



Date: _____
Series: God is Our Rescuer
Summer Year 2, Lesson 10

Rescued People Meet Their Rescuer

Take Home Point: *God comes to us in worship to show us who he is. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Exodus 25-27. In worship God meets his people as their Rescuer using the objects and ceremonies of Old Testament worship. God was painting a picture of the ultimate Rescuer, Jesus. Old Testament worship is like the shadow of the cross looking forward to that event. New Testament worship is in the shadow of the cross looking back to that event.

Key Verse: Psalm 29:2b. "Worship the LORD in his holy splendor."

We will help kids know:

- Various furniture and functions of Old Testament worship.
- In Old Testament worship, God is already painting the picture of the ultimate Rescuer, Jesus, his life, death, and resurrection in our behalf.

We will help kids feel:

- Awed by the far reaching plan of God's salvation.
- Love and response to God's gift to them.

We will help kids do:

- Identify symbols and actions that help tell the story of God's rescue of them.
- Respond in worship and prayer to God who rescued them.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<p>Small Group Warm-Up</p> 	4	Hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of years before Jesus was born, God used something like a charade to tell people he would someday rescue them by sending Jesus. God had them act out things.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> charade cards for each group (p. 23)
<p>Large Group</p> 	5 8 10 14 16	<p>Overview</p> <p>Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Acts Up.”—Gordy wants to continue playing Charades and the presenter points out that God had his people “act out” in worship what he later would do in sending Jesus.</p> <p>Dramatic Presentation: “A Tour of the Tabernacle.” The presenter takes the audience on a tour as he explains the various furnishings of the tabernacle with questioning in a gameshow format.</p> <p>Puppet Conclusion: “Gordy Acts Up”. The “acting out” of Old Testament worship is linked to how God foreshadowed the coming of Jesus the Savior.</p> <p>Transparencies</p> <p>OPTION: Check out www.BiblePlaces.com. There are 600 pictures there that can be downloaded for \$30.00.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bird’s eye view of the tabernacle and courtyard on an overhead transparency “Can You Guess What God Is Saying?” copies on transparencies (p. 16-22) flashlight (<i>optional</i>) cross (<i>optional</i>) tabernacle outline in masking tape on floor (The most holy place is 15 x 15-feet and the holy place is 15 x 30-feet. Each are divided by a curtain.) tabernacle furnishings can be shown as pictures on an overhead and/or can be cardboard facsimiles Table of Bread of Presence: 12 rolls or pieces of bread golden lamp stand (candelabra) curtain separating the most holy place: purple and blue sheet

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Altar of burnt offering:</i> heat-proof bowl, rubbing alcohol, and a match  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Altar of incense:</i> incense burning  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ark of the covenant</i> 
<p>Small Group Application</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>Kids talk about their relationship with Jesus while working on their art projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water-based felt tip markers • 8½ x 11-inch white copy paper • newspapers • cups or bowls of water

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.

For this activity you will need a set of “Act It Out” cards. The kids will play a game of Charades by selecting a card and performing the action on that card. Let the children rely completely on their imaginations and use no other objects as they take turns seeing who can best act out the action on his card.

Conclude this event by asking the kids:

We just played Charades. The game of Charades is acting things out like you did. Did you like it?

How did you feel when your friends easily guessed what you were doing? How did you feel when they had a hard time guessing?

Did you know God acted out something he was going to do beforehand to show what might happen in the future? God was going to send his Son Jesus to give his life on the cross for all of us. Hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of years before Jesus was born, God used something like a charade to tell people he would someday rescue them by sending Jesus. God had them act out things.

Can you guess where he had them act it out? It was at a worship place called a tabernacle. It was like going to church but it was a tent, not a building. **God comes to us in worship to show us who he is!* When the people did things in their worship, God showed them how he would rescue them some day by sending his Son Jesus.

When you go to large group today, see if you can remember some of the things the people did in their worship. Be thinking how acting those things out might have told them more about who God is and what he does for us. See if you can figure out how some of the things they did in worship might show them how God would many years later send his Son for them. Today we will learn that **God comes to us in worship to show us who he is!*

Large Group Overview: 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.*

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Acts Up”—Gordy wants to continue playing Charades and the presenter points out that God had his people “act out” in worship what he later would do in sending Jesus.

Dramatic Presentation: “A Tour of the Tabernacle”—the presenter takes the audience on a tour as he explains the various furnishings of the tabernacle with questioning in a gameshow format.

Puppet Conclusion: “Gordy Acts Up”—the “acting out” of Old Testament worship is linked to how God foreshadowed the coming of Jesus the Savior.

