiping God in the way that He wants us to worship him. If we take the focus off of ourselves and focus on how great our God is, it is easier to fully worship God without holding back.

If worship is acknowledging God and responding to who He is and what He has done, what other ways can we worship? (Allow responses.) Bowing our heads in prayer; talking with a friend about who Jesus is or what Jesus is doing in your life; thanking God for loving us and for being a good God; singing songs of praise and dancing in celebration. These are all ways we can worship God, but worshiping Him is not limited to these things. Anything you do for God with a heart fully focused on Him is worshiping Him.

Worshiping an Almighty God



The purpose is to remind us of who we are worshiping.

Supplies:

God's Character guide (2 per bin)

Read through the cards and talk about God's character, how He is worthy of worship, and that we are to respect the Lord. Talk about how these attributes are known. (Direct them to look at the attribute graphics hanging on the wall in the classroom, when applicable.)

Tie It Together

 We have an awesome God who created us and everything around us. He is Sovereign over all, but He is also merciful and gracious. All we deserve is death, but He gave us the gift of life through Jesus' sacrifice even though we did not deserve it. God loves us more than we can ever imagine. He is so worthy of our worship and praise! When we remember God's character, Jesus' sacrifice, and have a heart like David's, our worship can be real and respectful of God.

Why Do You Worship God?

 The purpose is for the campers to examine and share why they worship God.

Supplies:

White board

Write "Why Do You Worship God?" on the white board. Ask the campers to give reasons why they worship God. Ask for general reasons (ex. God is our creator, we were created to worship Him, God is Holy, God deserves our worship, God redeemed us, etc) as well as specific personal reasons (ex. God healed my sister, God gave me courage to be in a play, God provided something I'd asked for, etc).

Tie It Together

 We've come up with a lot of great reasons of why we each worship God. He is our creator and He created us to worship Him. This is the reason why we worship Him. He is worthy of our worship! It is still important to remind ourselves how He has worked in our lives and worship Him for who He is and what He has done. When we can see all that He is and has done, it fills our heart with a greater desire to praise and celebrate Him! We can give Him the glory He deserves by worshiping Him with our whole heart.

Why We Worship God

 The purpose is to have a reminder of what worship is and why we worship.

Supplies:

Paper plates (2 per camper)

Bag of beans (1 per bin)

Markers, crayons

Stapler

Give each camper two paper plates. On the bottom of one plate have them write, "I was dancing before the Lord." On the bottom of the other plate have them write, "I celebrate before the Lord." (You may want to write these phrases on the white board to help them know how to spell/write them.) Then have them color their plates with bright, fun colors and pictures. When they are finished decorating each paper plate, help them make a tambourine by putting beans on one plate and stapling the other plates to it around the edges. Sing some songs to God and have a worship parade!

Tie It Together

 David gave us a great example of how we can worship God. His heart was totally focused on giving God the praise and glory He deserves. Worship is acknowledging God and responding to who He is and what He has done. God wants us to have a heart filled with a desire to worship Him. We do not have to worry about or be concerned with what others think of us when we are praising God with our whole heart. Let's all thank God for who He is as our Creator, Savior, and sovereign Lord!

Prayer Time

Spend some time in prayer to close small group time. Praise God for who He is and ask Him to help you worship Him with all of your heart.



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