

2.12 FRIENDS OF GOD WORSHIP GOD

Topic: Becoming a Friend of God

Subtopic: Friends of God Worship God

2A: Prayer and Worship

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When asked for one thing a friend of God does, students will say they worship Him.

Attitude: Students will experience worship in a meaningful way.

Materials Needed:

Rhythmic instruments

Exercise and Memory Exercise Book

Clay (optional)

Scripture:

References: I Samuel 16:10-13, 18;

Psalms 139:1-2,6,17-18

Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "The Lord is great and is to be highly praised." Psalm 145:3

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Last week we talked about building friendships. Did you make a new friend this week? Is it possible to become God's friend? How?

Bible Story:

2. Tell story of David and his personal way of worshipping God from I Sam. 16:10-13, 18; Psalm 139:1-2,6,17-18

Suggested Discussion Questions

3. Why did David like tending the sheep for his father?
4. How did David express his love for God when he worshiped?
5. What do we do when we worship God?
6. Does worshipping God help us become God's friend? How?

Application:

7. Can we worship God with singing and instruments like David did?
8. Close singing time with a chant of "Thank you, God for music..Thank you God for.... Repeating each thing each time. End with "Amen".

Evaluation:

9. What place can you use daily to worship God?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Listen to children tell about new friends they may have made. Yes, it is possible to become God's friend. Let them tell how they think they can become God's friend.

Bible Story:

2. Children will listen for ways David worshiped God.

Possible Answers to Questions:

3. It was his opportunity to feel close to God and worship Him
4. He played his harp. He burst into song and praised God for all He had created. He talked with God.
5. Worship means we acknowledge God. We give praise. We respect His love and power. We honor Him.
6. Yes. We get to know God and His love and He knows us.

Application:

7. Yes. Students will experience worship by singing to God hymns or choruses they know using rhythm instruments for accompaniment.
8. Students will contribute things to give thanks to God for while singing the thank you chant.

Evaluation:

9. Students will talk about a quiet place where they will plan to go spend time to worship God daily.

Extension Activities

1. In their Memory Verse Exercise Book, have the children write the new memory verse: "The Lord is great and is to be highly praised." Psalm 145:3 GNT
2. In their exercise book, have the children write "Friends of God Worship God." Underneath have them draw a picture that reminds them of what worshipping God is. It could be praying, singing, praising, reading the Bible.
3. Worship God by creating things from clay. **Materials needed: Clay (can be brought from the river)** Provide a small portion of clay for each child. Have the children roll a piece in their hands until it is easy to work with. While they do this, think about God and one thing they would like to make out of their piece of clay that they are especially thankful to God for today. Tell them to listen for God to give them ideas or speak to their hearts. They may want to make a tree or a star or flowers, a dog or bird. Whatever they make, have them think about how wonderful God is. As they mold something out of clay, let that remind them that God is the creator of everything and we need to thank Him.
4. Provide rhythm instruments for worship. If not available, use this time to make some for future use. **Materials needed for making instruments: bottle caps, hammer, nail, wire, twigs that form a "Y" shape, dry gourds, small stones or beans, sisal fibers.** Flatten out bottle caps with hammer. Put a hole in the center of each cap using a hammer and nail. String them on a piece of wire. Find a fairly strong branch that has a "Y" shape. Fasten that wire with the stringed bottle caps in place at the widest point of the "Y". You can keep time with it as you shake it rhythmically. Or use a dry gourd and put small stones or dry beans inside. Seal the opening where the stones have been put in so they won't fall by lacing sisal fibers across the opening. Be creative with making other instruments. Use the instruments for accompaniment as you sing together. This project may have to be done over a period of two or three lessons to get them completed. Then get them out from time to time. Maybe you can invite the parents to come hear the children sing with the instruments and worship God together.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

1. David was the youngest of Jesse's sons.
2. Samuel, the man of God, had been sent by God to anoint one of Jesse's sons to be the next king of Israel. As each son was presented to Samuel, God told him not to make his choice based on how the son looked (outward appearance) but how he thought and acted.
3. When seven sons had been presented and God had not indicated any of them, Samuel asked if there were more sons. Yes, there was David but he was out tending the sheep.
4. David liked this lowly task of tending sheep because he could enjoy God's creation. He could play his harp. He could even burst out into song and praise God for all the things He had made for David to enjoy.

5. He could talk to God. “Lord, you know me. You know when I sit and when I get up. You know my thoughts before I think them... Your knowledge is amazing to me; it is more than I can understand. God, your thoughts are precious to me. [paraphrased from Psalm 139:1-2,6,17-18].
6. He wrote many kinds of songs and prayers that expressed his times with God. Many of these are recorded in the Psalms.
7. These times made David feel very close to God. David knew how important it was to take time to worship and honor God.

Key Points

Becoming a friend of God means that we take time to worship Him each day. Worship means that we acknowledge God, give Him praise, respect and honor Him. The Psalmist says “The Lord is great and is to be highly praised.” You can worship alone or with your family or church family.

Finger Play for Learning Memory Verse

With your thumb extended out and your forefinger straight up (like an L shape), cross your body from your top left shoulder down to your right hip for “Lord”. Two thumbs up for “great”. Then raise both hands to the air and wave your hands for “highly praised.” These finger plays can be used to talk with deaf people.

Encourage Students to Designate a Place They Will Worship God Daily

Suggest to the students that they find a special place where they can worship God each day. Maybe there is a special tree they can sit under or a place near the river where they can sit and think about God. Maybe they can make a worship corner in their home. It can be the place where they keep their Bible or put something of God’s creation like fresh flowers, or the clay art they made to remind them of God. Spending a few minutes each day to read from God’s word and talk with God will make a difference in their lives each day.

Making Worship Meaningful Together

During your lesson, pass out the rhythm instruments, if available, and lead the children in singing some of the hymns or choruses they know. Exchange the instruments so that everyone has an opportunity to play one while you sing. To close the time together, begin the chant of “Thank you, God, for music...continue with “Thank you, God for ...”(as suggested by children. Repeat the first thing by saying thanks to God for music and... And continue. Conclude this time of thanks by saying, “Amen”.

Teacher Evaluation

Do you spend time regularly worshipping God? Are you able to share with the children how important worship is to you? How will you provide opportunities for more times to worship?