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?

Who can remember some things that were used in tabernacle worship?

1. *Tent courtyard*
2. *Bronze altar for burnt sacrifice*
3. *Tabernacle divided into the holy place and the most holy place*
4. *Table for bread of presence*
5. *The golden lampstand*
6. *The altar of incense*
7. *Ark of the covenant and the mercy seat*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

What did some of these tabernacle things remind the people of?

1. *Altar of burnt offering: Sin is serious. The cost for forgiveness is the price of a life.*
2. *Altar of incense: Your prayers are sweet to God.*
3. *Bread of the presence: "I give you bread and you give me your best back," 12 loaves of bread representing the 12 tribes of Israel.*
4. *Curtain separating the holy place from the most holy place: Sin has separated us from the holiness of God.*
5. *Golden lampstand: God says, "I am the light that lasts forever. I shine light in your dark world."*
6. *Ark of the covenant: God keeps his agreements with us, he rules over us.*
7. *Atonement cover on the ark: "I will be with you."*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Today God wants to come to us in worship as well. *God comes to us in worship to show us who he is. What are some of the things we do in our worship that show us who God is and what he does for us? (When we read the Bible, he speaks to us. When we take the Lord's Supper, we are reminded that Jesus gave his life for us on the cross. When we are baptized, God shows us that our sins are washed away because of Jesus.)

We will do a special art project today that reminds us of baptism. How many of you are baptized? Maybe some of you who haven't been baptized yet might want to be. Baptism is when God takes ordinary water and makes a big promise to us that says, "Jesus has been given to you and he will be with you as your friend forever."

I'd like everyone to close their eyes now and imagine Jesus saying that to you. Listen. This is what he says, "I love you very much and I have given my life to pay the price of your sin. I'm alive right now and want to live with you in your heart wherever you go." How does that make you feel? (Collect a few responses. Hopefully the children will talk about their desire to worship him, thank him, love him, and serve him.)

As you think about how Jesus shows his love for you, I want you to make a picture for Jesus that describes in some way how you feel toward him. You will be making a card that says to Jesus, "I love you." You can use letters or words if you want, or you can make a picture that describes your feelings towards him. Watch me as I demonstrate how we will do it.

Application Activity:

For this craft project each child will need a bowl or cup of water and water-based felt-tip markers. Also give each child an 8 ½ x 11-inch white copy paper with newspaper underneath to prevent a mess.

Have each child fold his paper into fourths to make a card. Then each will write “Dear Jesus” on the outside of his card and on the inside draw a picture or write a phrase that describes our thankfulness or love to him for what he has done.

Tell the children to dip a finger into their water, hold it over the paper, and let a couple of drops hit the paper and bead up. Next have them place a marker in the bead of water. The ink from the marker will mix with the water to make a type of water-color. With their markers, they can spread the water out to make designs or words as needed.

As this is being done, invite the kids to talk about how they feel about God coming to them and making such a wonderful promise in baptism. Be sensitive about children who have not been baptized. Be ready to visit with those who desire to become baptized. If they haven't been baptized, ask them the following three questions:

- 1. Do you know that you are a sinner and need God's rescue (his forgiveness)?**
- 2. Do you know that Jesus was God's Son who gave his life for you, dying on the cross to take the punishment of sin for you?**
- 3. Do you trust him to be your savior and want him to be the leader in your life?**

After your conversation, refer the names of these children to the coach or pastor and continue to personally follow up, helping make sure this child's faith is established and grows.

Try to get all the kids to talk about their relationship with Jesus while working on their art projects. Let them talk about how Jesus wants to be real in their lives. Discuss what can be thankful expressions of worship to him. Remember that acts of worship may not be only those songs and prayers offered in church but might be acts of service that we do at home or in everyday circumstances. Wrap up the discussion time by saying:

We learned today that **God comes to us in worship to show us who he is. Our key verse from Psalm 29 says, “Worship the LORD in his holy splendor.” This is what we will do in our prayer time.*

Closing Prayer:

Close in a worship prayer with all kids in a circle with their artwork in front of them. The worship prayer invites kids to tell God how they feel about him and what they would like to do to show their love for him. The child should not be pressured to make comments out loud, however, with gentle encouragement most should feel comfortable expressing some of their feelings of worship toward him. Remember to thank God for coming to us in worship to show us who he is!

Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

Gordy Acts Up Puppet Presentation

Gordy: Hi, everyone!

Presenter: Hi, Gordy! Did you enjoy the game of Charades?

