



Jesus Defends God's Honor



Key Passage

- John 2:13–16

Lesson Focus

- Jesus wanted the people to treat His Father right.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will color the Jesus Says Coloring Sheet as a review of Lesson 7 and/or play with play dough.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—Jesus defended God's honor by clearing the Temple of the animals and money changers.

Song Time—Students will sing songs to help them remember the lesson of the day. Lyrics to the songs are found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Activity 1: Honoring God

Students will follow the leader to each sign around the room to discuss some ways of honoring God in their own lives.



Activity 2: What Did Jesus Drive Out?

Students will determine what items belonged in the Temple and what Jesus drove out.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will review the memory verse as they play a game and recite/sing the verse. Give them an opportunity to repeat the verse with you or after you individually.



Applying God's Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.



COME ON IN

- Print one Jesus Says Coloring Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Provide play dough if appropriate.

- Jesus Says Coloring Sheet for each student
- Crayons
- Play dough
- Cookie cutters



CIRCLE TIME

- Print and cut out the four Lesson Illustrations from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use during the lesson.
- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- Four Lesson Illustrations
- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- Lesson Flip Chart



HONORING GOD

- Print and cut out one each of the eight Honoring God Signs from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Tape each sign to chairs or tables around the room.

- Eight Honoring God Signs
- Tape



WHAT DID JESUS DRIVE OUT?

- Print and cut out the eight What Did Jesus Drive Out? Coloring Sheets from the Resource DVD-ROM so each student gets at least one.

- What Did Jesus Drive Out? Coloring Sheets
- Crayons
- Poster putty or tape



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- Print onto cardstock and cut out one set of 12 Memory Verse Flashcards from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep these for Lessons 8, 9, and 11.

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards for use in Lessons 8, 9, and 11



APPLYING GOD'S WORD/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Flip Chart for Review
- Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read Matthew 5–7 along with this background.

In Lesson 7 we discussed and studied Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount. In it Jesus addressed the religious leaders who had distorted the Law and made it a list of good works by which self-righteousness could be attained. Many of the Jews perceived God’s laws as a call to outward appearance only. But Jesus called attention to the heart issues. He insisted that real holiness comes from a heart that is striving toward obedience and holiness inwardly—a heart desiring to please God. Such a heart comes only through being born again.

We have discussed that Jesus came to earth to do the will of the Father. He was God in the flesh, possessing all of the attributes of deity, though veiling His glory. Christ’s divine attributes include justice, holiness, and truth. The passages we are examining this week present Jesus as one who continued to defend the honor of His Father and who showed God’s anger against the sin of distorting and maligning God’s Word.

Much of the corruption Jesus encountered was among the religious leaders. They had set aside God’s Law, invented their own rules, and oppressed the people in the name of God. Jesus was not afraid to address these leaders in the name of His Father. One such rebuke came in the Temple during a Passover celebration (John 2:13–25). Jesus entered the Temple where He encountered money changers and merchants selling animals (John 2:14). But why were these people in the Temple?

Those selling animals were there to provide a service to God’s people. The merchants were providing animals for sacrifice during Feast time. This was a convenience for Jews traveling great distances. They would not need to bring livestock with them; they could buy the necessary sacrificial animals right at the Temple. The money changers were also there for a service. A tax was collected from every Israelite twenty years old and up (Exodus 30:11–16). When Jews came to Jerusalem to pay their Temple tax, they could only pay it with a special coin, the half-shekel. It was the only silver coin at that time without the image of a pagan Emperor, and therefore to the Jews it was the only coin acceptable to God. The money changers exchanged unacceptable coins for these shekels. While our text does not mention it, these animal sellers and money changers were probably overcharging the pilgrims and extracting a hefty profit.

When Jesus entered the Temple, He was enraged at what He saw. God’s House, His Temple, should have been a house of prayer, worship, and devotion, but they had made it into a house of merchandise. So Jesus made a whip of rope and chased them out of the Temple, overturning their tables and stools. He also verbally rebuked them for the way they were dishonoring God and His Temple (John 2:15–16).

Matthew 23 records Jesus’s last public message before He died on the Cross. Here again Jesus showed His righteous anger at the dishonoring of God, His laws, and His Word. Jesus’s rebuke was directed toward the religious leaders—the scribes and Pharisees and their religious hypocrisy (Matthew 23:27). Jesus had some very strong words for these religious leaders, calling them blind guides, fools, sons of hell, hypocrites, and whitewashed tombs full of dead men’s bones! These leaders had put off God’s righteousness and instead were seeking to establish their own means of righteousness (Romans 10:3). And they were demanding others do the same—burdening the common people by insisting they abide by the rules and regulations they had developed as a means of achieving salvation.

Jesus would not have it. He would not allow His Father’s name to be dishonored by these false teachers. They focused on the externals of religion—looking pious, saying long prayers, giving tithes—but Jesus said they had “neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith” (Matthew 23:23).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Throughout the Gospels we see a number of Jewish religious groups mentioned. These include the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the scribes (or lawyers). Who were these groups, where did they come from, and why did many of them oppose Jesus and His teachings?

Pharisees

The Pharisees were the keepers of the Law. They believed the entire Hebrew Bible (what we call the Old Testament) to be the Word of God. They emerged from the Babylonian Exile as the chief religious faction. They understood that Israel’s exile was a result of forgetting God’s Law and living in disobedience. As a result, the Pharisees sought to present God’s Law and impose it on the people so the nation would never again be exiled as punishment for their disobedience.

