



Date: _____

Series: The Early Church
Spring Year 1, Lesson 58

Moms Shine Like Stars!

Take Home Point: *Moms shine like stars when they serve with Jesus' love.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Philippians 2:2-8,14-16

Key Verse: Philippians 2:5 "Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had...taking on the form of a servant."

We will help kids know:

- In God's eyes, the highest recognition goes to the humblest servant.
- Jesus humbled himself to be made a man and to give his life for us.
- We can shine like stars as we serve others with the message of Jesus.
- Moms need appreciation for the humble service they give us.




We will help kids feel:

- Excitement as they prepare a gift card for their mother.
- Conviction as they resolve to do more things for mom without complaining or arguing.

We will help kids do:

- Identify stars they look up to and then contrast them to their mothers as stars. Her stardom is likely based on her serving attitude.
- Make a special card for their mothers to show their appreciation and identify her as a shining star.
- Respond to the grace of Jesus in their life by cooperating more with their mother without complaining or arguing.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids cut out a star and talk about how their moms are stars in their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one star pattern per child (see page 14) • scissors • pencils
Large Group 	4 7-10 10 11	Overview Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Sees Stars,” Gordy thinks looking like a star makes him one. He soon finds out what God’s definition of a star is. Questions Answered: “Mothers’ Panel” Mothers are asked questions which they answer from their hearts. Puppet Presentation Conclusion: “Gordy Sees Stars”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordy puppet • eyeglasses • yellow stars
Small Group Application 	4-6	Kids review the Bible passage and its meaning and make a card of appreciation for their mothers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • craft copied on cardstock (see pages 12-13) • crayons, markers, pencils • laminator

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Special Warning! Some of your children may not have a mother who is present in the home. Be sensitive about this. Don't force a child to talk about it if a child is reluctant to discuss it, but if the child is willing, let the child and the group know that this group is a safe and helpful place to discuss one's home life. "No one will think less of you if your family has two parents at home or not." This lesson provides an alternative craft for children who do not have a mother at home.

Give kids a star pattern and have them cut it out. Ask the group members this question:

Tell us about some of your favorite "stars" and who they are. Why?
(This might be a famous sports figure, actor, singer or even a super hero.)

After discussion, continue:

I'm wondering why no one mentioned his or her mom?

OR

Why did you mention your mom?

Sometimes we don't think of moms when we are thinking of stars. But the Bible describes stars, those people that are truly great in God's eyes, as people who serve others. These may not be people who are famous or receive a lot of recognition, but they are people who are humble enough to help... even the helpless people.

Share a time when you were smaller and helpless and your mom helped you. Discuss.

Then let each kid share one thing that they really like about their mom. Conclude with:

Today we will learn that **Moms shine like stars when they serve with Jesus' love.*

Large Group: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible Event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Overview:

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Sees Stars”

Gordy thinks looking like a star, makes him one. He soon finds out what God's definition of a star is.

Questions Answered: “Mothers’ Panel”

Mothers are asked questions which they answer from their hearts.

Puppet Presentation Conclusion: “Gordy Sees Stars”

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Read Philippians 2:2-8.

What kind of attitude can we have that is like Jesus’? *(Philippians 2:2-3. Being humble and concerned about the interests and needs of others... serving others.)*

What is the greatest thing Jesus did to serve us? *(Philippians 2:8. He died on the cross.)*

Read Philippians 2:14-16a.

What is another characteristic of people who love Jesus that makes them look different than other people in the world? *(Philippians 2:14. They don't complain and argue.)*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Why did Jesus die on the cross? *(To forgive our sins. This also gives us the power to lay our lives down in service to God and others.)*

What attitude should we then have to shine like stars? *(The attitude of Jesus, a servant.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Who do you think complains or argues more – kids or moms?

Who do you think are better servants – kids or moms?

Moms are often noted for their sacrifice to their children. Most moms would gladly sacrifice their lives so that their children would live.

Application Activity:

Note: You have two craft options. One is for those who have moms (p. 12), and the other is for those who are choosing to give an appreciation card to someone other than their mom (p.13).