Gordy: Sure! Do you wanna play?

Presenter: I want to talk about the lesson.

Gordy: First, let's play Charades.

Presenter: Okay. What do you want to do?

Gordy: Why don't you give me something to act out and let everybody guess. Then I'll give you something to act out.

Presenter: Okay, Gordy. I'll whisper it in your ear and then you act it out.
(Whispers "hammering" to Gordy.)

Gordy: Hmm...Let me see. *(Bangs his head on the ledge of the puppet stage as if his head were a hammer.)*

Can you guess yet? (Gordy takes some guesses from the audience but the presenter interrupts.)

Presenter: Wait a minute, Gordy! I think you're going to hurt yourself before anyone guesses. Don't you know that if you bump your head like that, it can knock you silly and you'll make no sense at all?

Gordy: Is that what happened to you?

Presenter: Gordy! I think you need to stop. I'm worried about you.

Gordy: But how will they guess that my word is "hammering?"

Presenter: Well, let's give them one more try. Kids, what do you think Gordy is acting out?

(Kids shout, "Hammering!")

Presenter: Yes, it's "hammering." They got it, Gordy.

Gordy: Phew! Just in time. I was getting a headache! Now you act this one out. Let me whisper in your ear. (*Whispers "getting candy from a vending machine for your friend, Gordy."*)

The presenter tries to act this out. He pretends to pull a quarter from his pocket, place it in a machine, look for the candy, push the button, open the flap, take out the imaginary candy bar, open it, and eat it. At that point he asks the kids if they can guess what he's doing. He helps them until they guess "getting candy from a vending machine." At that point, Gordy continues.

Presenter: They got it! "Getting candy from a vending machine."

Gordy: Wrong, wrong, wrong. It's "getting candy from a vending machine for Gordy!" That's *my* candy bar! Since you took a bite out of it you have to get me another one!

Presenter: (*Reaches into his pocket for another imaginary quarter.*) **Okay. Let me just get another quarter.**

Gordy: But I want a real one.

Presenter: But it's an imaginary one that I took a bite out of.

Gordy: Well, you still took a bite out of it. And it was supposed to be for me.

Presenter: (*Offers Gordy the imaginary candy bar.*) **Here you go, Gordy. Here's your candy bar.**

Gordy: I don't want it after you've taken a bite!

Presenter: I just might give you a real candy bar if you can figure out how God played Charades.

Gordy: What?! How would God play Charades?

Presenter: Well, it's not really Charades. God had people act out certain things that would remind them of who he is. He even helped show them the real thing that would happen many years later.

Gordy: What was the real thing?

Presenter: The real thing was Jesus giving his life for us.

Gordy: You mean when he died on the cross?

Presenter: Yes.

Gordy: They acted that out?

Presenter: Yes, in a way. **God comes to us in worship to show us who he is!* Some of the things they did in worship began to show how he would someday send his Son, the Savior.

Gordy: I don't get it. You better explain it to me so I can get that candy bar.

Presenter: Let me show you.

A Tour of the Tabernacle

Dramatic Presentation

The presenter will demonstrate seven items of Old Testament worship from the Tabernacle. These can be demonstrated by showing overhead pictures and/or by having facsimiles recreated. These models can be made out of cardboard or whatever material you have available. (Give this as a special job to some imaginative builders in your congregation!)

Place special props that simulate the tabernacle worship in the room beforehand with appropriately marked masking tape on the floor for tabernacle walls. Suggestions for how to build these and placement can be found in a study Bible or Bible dictionary. Try to recreate the tabernacle as much as possible using your own available space. For a special surprise, you could go outside to have the tabernacle marked in accurate dimensions. The following tabernacle furnishings can be cardboard facsimile or covered tables and makeshift items:

- *Altar of burnt offering: bowl, rubbing alcohol, and a match*
- *Altar of incense: incense burning*
- *Golden lampstand*
- *Table of bread of presence: 12 rolls or pieces of bread*
- *Curtain separating the most holy place: purple or blue sheet*
- *Ark of the covenant: cardboard box with two poles stuck through it and angels sculpted on top*
- *Lid on the ark of the covenant: plate beneath the angels' wings*

The large group presenter opens his Bible to Exodus 25 and begins.

Kids, remember how Moses went up on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments from God? God also gave him another very important message. He gave the people a way they should worship. Remember **God comes to us in worship to show us who he is!*

This is what God said to Moses, *"Then have them make a holy place for me, and I will live among them. Make the tent and all its furnishings exactly like the plans I am showing you."* (Exodus 25:8-9).

