



Date: _____
Series: Lookin' for a Leader
Summer Year 3, Lesson 14

Give Honor to God

Primary Scripture: 1 Samuel 2:30b

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 2:30b, "But now the LORD declares: I promise that I will honor those who honor me, and those who despise me will be considered insignificant."

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

Today's companion lesson in Kingdom Quest is a review of the Bible events from Samuel through Saul. Kids Church reinforces that theme as the kids watch a video of the life of Samuel. The central and clear thought is the importance of honoring God. As we honor him, God promises to honor us. This is possible through Jesus who has perfectly honored God in our place, giving his life as a sacrifice for us.

How does Jesus fill this need?

Jesus for us: Jesus perfectly honored God in obedience, even to the point of sacrifice for our sins. In that way, Jesus has first honored us.

Jesus in us: Through the power of the Holy Spirit we receive the presence of Jesus. We, too, can honor our Father as we serve Jesus (John 5:23).

Jesus through us: Jesus works through us so that our actions, which honor God, are also used by God to help others come to faith in Jesus.

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 forward the worship symbols, 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 needed: birthday hat, a cupcake with a birthday candle, gift wrapped boxes that look like presents, a cut out heart from red construction paper

Get the children thinking about the theme of honor. In their perspective, honor is received through special recognition. This type of recognition is most popularly experienced in birthday parties—the one having the birthday is honored by all. Invite a child forward and give her a birthday hat, a cupcake with a candle, and presents. The entire group can sing “Happy Birthday.”

Have fun talking about how we honor people on their birthdays. Then, read today's theme verse from 1 Samuel 2:30b that tells how we should honor God:

“But now the LORD declares: I promise that I will honor those who honor me, and those who despise me will be considered insignificant.”

Lay the red heart on the altar.

When we are in church and worship, we can show our honor to God. That is like laying our hearts before him. We tell him how wonderful he is and how much we love him. We honor God with our worship.

Read Revelations 5:12b

It says in the Bible, our Lord and God, you deserve to receive glory, honor, and power because you created everything. It also says about Jesus that he deserves to receive... “*honor, glory and praise.*”

Lets honor God the Father who made us, God the Son who gave us eternal life, and God the Holy Spirit who is with us to help us praise.

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.

The paper heart is still lying on the altar.

Jesus talked about people who pretended to honor God by saying the right things, but they really did not do what God wanted.

Matthew 15:8-9 says, “*These people honor me with their lips, but...*” this is what happens to those who move away from God. (Pick up the heart from the altar. Move and place it at the back of the room.) **The Bible says “*their hearts are far from me.*” It’s like they are saying the right words but they really don’t love Jesus in their hearts.**

We don’t want to do that, do we? Each one of us may just pretend in church to say the right words, but in our heart we don’t really care about what we are saying.

Let’s go to God in prayer and give him the worship of our hearts so he will give us the power of his forgiveness that changes our lives.

Dear Jesus, thank you that you gave your life for us. We need the power of your love in our lives so that we can be forgiven for any time that we were not honoring you in our hearts... and yet; we were saying the right words. So now, with your forgiveness, live in our hearts and let us honor you with all that we do. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Lay the heart back on the altar.

Song of Response:

Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want 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.

Place the heart back on the offering plate and let kids come and put their offerings in the plate as an expression of their thanks to God.

Read Proverbs 3:9.

Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first and best part of all your income."

Encourage kids as soon as they get their allowances to set aside an amount for offering to God.

We should do this so the first part of our wealth is set aside to honor God. When we honor God this way, he certainly honors and blesses us.



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.

Supplies needed: penny candy in a large glass jar (Be sure you know the number of candies in the jar.)

The learning game is brief today since a video will be shown for the message. The game is a chance to honor someone who has done something exceptionally well.

The feat will be to guess the amount of penny candy in a large glass jar. As children guess, the large group presenter can tell them if their guesses are too low or too high. By guessing this way, someone will eventually arrive at the right answer. When this happens, have the entire group show honor with a loud round of applause and cheers.

Award the candy to the winner who then returns the honor by giving a piece to every child. The children can suck on their candies as they watch the video.

Just as we give honor to God, he gives honor back to us and gives blessings. We might also remember the Bible verse John 12:26b in which Jesus says, “If people serve me, the Father will honor them.”

Bible Reading:

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.

Supplies needed: video The Animated Stories from the Bible: Samuel the Boy Prophet from Family Entertainment Network, Inc.

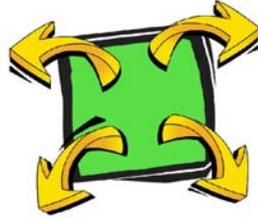
Application:

Show the video. Afterward, ask these questions:

- Who honored God in this video and how?
- Who *didn't* honor God and how?
- Who did *God* honor and how?

Then read 1 Samuel 2:30b:

“But now the LORD declares: I promise that I will honor those that honor me, and those who despise me will be considered insignificant.”



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.

If time is available, have children share examples of how we might honor God in the things we do daily.

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.

Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Line Option:** Kids line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone to speak their prayers briefly.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Adults or children with special prayer needs are invited to sit in the chairs. Kids gather around them, lay hands on their shoulders or knees and take turns praying.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and turns it toward kids who are raising their hands to pray. The kids speak their prayers into the microphone.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

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:

- birthday hat
- a cupcake with a candle
- gift wrapped boxes that look like presents

Learning Game:

- penny candy in a large glass jar (Be sure you know the number of candies in the jar.)

Bible Reading:

- video *The Animated Stories from the Bible: Samuel the Boy Prophet* from Family Entertainment Network, Inc. www.nestfamily.com

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