Let's show appreciation to our moms or someone who is a servant example. This appreciation card is a way for us to tell our mom some of the things we like about her. We will write on it, color it, then cut it out.

Option: Laminate cards so moms can keep them permanently.

If some of you don't have someone to give this card to, maybe you'd like to make one like this. (Show the craft that says, "You're a Star".)

What will you write? Think how you would answer this question: "I thank God for you because..." Fill in as many reasons as you would like. Here are some ideas.

- **Think of some of the many things your mother (or other star) does for you. Does she fix meals for you? Give you hugs? Help you feel better when you're sad? Listen to you? Drive you places? Take care of you when you are sick?**
- **Think of her personality. For example, does she laugh a certain way when she is happy? Does she move her hands when she talks? Does she sing to herself? Does she like to play games with you?**
- **Think of anything spiritual that means something special to you. Does she take you to church? Does she pray for you? Read the Bible with you? Teach you what God wants you to do?**

Close with review of the take home point:

****Moms shine like stars when they serve with Jesus' love. We can also honor our mothers when we obey what the Bible says in Philippians 2:5: "Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had...taking on the form of a servant."***

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for the gift of mothers that shine like stars as examples for us. Thank him for sending Jesus as the ultimate example of a servant who gave his life for us. Ask that all would shine like stars in serving others humbly as a servant and doing everything without complaining or arguing.

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Large Group Presentation

“Gordy Sees Stars”

Puppet Presentation

Take Home Point: **Moms shine like stars when they serve with Jesus’ love.*

Gordy has yellow stars pasted to a set of glasses that he is wearing. The stars block his vision.

Mr. King: **Hi, Gordy, and welcome to Kingdom Quest on this Mother’s Day.**

Hey, wait a minute, what’s with the stars on your glasses?

Gordy: Oh, I was listening to today’s lesson and I was just getting ready.

Mr. King: **Getting ready for what?**

Gordy: Stardom!

Mr. King: **Stardom? I don’t understand.**

Gordy: Well, we were talking about our favorite stars and... well....I’ve got to admit it.

Mr. King: **What?**

Gordy: I’m my favorite star.

Mr. King: **Oh, come on, Gordy. Isn’t that a bit much?**

Gordy: Not at all. But it is hard to get other people to see that I’m star material.

Mr. King: **I can understand that because...(interrupted.)**

Gordy: Don’t interrupt me... If I can get them to see that I’m star material just by my GOOD LOOKS or my NICE PERSONALITY...

Mr. King: **Now wait a minute, Gordy.**

Gordy: You interrupted again.

Mr. King: **Well then, go ahead and finish.**

Gordy: I'd be a star because I'm so-o humble and gracious, and... of course... good looking. And if everyone saw that, they couldn't help but do all sorts of nice things for me.

Mr. King: That's enough, Gordy. That is NOT the way to stardom.

Gordy: But I want to be a star!

Mr. King: Well, Gordy, today is Mother's Day.

Gordy: Now there's an idea! My mother is one person who knows how to treat me like a star. She does so many nice things for me. Maybe I can get her to show others how to treat me like a star as well!

Mr. King: Gordy, today is Mother's Day and we want moms to feel like stars.

Gordy: But....but....

Mr. King: Now, Gordy, come on.

Gordy: Well, I guess I can help mom *feel* like a star today.

Mr. King: Gordy, it's more than *feeling* like a star. We want them to know in God's eyes, they *are* a star.

Gordy: What?! Well, my mom isn't even famous.

Mr. King: It's not about being famous, it's about serving others. Listen to this verse in Philippians 2:3 and following: "*Don't ask out of selfish ambition or be conceited. Instead, humbly think of others as being better than yourselves...*"

Gordy: Even if you're already the best?

Mr. King: Gordy, don't interrupt.

Gordy: Okay.

Mr. King: "... *humbly think of others as being better than yourselves. Don't be concerned only about your own interests, but also be concerned about the interests of others. Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had...taking on the form of a servant.*"

Gordy, what did I just say about Jesus?

