



Grace Church Elementary

# Camp Grace

## LESSON 6

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Principle:** Worship

**Bible Character(s):** Noah

**Scripture Reference:** Genesis 8:20-22, 9:12-17



**PERSONAL PREPARATION:** Read through Genesis 8:20-9:17 to finish the story of

Noah. Think about what Noah did immediately after he came off of the ark. Did he spend time exploring his surroundings, or begin building a house for himself and his family? No, the first thing he did was worship God. He recognized God's faithfulness in saving him and his family, and not forgetting about them being on the ark, by building an altar and offering pleasing sacrifices to God. Noah did not come up with his own way to worship God. God had told him what kind of animals and the number to be brought on the ark specifically for eating and for sacrifice. Noah used these animals for sacrifice, those, "that had been approved for that purpose" (Gen. 8:20), in an act of worship to God as soon as he got off of the ark. He obeyed God not only in building the ark, and bringing his family and all of the animals on board, but also in how he was told to worship God. This pleased God very much.

Think about how you worship God. Do you recognize when God has been faithful to you and blessed you? Do you worship God immediately after He has been faithful to you and blessed you? Do you worship Him in a way that is pleasing to Him? Spend some time in prayer this week as you think about what it means to worship God in the way that He wants us to worship Him.



### 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!

### What Is Worship?

Ask your campers what they think it means to worship. Make a list of their answers on the whiteboard. Spend some time in prayer before you head to Big Group. Pray for God to help you understand how He desires us to worship.



## 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**, **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts, **Celebrating Christ** with passion, and **Encouraging 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 will discuss how we can make choices based on what is pleasing and a blessing to ourselves or what is pleasing to God and a blessing to others.

## 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 in Big Group today? How did Surfer Dude picture Noah's time on the boat? (Like a cruise.) Was that how it really was? (No, it was actually really difficult, cramped, and there was a lot of uncertainty about what was going to happen.) Have you ever thought about what it must have been like?

Remember two weeks ago when we talked about Cain and Abel? Can you remember how Cain and Abel both worshiped God? We learned that Cain did not worship in a way that was pleasing to God. We do not know exactly how Cain worshiped, but we know God did not accept Cain's worship. We do not want to be like Cain. We want to please God with our worship.

Last week we talked about the first part of the story of Noah and the ark. What had happened to the world? It had become corrupt, and the people were living in sin. How did this make God feel? This saddened God very much. How did God respond? He decided to destroy the whole world by bringing a flood, but He chose to save a man named Noah. Why did he choose to save Noah? Noah had put his faith and trust in God, and followed Him. What did God ask Noah to do? God asked Noah to build an ark for him and his family, and the animals. God gave Noah specific instructions on how to build the ark and what animals to round up to take on the ark. Was Noah obedient to God? Noah obeyed every command. We ended the story with the flood finally coming to an end, and Noah, his family and all of the animals came off of the ark.

This week we are going to finish the story of Noah. We will talk about worship, and how God wants us to worship Him.

Let's continue reading in Genesis 8 [NLT].

### Genesis 8:20-22

*20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and there he sacrificed as burnt offerings the animals and birds that had been approved for that purpose. 21 And the Lord was pleased with the aroma of the*

sacrifice and said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things. 22 As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night."

After they all came out of the ark, what was the first thing Noah did? (Allow responses.) He built an altar and sacrificed the animals God had commanded him to sacrifice in worship to God. He did not spend time exploring the world around him, building a house to live in, or celebrating with his family. The first thing Noah wanted to do was worship God for saving him and his family. Noah's act of worship pleased God, and He then promised to, "never again destroy all living things."

Let's read in Genesis 9 to see what that symbol is.

### Genesis 9:12-17

12 Then God said, "I am giving you a sign of my covenant with you and with all living creatures, for all generations to come. 13 I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth. 14 When I send clouds over the earth, the rainbow will appear in the clouds, 15 and I will remember my covenant with you and with all living creatures. Never again will the floodwaters destroy all life. 16 When I see the rainbow in the clouds, I will remember the eternal covenant between God and every living creature on earth." 17 Then God said to Noah, "Yes, this rainbow is the sign of the covenant I am confirming with all the creatures on earth."

What does the rainbow symbolize? (Allow responses.) God created the beautiful rainbow to serve as the sign of His covenant with us. Whenever we see a rainbow in the sky, we can remember the promise God made to us, and it can remind us to worship Him.

Let's investigate how God wants us to worship Him. Look back at our ideas of what worship is from before Big Group. What did we come up with for what worship is? (Allow responses.) These are all great ideas, and are ways to worship, but there is even more we can learn about worship and how to worship! Let's take a look at how God wants us to worship.

### Rainbow Reminder



The purpose is to learn how God wants us to worship Him.