On an overhead or power point, show a diagram or a bird's eye view of the tabernacle and courtyard.

Then God told the people to make a tabernacle, or God's house, where God revealed himself and lived in the midst of his people. It was used as a place for worship and sacrifice. It was a big tent divided into two rooms. One room would be the most holy place where the ark of the covenant would be. The other room would have a table for the bread of his presence, a lampstand, and an incense altar. Outside there was a bronze altar for burning sacrifices.

All of this was enclosed in a courtyard area 50 yards long and 25 yards wide. Think of it as about half as big as a football field. The walls of the court were made of fine linen and fastened to bronze posts. People would come here to bring their sacrifices and worship. They never entered the tabernacle itself. Let's take a tour and enter the courtyard.

As we take our tour, let's play the game "Guess What God Is Saying." We will stop at each part of the tabernacle and I will tell about things people did in worship. I will choose a volunteer at each of our stops who will have a chance to figure out what he thinks God is saying through this worship experience.

After selecting seven contestants to come forward, continue.

Before we get to the tabernacle, we come to our first stop, the altar of burnt offering or the bronze altar.

Move to the pretend model of the altar of burnt offering. Use the overhead picture to help briefly explain what happened here. For extra effect, have a heat-proof bowl on the altar filled with a small portion of rubbing alcohol. If lit, this will provide a small flame.

Here a sheep, goat, or bull was killed. It had to be a male animal and it had to be as perfect an animal as they could find. The blood would be poured out on the sides of the altar. Then the animal would be placed on burning wood and burnt.

To the first contestant:

What do you think God was saying to the people?

Read aloud the three options listed on the overhead "Guess What God Is Saying" one at a time. Allow the child to guess. The correct answer is "B."

Our next stop is the tabernacle. This was a large tent where God showed that he lived among the people. Show overhead picture. It was divided into two sections called the holy place and the most holy

place. Imagine that the tape on the floor is an outline of the tabernacle. The walls were made of fine fabric and nice animal skins. This tabernacle reminded everyone of God's presence. Whenever the people moved in the desert, they could move this tent with them and remember that God was with them.

Inside the holy place, or the first room of the tent, there were three pieces of furniture. Remember that only priests, not ordinary people, could enter here.

Light incense and show the model of the altar of burnt offerings.

The first piece of furniture we see inside the holy place is the altar of incense. Here sweet perfumes were burned before the Lord. Every morning and evening the priests would carry a shovelful of burning coals from the altar of burnt offering to light the fire of the altar of incense.

To the second contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "C."

The second piece of furniture we see is the table of bread of God's presence. The priests kept 12 loaves of bread on the golden table in the holy place. These loaves represented the 12 tribes of Israel. The sabbath day was their holy day each week. A priest would come and take the last week's bread off the table and put new bread down.

To the next contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "B."

The third piece of furniture is the golden lamp stand. This was a seven-branched candlestick made of pure gold. These seven lamps were filled with oil by a priest every morning and every evening. They were never to be extinguished. The purpose of the lamp stand was to provide light for the priests as they worked in the holy place.

To the next contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "B."

Now we see a curtain separating the holy place from the most holy place. Once a year, the high priest would go into this most sacred place. It was behind the curtain that separated it from the holy place where the priests went daily. Inside the most holy place was the ark of the covenant.

To the next contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "C."

As we enter the most holy place we see the ark of the covenant. This was a golden box that contained the Ten Commandments written on stone, a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod that budded with flowers. The box was about four feet long, about two and a half feet tall, and two and a half feet deep. There were two golden cherubim on top that looked like winged creatures. When Moses was alive, God promised to meet with him at the ark.

To the next contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "B."

The lid on the ark of the covenant reminded people of where someone might sit. It was known as the mercy seat or the atonement cover. Once a year on the Day of Atonement, the high priest would come in and pour blood from a sacrificed bull on the mercy seat.

To the next contestant:

What do you think God was trying to say to the people?

Read the three options. The correct answer is "A."

Optional Activity (if time allows):

A three-inch paper cross and a flashlight are needed.

After concluding the above event, talk about how the Old Testament was the way God tried to give the Gospel message to the people as follows.

Shine a flashlight on the front side of the cross.

You can all see the cross I am holding. This is just like us today. We can look back at history and know how God rescued us by sending Jesus his Son. We can see it very plainly.

But if you were born before Jesus came to give his life on the cross, could you clearly see the cross? Since the event had not yet happened, you certainly wouldn't know it as clearly as we do today. Instead, it would be like a shadow.