Gordy: Well, he took on the form of a servant.

Mr. King: **Right. Do you think he was a star?**

Gordy: Of course, he was a star, Mr. King.

Mr. King: **Well, a star in God's eyes serves others. This Bible verse tells us how Jesus became a servant and served even to the point of going to the cross for our sin. That made him the greatest star of all time. Because of that, anyone that believes in him will be rescued from their sin and can live with God forever.**

Gordy: Well, that's me. I do believe in Jesus.

Mr. King: **Fantastic. Jesus was a star, because he humbled himself and served others. Other people humble themselves and serve others. They are stars as well. Moms are great examples of that.**

Gordy: You can say that again.

Mr. King: **All right... Moms are great examples of that....**

Gordy: Just kidding. Now, get back to the story.

Mr. King: **I'll finish reading the Bible. It says this in verse 14-15, "*Do everything without complaining or arguing. Then you will be blameless and innocent.*"**

Gordy: Uhh-ohh! Sometimes I'm not too good at that. Sometimes I complain and argue.

Mr. King: **Even with your mom?**

Gordy: *(Sheepishly)* Well, maybe sometimes.

Mr. King: **Can you see how if we are humble and want to serve others, we wouldn't argue or complain?**

Gordy: I guess so.

Mr. King: **The Bible continues to say this, "*You will be God's children without fault among people who are crooked and corrupt. You will shine like stars among them in the world as you hold firmly to the word of life.*"**

Gordy: *(Thoughtfully)* Now what does that mean in English?

Mr. King: It means believers are children of God. We trust Jesus our Savior, and become like him and serve others.

Gordy: Okay.

Mr. King: When we do that, we shine like stars as we hold out the message of Jesus to others. That message will bring new life into people's hearts.

Gordy: Well, my mom does seem good at that.

Mr. King: I'm glad to hear that, Gordy. You are very blessed. Today we're going to thank our moms for shining like stars as they serve us. But to better understand moms and what they do for us, we're going to invite a panel of moms to come forward. We have a couple of questions to ask them.

“Mothers’ Panel”

In advance, invite two or three mothers to be a part of a panel in which you will ask questions, giving them those questions beforehand. Ask them to keep their answers brief. Then have these moms come forward at the appropriate time.

****The biggest challenge to this presentation is that the panelists may want to talk too long. The children need time to finish their art project for moms in their small group, so please, try to direct the questions in such a way that they can be answered briefly.*

- 1. Please give an example of something you did for your children where you served them and it brought you great joy.**
- 2. The Bible says in Philippians 2:14 that we are not to complain or argue. What are the typical complaints or arguments that kids give their moms that might “wear down” or discourage them?**
- 3. Do you know that Jesus never complained or argued about the service he did for us when he went to the cross to give his life? How has your relationship with Jesus helped you serve your family?**

“Gordy Sees Stars”

Puppet Script Conclusion

- Gordy: Wow. I think I really saw some stars there.
- Mr. King:** **You sure did, Gordy. And those stars aren’t people that are just trying to be famous on TV or in sports.**
- Gordy: I think I understand. They’re famous because of the way God sees them.
- Mr. King:** **Right. They’re servants. Remember the Bible says in Philippians 2:15b-16, “*You will shine like stars among them in the world as you hold firmly to the word of life.*”**
- Gordy: I’m not sure I get it.
- Mr. King:** **What this means is selfishness makes our world dark. When people only think of themselves, they are living in spiritual darkness and are headed for spiritual death. But when someone is a child of God and trusts Jesus as their Savior, then they have a life of purpose and service. They shine like a star and light up a dark world.**
- Gordy: Just like my mom.
- Mr. King:** **Exactly. Today we are giving thanks for our moms. We are going back to our small groups and will make them a gift that reminds them that they shine like stars. Would you close us in prayer?**
- Gordy: Dear God, Thank you for our moms. They’re the greatest. Thank you that to be a star isn’t just being famous but is being someone like a mom who helps and serves other people... especially kids like us. Bless our moms this day and help us not to complain or argue with them. Help us tell them that we love them. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