#### Supplies:

Worksheet – "Why/How Do I Worship God" side (1 per camper)

Bible

Hand out the worksheets and tell campers to fill in the blanks as you all look up the verse references and discuss how and why we worship God.

### Tie It Together

These rainbows are a reminder for us to worship God. We want to please God in our worship, so let's look in the Bible to find out why we worship God, and how we are to worship God.

Who would like to volunteer to look up the verse references on your worksheet? (Have campers look up each verse. Call on one camper at a time, as you work through the “Why” and “How” questions and the corresponding verses.)

### Why?

1. Isaiah 43:7 tells us that we were created to bring glory to God. Our reason to worship God is that we were *created* to worship Him. Our purpose in life is to worship God. Write “created” on the line in number one.

2. Colossians 3:17 tells us that we should do everything for Jesus. We were created to worship, and so worship should be the focus of everything we do. How do we see Noah doing that? (Allow responses.) He put his faith and trust in God, he walked with God, he obeyed all of God’s commands, and the first thing he did when he got off the ark was build an altar to worship God. Write “everything” in the blank for number two.

3. James 4:8 tells us that worship brings us closer to God. We come to know God more by worshiping Him. Write “closer” for number three.

### How?

4. John 4:24 – Jesus tells us to worship in spirit and in truth. What does that mean? By spirit, Jesus is talking about how God is spirit. He is everywhere at all times. This means that we can worship God everywhere we are, all of the time. Worship needs to be the focus of our lives. By truth, Jesus is talking about our hearts. He wants us to worship Him from our hearts. Write “spirit” and “truth” in the two blank spots for number four.

5. Matthews 15:8 – what do you think this means? (Allow responses.) God knows our hearts and He knows when we are truly worshiping Him or not. For example, He knows when we’re standing in Big Group singing words we really do not mean. He knows when we are thinking about what we are going to do later while someone is praying. Read the first part of Acts 15:8. God always knows the condition of our hearts. God wants our hearts to be completely focused on Him. He wants us to mean what we say and not just go through the motions. Worship is not about us: it’s all about God. Write “heart” in the blank for number five.

6. Hebrews 12:28–29 tells us that we worship God with holy fear and awe. God is so mighty and powerful. When we worship Him, we need to realize how great He is and how small we are. Write “fear” and “awe” in the two blanks for number six.

7. James 4:6 tells us that God favors the humble. This means that God wants us to humble ourselves before Him. He wants us to recognize worshiping Him is not at all about us. When we worship God, we are telling Him that He is our creator and we want to honor and please Him. Write “humble” for question number seven.

So, we can see that worship is what we were created for and are here to do. Worship is all about God. God is everywhere at all times, so we can worship any time and anywhere. God wants worship to be the focus of our lives, and for us to have a heart filled with worship.

(Let campers color the rainbow if time allows.)

## You Call That Worship?



The purpose is to help the campers understand that we worship with our actions, words, and heart.

### Supplies:

Situations guide (1 per bin)

Read through the situations and have the campers point out how an act of worship is being displayed in the situation.

### Tie It Together



Worship is not just about music and singing. There are many different ways that we can worship God in our lives. As you saw from the situations we read, we can worship Him by sharing our things with others, holding open a door for someone else, praying, and singing. There are so many other things we can do every day as an act of worship for God. He created us to bring Him glory, and He wants us to worship from our hearts in spirit and in truth. He wants us to worship Him in everything we do, and we can do that because He is everywhere, all of the time. God knows our hearts, so He knows if we are worshiping Him from our heart in spirit and in truth, or if we are trying to worship Him in our own way.

## How Can I Worship God Everyday?



The purpose is to give campers ideas of different ways to worship God everyday.

### Supplies:

Worksheet - "Ways to Worship God" side (1 per camper)

Have campers turn to the "Ways to Worship God" side of their worksheets. Have them color the pictures that are already there, showing ways we can worship God, but also have them write or draw other ways we can worship Him (singing, dancing, playing instruments, praying, journaling, etc).

### Tie It Together



Worship should be the focus of our lives; our hearts should be filled with the desire to worship God in everything we do. God has shown us grace through sending His Son, Jesus, to be the payment for our sin so that we can live forever with Him. We did not deserve this; we deserve death for our sin, but we have a merciful God who took our punishment on Himself. We should desire to worship Him for this. We can worship God from our hearts in spirit and in truth by humbling ourselves before Him, or we can choose to just go through the motions and not be concerned with how we worship God. God does not accept our worship unless we worship Him from our hearts because He wants our sincere expressions of love for Him.

## Prayer Time

Spend some time in prayer to close small group time. Thank God for His faithful, loving grace to save us from our sin. Ask Him to help us have hearts of worship so everyday we can live to glorify Him.



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