

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: Hallelujah = praise the Lord!
- People all over the world, in every language, use the word Hallelujah and it means praise the Lord!
- When we praise the Lord, chains are broken!

Materials & Supplies

- 3 "Posters": Praise Word; Memory Verse; Praise Motto
- Lesson Video: <https://youtu.be/gi1PjWQpCpo> (search words: Made for Praise - Todah; Gateway Victory)
- Bible Story: Paul and Silas in Jail, Acts 16:16-34
Suggested Video: [youtube.com/watch?v=Y24Ak7DJZfg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y24Ak7DJZfg) (search words: Paul and Silas; Crossroads Kids)
- Memory Verse: Revelation 19:1 Hallelujah! Salvation and honour and glory and power belong to the Lord our God!
- Memory Verse Challenge: Learning Psalm 100. Today's verse:
- Psalm 100:5b ... and His faithfulness continues to each generation.
- 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?

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:

Hallelujah = praise the Lord.

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

All over the world, Christians of every country and in every language say, Hallelujah! And every time it means praise the Lord! This means we can go anywhere in the world, and when we say Hallelujah, other believers know what we mean.

In the Bible there's a story about Paul and Silas getting chains broken because of their "Hallelujah-ing!" There's a lot of power that comes when we declare "Praise 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/gi1PjWQpCpo> (search words: Made for Praise - Todah; Gateway Victory)

Bible Story Link: [youtube.com/watch?v=Y24Ak7DJZFg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y24Ak7DJZFg) (search words: Paul and Silas; Crossroads Kids)

Give some background information about today's story from Acts 16:16-34. Paul and Silas were thrown in jail for preaching the gospel and working miracles. Instead of feeling sad, they decided to praise the Lord while they were in chains in prison. At midnight, an earthquake shook the jail and everyone's chains were loosed! That sure was supernatural. Because of the whole event, the jailer and all his household was saved! When we praise the Lord even today, chains are broken and others come to know Jesus!

Memory Verse

REVELATION 19:1 HALLELUJAH! SALVATION AND HONOUR AND GLORY AND POWER BELONG TO THE LORD OUR GOD!

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 100:5b ... and His faithfulness continues to each generation.**

Class Discussion, Praise Motto

To wrap up the lesson, ask some questions about today's story and lesson to ensure comprehension. Then talk about what happened when Paul and Silas chose to praise the Lord, even when their situation was hopeless. 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 does "Hallelujah" mean? In every language it means Praise the Lord!
- How did praising the Lord help Paul and Silas? What power was released to them? When they praised the Lord, even though their situation was hopeless, their prison chains were broken. Then the prison guard and his whole family became believers because of the power they saw released!
- Can our praise to God tell others about Him? How can we do that? When you talk about what God has done for you, other people around you get to hear about how great He is. That makes them want to know more about Him!

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

WHEN I PRAISE THE LORD, CHAINS ARE BROKEN!

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.