



Date: _____
Series: Pass the Promise
Summer Year 1, Lesson 9

When You Disobey, You Are in Harm's Way!

Primary Scripture: Hebrews 12:10-11

Key Verse: Deuteronomy 5:29, "If only they would fear me and obey all my commandments as long as they live! Then things would go well for them and their children forever."

How does this address a need in our kids' lives?

Kids need to know why it is important to obey God. It is important because God says it is important. It is also important because it is for our own good that we obey. Certainly there are consequences when we disobey, even if we can't see those consequences at first. It's true that we are by nature disobedient and we cannot obey on our own power. We need God's power working within us. We need to know that through our relationship with Jesus, God can forgive our disobedience, forgive us when we disobey, and give us the power to be obedient children. The story of God's love towards his disobedient children rules the pages of the Bible. Today we examine how God honored Noah's obedience and set the sign of promise, a rainbow. We also recall the promise given to Adam and Eve in their disobedience that God would send a Savior.

How does Jesus fill this need?

Jesus for us: Jesus perfectly obeyed his Father by going to the cross in our behalf. That paid the price for our disobedience.

Jesus in us: Through God's discipline he shapes us to become more and more like Jesus.

Jesus through us: God uses our obedience to him to give witness to the love of Jesus to the world.

Stamp of Excellence:

Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.



Worship

Invocation:

Let kids bring the worship symbols forward such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Attention Grabber:

Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.

Supplies:

- *a large sign that reads, "CAUTION! WET FLOOR," "SLIPPERY WHEN WET," or "DO NOT TOUCH! WET PAINT."*

Place the large sign on stage. Ask the kids:

What would happen to us if we ignored this sign? What would the consequences be? Consequences are the results of our actions...what would happen?

Why are we given warnings like this? Do we sometimes choose to ignore them even if they are intended for our own good?

God desires that we would greatly respect him and look up to him in awe. He wants us to put our whole heart into worshipping him. When we do, he blesses us in return.

Songs of Worship:

Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!

Your choice of music.

The Power of the Cross:

Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.

Supplies:

- a cross
- a picture of a rainbow

Do you think God still would have made us if he knew we would disobey? Why? Because he loves us so much. God knows all things and, even before he created the world, he knew he would have to send Jesus to die for us because we choose to sin.

Think of times you have been disobedient to your parents or to God by not doing what he would want you to do. Ask forgiveness for that sin.

Show the cross.

We have the symbol of God's promise in the cross. God promised Adam and Eve a Savior even after they sinned.

Even though the people in Noah's time were evil and sinned against God, Noah was faithful.

Show the rainbow.

God promised Noah he would never destroy the world again with a flood. The promise sign was a rainbow.

Song of Response:

Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.

Offering:

Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.

Supplies:

- ten pennies

Show kids ten pennies and say:

God gives us everything we need, including money. If he gives us ten pennies, how much does he ask us to give back to him? Here's your clue: it's one-tenth. What is one-tenth of ten pennies? Right, it's one penny.

If God gives us ten dollars, how much does he ask us to give back to him? Right, one dollar.

When we give back to God we are showing that we thank him for all he's given us and trust him to provide all that we need. When you bring your offerings forward, think how you are giving back to God to show your love and your trust. You are obeying him.



The Word

Learning Game:

Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.

Red Light/Green Light:

Supplies:

- *masking tape*

Have all kids line up behind a masking tape line placed on the floor. Pick a leader to go to the opposite end of the room or playing field and face away from the group. The leader will turn around and call out, "Green light!" The kids then quickly advance to the location of the leader. At any time the leader can turn around again and call out, "Red light!" The children have to stop immediately in their tracks. If the leader sees anyone move at all, he can tell that child to go back to the starting line. The object of the game is for someone to get all the way to the leader's position without being caught. This person then becomes the new leader. The adult leaders may have to help identify movement with the kids.

Explain the teaching point:

When you didn't obey the leader when he/she called out "red light," you had the consequence... it resulted in an action... a price to be paid. You had to go back to the starting line. There was a consequence for your disobedience.

Who here can give me an example of a consequence that happened to you when you disobeyed your parents or a teacher at school? Take an example or two.

In the same way, there are consequences when we disobey God. We can suffer. For example, let's say someone has wronged us and we don't forgive that person. Instead we hold a grudge and say terrible things about that person. If we do that, we become angry on the inside or mean. It takes away our joy. It might even keep us from remembering how much God has forgiven us.

That's why it is important that we believe in Jesus as our Savior. Because of Jesus, we become children of God. God does not want to see us live in disobedience. He wants us to obey him for our good.

The Bible says in Deuteronomy 5:29, *"If only they would fear me and obey all my commandments as long as they live! Then things would go well for them and their children forever."* And that is just like winning the game, "Red Light/Green Light" and getting to the finish.

Bible Presentation:

Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.

Read Hebrews 12:5-11. Then state:

God gives us consequences for our wrongdoing because he loves us. He wants us to recognize that we need a Savior.

Application 1:

Supplies:

- *video: TESTAMENT: Creation and the Flood (Diamond Entertainment Corp., 1998)*

This 30-minute video is set during the time of Noah and portrays the wickedness during this period. The story of creation is interwoven with the story of the flood as Noah explains how evil entered this world. The video is well done and is creative in its presentation.

WARNING: Please view this video beforehand to determine if it is appropriate for your audience. There is a killing at the very beginning of the video that may be skipped by cueing the video to the proceeding scene. Adam and Eve are also shown naked but without details, much like a Barbie doll.

Talk about the video's point that true freedom always has restraints. For example, Adam and Eve had the whole Garden of Eden from which to choose food, but they chose to eat from the one tree of which they were forbidden. What was the consequence for sin? How did God show his love for Adam and Eve in spite of their disobedience? What promise did he give them?

Talk about Noah. The people of his time had become very wicked and did not obey God. There was a consequence. God destroyed all who were wicked. But Noah was faithful. He obeyed God and built an ark when everyone else made fun of him. God blessed Noah and his family. God gave Noah a promise. We should obey what God wants even when it is not to our liking.

Application 2:

Supplies:

- *Max Lucado's short story "The Fall" from his book, Tell Me the Story (Crossway Books, 1992)—order from*
<http://www.maxlucado.net/shopping6.00/shopexd.asp?id=23412>

Read the short story.



Witness

Witness and Tell:

Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.

Have kids share examples of when they disobeyed and then received forgiveness but still had a consequence.

Prayer:

Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.

Blessing:

Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.

Song of Sending:

Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.

Supplies:

Attention Grabber:

- large sign that reads, “CAUTION! WET FLOOR,” “SLIPPERY WHEN WET,” or “DO NOT TOUCH! WET PAINT.”

The Power of the Cross:

- a cross
- a picture of a rainbow

Offering:

- 10 pennies

Learning Game:

- masking tape

Application #1

- video, *TESTAMENT: Creation and the Flood* (Diamond Entertainment Corp., 1998)—order from <http://www.booksofthebible.com/p5176.html>

Application #2:

- Max Lucado's short story “The Fall” from his book, *Tell Me the Story* (Crossway Books, 1992)—order from <http://www.maxlucado.net/shopping6.00/shopexd.asp?id=23412>

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