

BEFORE YOU START...

Background Information

What is praise and worship? Are there different ways to praise the Lord? What's it for? How do we do it? The following lessons help kids explore what it means to praise the Lord, and the amazing power and results we can get from doing it. Different words in the Bible are translated as "praise," and each of them describe a different way to praise. We will look at 8 of them.

Learning Objectives

- **** Praise is an outward expression of our honour and wonder of God. ****
- Today's Hebrew word of praise: Tehillah = to sing
- One of the ways to praise is with music, and especially singing to the Lord.
- When we praise the Lord, God gives us victory!

Material & Supplies

- 3 "Posters": Praise Word; Memory Verse; Praise Motto
- Lesson Video: <https://youtu.be/ODJOcAgzAgw> (search words: Made for Praise - Tehillah; Gateway Victory)
- Bible Story: King Jehoshaphat sent out the praisers before his armies into battle! 2 Chronicles 20
 - Suggested YouTube: [youtube.com/watch?v=r4LHGisTECs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4LHGisTECs) (search words: Jehoshaphat; Saddleback Kids)
- Memory Verse: Psalm 100:2 Worship the Lord with gladness, Come before Him, singing with joy.
- Memory Verse Challenge: Learning Psalm 100. Today's verse:
 - Psalm 100:3 Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us and we are His.
- Praise and Worship Time: Have some songs ready to sing (and/or play) with the children

Handouts

- Colouring bookmarks, puzzle sheets, letter to parents

TEACHING THE LESSON...

Welcome Time; Praise Word Poster

Welcome the children to your class. Introduce any new children.

Ask the kids for their answers to some of these questions: What is praise and worship? What does it mean? How do we do it? What are some of the commands in the Bible regarding praise and worship? ****Can we praise the Lord, even without instruments?*****

Talk about how "Praising the Lord" is more than just singing a couple of songs in church on a Sunday; it is an expression with our bodies to God of what we feel about Him in our hearts, and ultimately Praising the Lord is a way of life!

Show the children this week's Praise Word Poster. Today we will look at the word:

Tehillah = to praise with music, especially singing to the Lord!

Get one of the children to put it up on the wall. Have everyone say the word together and what it means.

One of the ways to praise is to sing and make music to the Lord. What does singing to the Lord look like? What if we can't sing very well? Will God still like our praise?

One of the ways to praise is with music, especially singing. In Ancient England, kings had bards to tell the peoples all the great things they and their ancestors did. The bards would write songs to share with the people, so they would remember. All the kings' great and mighty acts would be sung through the generations. This is what Tehillah looks like, and this is part of why we sing in church today -- to help us remember the greatness of God!

In the Bible there's a story about a king who got victory because of his army's Tehillah-ing! There's a lot of power that comes when we choose to bless the Lord!

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TEACHING THE LESSON... CONTINUED

Bible Story; Lesson Video

Every week there are 2 possible videos to show the kids. One is made for this lesson, and gives a summary of the Bible story. The other is a recommended video for the Bible Story. These videos can be watched in the order of your preference.

Lesson Video Link: <https://youtu.be/ODJOcAgzAgw> (search words: Made for Praise - Tehillah; Gateway Victory)

Bible Story Link: [youtube.com/watch?v=r4LHGisTECs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4LHGisTECs) (search words: Jehoshaphat; Saddleback Kids)

Give some background information about today's story. Jehoshaphat was facing an army of 3 kingdoms that was coming to destroy Judah. He and all the people of Judah fasted and prayed to God to show them what to do. When they were assured of God's victory in battle, King Jehoshaphat was so happy, he sent the praisers ahead of the armies! While they were Tehillah-ing, God sent confusion into the enemy's camps, and they totally wiped out each other! God gave Judah a victory they didn't even have to fight!

Snack Time

If you will be serving snacks to your kids, this would be a great point in the lesson to do that.

Memory Verse Poster

PSALM 100:2 WORSHIP THE LORD WITH GLADNESS; COME BEFORE HIM SINGING WITH JOY.

Put up the Memory Verse Poster. Repeat the memory verse several times with the children. Play a game to help them remember. Mention the opportunity to earn an extra prize by learning Ps 100 by the end of this course.

Today's Memory Verse Challenge Verse: **Psalm 100:3 Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us and we are His.**

Class Discussion, Praise Motto

To wrap up the lesson, ask some questions about today's story and lesson to ensure comprehension. Also ask questions from the lesson objectives. Tie in as much of your own personal experience and your own testimony as you can.

- What is praise and worship? Remember it's an ****outward**** expression. People should be able to see it!
- What is "Tehillah" mean? To praise with music, especially singing to the Lord.
- How does Tehillah work? When we sing about it, it helps us remember God's greatness!
- Does it matter if you don't sing well? God still loves it! It says many times in the book of Psalms to make a joyful "noise" to the Lord, so even if you don't think your singing sounds good, it can still be a joyful noise that God enjoys!
- How does Tehillah release power? When we sing to the Lord, He can use it to confuse the enemy, like when King Jehoshaphat sent praisers ahead of the armies, and God sent confusion into the enemy's camps. Singing praise gives us victory!

End the discussion by introducing this week's praise motto. Put the Praise Motto Poster up on the wall:

WHEN I PRAISE THE LORD, GOD GIVES ME VICTORY!

Talk about how this was evident from the story. Lead your discussion into a time of praise!

Praise and Worship Time

Have some songs ready to sing (and/or play) with the children.

Encourage them to praise in a way that reflects the lesson objectives today.

Handouts

Hand out this week's puzzle sheets and bookmarks as children are dismissed.

Thank you for teaching this lesson!

You have made a difference in the hearts and lives of God's little ones today.