

2.13 FRIENDS OF GOD WORSHIP GOD BY PRAYING

Topic: Becoming a Friend of God
Subtopic: Friends of God Talk With God

2A. Prayer and Worship

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When asked how to become friends of God, students will name worship and prayer.

Attitude: Students will discover they can talk with God any time and anywhere.

Materials Needed:

Exercise Book

Memory Verse Exercise Book

(optional) Items for making rhythm instruments

Scripture:

References: Daniel 6:1-28

Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "Worship the Lord with joy." Psalm 100:2 GNT

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. How can we be friends of God?
What does it mean to worship God?
How did David worship God?
2. Did you choose a special place to worship God daily?

Bible Story:

3. Another man finds a way to worship God. Tell story from Daniel 6:1-28

Suggested Discussion Questions

4. Was it easy for Daniel to keep close to God?
5. What fault did the leaders find with Daniel? What did they do to try to prevent Daniel from his promotion?
6. What did Daniel do every day?
7. How did God save Daniel from the lions?
8. What do we learn from Daniel about being God's friend?

Application:

9. Worship God with instruments and song. Review memory verse with motions and learn new verse.

Evaluation:

10. How will you plan to worship God by praying?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Students will define worship and mention that praise, prayer, playing/-singing music to God are ways to worship God.
2. Students will share how they plan a special place to worship God daily

Bible Story:

3. Students will identify another way we become a friend of God—praying

Possible Answers to Questions:

4. He lived among people who didn't know God, yet he kept his relationship with God strong.
5. The king ruled that no one could worship anyone except the king or they would be punished. The leaders accused Daniel of worshipping God.
6. Daniel prayed three times a day.
7. God sent his angel to shut the mouths of the lions and keep Daniel safe.
8. Even when times are difficult, we can depend on God.

Application:

9. Students join in worship and learning memory verse with motions.

Evaluation:

10. Can talk to God any time. Will include praying in daily worship time.

Extension Activities

1. Write new memory verse in the Memory Verse Exercise Book: “Worship the Lord with joy.” Psalm 100:2 GNT
2. In the exercise book, have students write “Friends of God Worship God” at the top. On the next line write “by Praying”. Then draw a picture of someone worshipping God by praying (maybe their picture can be of Daniel talking with God).
3. If you did not complete making the rhythm instruments last time, continue with that project this time. If you have extra time, maybe you can sing at least one more song using the instruments before the class is over.
4. Review memory verses you have learned this term. Have the children divide into two teams. The object of the game is to keep as many people standing as possible as you review the memory verses. The teacher will give the reference for the verse to team number 1. The first person in the line should give the memory verse. If that person gives the correct answer, they remain standing and the next question goes to the second team. If, however, the student cannot quote the memory verse he/she must take a seat. The reference is then given to the first person in Team 2. If that person can quote the verse, that team member continues to stand. Go back to team 1. Sometimes you can quote the verse and expect the team member to give the reference. When the time is over, count how many are still standing on each team. The team with the most members standing wins. Remind the children that God wants us to hide His word in our hearts and learning Bible verses is important all through life.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

1. Daniel had been captured from his Jewish home and taken to Babylonia where he was being trained to work for the government.
2. He was lonely because the Babylonians didn't know God. Daniel knew he needed to keep his faith in God strong.
3. Daniel gained the respect of the king and was promoted to being one of the top officials in the Babylonian government.
4. The other leaders were very upset about Daniel's promotion. They tried to find fault with him but the only fault they could find was that he worshiped God.
5. They went to the king and asked him to make a law that the people could only pray to the king for the next thirty days. If anyone didn't obey that law they would be thrown into the den of lions.
6. The king agreed to do that.
7. It was Daniel's routine that three times a day he would climb the steps up to his room and get down on his knees and pray. Even after the law, he continued to do that.
8. The jealous leaders spied on him and found him praying and asking God for help. They immediately reported it to the king.
9. Even though the king was sorry he had made the law, he had Daniel put in the den of lions.
10. That night the king could not sleep.

11. The next morning he hurried to the lion's den and called out to Daniel.
12. Daniel replied, "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me!"
13. When the king found Daniel alive, he ordered everybody to worship the God of Daniel.
14. Daniel knew God was more powerful than the king. He knew he had to talk with God everyday so he would have the courage to do the right thing all the time.
15. We learn from Daniel how important it is to talk with God—to pray—every day even when things seem to be going against us.

Key Points

To be a friend of God, we need to talk with Him every day. We do that by praying. It is another way of worshiping God.

Actions to Accompany the Memory Verse

Learn motions to accompany new memory verse: "Worship the Lord with joy." Psalm 100:2 GNT Make a "W" with both hands and make them circle for "worship". Make an "L" with your right hand like last week and start at your left shoulder, cross down to your right hip for "Lord". Hook your smallest fingers to make a "J" for Joy.

Worship Together

Perhaps to close this lesson, take time to worship together. Pass out rhythm instruments, if available. Begin by singing praises to God. Reading God's word is part of worship. Have class repeat last week's memory verse taken from Psalm 145:3: "The Lord is great and is to be highly praised." Give God honor and praise and acknowledge His greatness. Close the time with prayer.

Teacher Evaluation

Do the children see that spending time worshiping God helps them know God better and gives them courage to do what is right? Do I spend time with God daily so that I have courage to do what is right?