With the paper cross held in front of the flashlight beam, shine the flashlight towards either the pictures describing Old Testament worship or the objects. This will give the effect of a shadow in the shape of a cross cast across these Old Testament worship items.

Do you see the shadow of the cross when I shine the flashlight? I shine it on the things of worship in the Old Testament because when the people did that, it was like they were acting out God's powerful message of how he was a rescuer. It was helping them get ready for Jesus and when he would come to give his life on the cross.

Gordy Acts Up

Puppet Conclusion

Gordy: You know what? That was neat but a weird way to go to church.

Presenter: **Yes, it might seem kind of weird to us but it was very important. The people came to worship God. When they worshiped God, he revealed himself to the people. And he was showing them that one day in the future, he would send them a rescuer to take away the sin of the world.**

Gordy: I know! That was Jesus. But I don't know how all these things tell us about Jesus.

Presenter: **Well, you have to think really hard. For example, innocent animals had to die so sin would be paid for. Who had to die for our sin?**

Gordy: Jesus.

Presenter: **Right! And in the tabernacle, the priests put out bread to remind them that God is the one who is always with them and gives them what they need. But who later said, "I am the bread of life and if you believe in me you will have me in your life?"**

Gordy: Jesus.

Presenter: Right. And there was the lampstand for light. Who said, “I am the light of the world.”

Gordy: Jesus.

Presenter: Yes. And priests were the only ones who could go into the most holy place where God was. And they could only go with the the blood of a lamb. Who is our high priest?

Gordy: Jesus.

Presenter: And who was the lamb of God that took away the sin of the world?

Gordy: Jesus.

Presenter: And can you see how...

Gordy: *(Interrupts.)* Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! I know that the answer is always Jesus.

Presenter: You’re right, Gordy! He is the answer. Why don’t you close us in prayer?

Gordy: Sure! I’ll pray a *real* prayer so you can then give me a *real* candy bar.

Presenter: Okay, Gordy. Go ahead.

Gordy: Dear God, thanks for coming to us in worship so we can see who you really are. It’s kinda neat how you showed yourself in all that worship stuff they did at the tabernacle. Help all of us to worship you today. And best of all, thank you for Jesus. I think it’s great that he gave his life for each one of us. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

ALTAR OF BURNT OFFERING

- A. "I like to see animals die."
- B. "Sin is serious. It will take a life to pay for your sin. Remember that as you see the animal killed, the blood poured out and the animal burnt up."
- C. "If you see the altar covered with blood, maybe then you will stop sinning."

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

ALTAR OF INCENSE

- A. “Since your sin stinks so much when we burn all those animals, I need something nice smelling here inside my Holy Place.”
- B. “You should come to see me every morning and every evening.”
- C. “Your prayers that come to me every morning and every evening are a sweet smelling thing to me.”

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

TABLE OF BREAD OF THE PRESENCE

- A. “I’m hungry and I need new food once a week.”
- B. “I give food (and spiritual food) to all my people, all 12 tribes just like there are 12 loaves. But they then give their best back to me.”
- C. “I keep having this bread brought in, but what I really need is some peanut butter and jelly.”

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND

- A. “I don’t have any place to plug in my electric lamp so I guess I’ll just use lamps for now.”
- B. “I am the light that shines forever and I will light up your dark world.”
- C. “Don’t play with matches, so don’t let these candles go out.”

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

CURTAIN

- A. “If lots of people can come in here whenever they want, then this place will be begin to be just like a tourist attraction with too many people visiting.”
- B. “I am a God that you can’t see.”
- C. “Your sin has separated you from my holy presence, but a special priest can come in if he has the blood of a sacrifice with him.”

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

ARK OF THE COVENANT

- A. “I am heavy like gold, and I am too heavy for you.”
- B. “This is like my throne where I will rule over you. I will keep all my agreements with you. I will be your God and you will be my people.”
- C. “I am very precious like gold. Don’t look inside the box where I live or you will melt.”

Can You Guess What God Is Saying?

LID ON THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

- A. “I will be at one with you. I will be present with you.”
- B. “Your sin even makes a mess here in the presence of my holiness.”
- C. “Take this lid off so I can get out!”

Water ski

Row a boat

**Chop down a
tree**

**Pull out a loose
tooth**

Go fishing

**Pass and catch a
football**

**Sew with a
needle and
thread**

**Eat an ice cream
cone**

Play hopscotch

Hit a baseball

Jump rope

**Ride a
skateboard**