However, many of the Pharisees presented a law

that was greatly compromised by their belief that oral traditions of their culture passed down for generations held the same significance and authority as God's Word. This is clearly forbidden in Scripture (e.g., Deuteronomy 4:2). These Pharisees sought to strictly obey these traditions themselves and demanded the same from others. Many of the traditions they held to are seen throughout the Gospels (Matthew 9:14, 15:1–9, 23:5, 23:16, 23:23; Mark 7:1–23; Luke 11:42).

Many of the Pharisees were not fully devoted to all of God's Law and had added their own beliefs and traditions to it. Because of this, they missed the Messiah when He was in their very midst. They saw Jesus's miracles and heard His words, but instead of believing in Him, they did all that they could to stop Him, eventually calling for His crucifixion because He claimed to be the Son of God, making Himself equal with God.

Sadducees

Not much is known about the Sadducees, since the only historical information we have comes from the New Testament and some writings from the Jewish-Roman historian Flavius Josephus. Sadducees were more affluent than the Pharisees. They tended to be wealthy and held powerful positions, including that of chief priest and high priest. They also made up a majority of the 70 seats of the ruling council called the Sanhedrin. The Sadducees were more sympathetic to the Hellenistic movement, a movement seeking to combine Jewish religious tradition with elements of Greek culture. They were more willing to submit to the prevailing powers (Rome) because they realized it was economically and politically advantageous for them to do so.

Religiously, the Sadducees were more conservative than the Pharisees in that they did not give oral tradition equal authority to the written Word of God. However, they were misguided on a few other issues. For example, they denied God's involvement in everyday life. They denied the resurrection of the dead. They denied any afterlife, believing that the soul perished at death, and they denied the existence of a spiritual world (i.e., angels and demons).

Because the Sadducees were more concerned with politics than religion, they were unconcerned with Jesus until they became afraid He might bring unwanted Roman attention. Finally, they joined with the Pharisees in their opposition to Jesus.

Scribes

The earliest scribes of Israel served as official secretaries, writing and issuing royal decrees (e.g., 2 Samuel 8:17, 20:25; 1 Chronicles 18:16, 24:6; 1 Kings 4:3). After the return from the Babylonian captivity,

the scribes concentrated their activities on the Law, becoming "teachers of the law," or "lawyers."

Scribes in Jesus's time were men whose primary occupation was writing out copies of the Jewish Scriptures and teaching the people the Law. Because they copied the Old Testament books, they were familiar with the Hebrew Scriptures and were respected in society for their literacy and knowledge. The scribes took their job of preserving Scripture very seriously; they would copy and recopy the Bible meticulously, even counting letters and spaces to ensure each copy was correct. We can thank God for using the Jewish scribes in preserving the Old Testament.

The scribes were closely associated with the Pharisees and are often mentioned together in the Gospels. Throughout the life of Christ, the scribes were among His most vigilant and determined opponents. Their many accusations are recorded in the Gospel accounts.

The scribes complained that Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners (Mark 2:16; Luke 5:30). When Jesus pronounced forgiveness of sins, the scribes charged Him with blasphemy (Mark 2:5–7). When Jesus cast out demons, the scribes said that He cast them out by Beelzebul, "the ruler of the demons" (Mark 3:22). They sought to accuse Jesus if He healed on a Sabbath day (Luke 6:7). And finally, the scribes took counsel with the chief priests as to how they might destroy Jesus (Mark 11:18), and when Jesus was brought before Herod, they vehemently accused Him (Luke 23:10).

These three sects of Jewish leaders often went beyond the written word of God, incorporating their own doctrines, beliefs, and traditions. And in so doing, they were blinded when the Messiah they had read about and waited for finally came.

What we can learn from these leaders is that we need to make a commitment to God's Word, with a heart for God, as our final authority by which our lives and decisions are made.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, you are strong, mighty, and wonderful! You defended your Father's honor. Help me to be more vigilant to defend your honor in my home and sphere of influence. May my students come to understand the importance of loving you with all their heart, mind, and strength. Use this lesson to show them that it's not enough to look good on the outside. Change their hearts by the power of the gospel to desire to please and glorify you in all they do.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color the Jesus Says Coloring Sheet as a review of Lesson 7.
- If there is time, they can play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs. Bring your Lesson Flip Chart, Bible, stuffed animal for prayer time, four Lesson Illustrations, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let's pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Confession is suggested. You might proceed this way:

God wants us to be sorry for our sins and ask His forgiveness. Today we will say prayers of confession—and tell God we are sorry for our sin against Him.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life, and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

I'll start. Dear God, you are holy and perfect, so when I sin, it comes between you and me. I want my heart to be right with you, please forgive me. I am so sorry for . . . *(insert personal prayer).*

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer telling God something they are sorry for.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week this quarter. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? **What is sin?** *Sin is any disobedience against God!*
- ? **Who is a sinner?** *Every person is born in sin.*
- ? **Did Jesus ever sin?** *No. He lived a sinless life.*
- ? **Does everyone go to heaven?** *No. Only those whose hearts are changed and believe in Jesus.*
- ? **What does it mean to believe in Jesus?** *To trust that Jesus alone can save me.*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark today's passage before you begin.

Bible Pass Around

➤ Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

➤ When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible.* God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number *choose a number.* You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity. **We'll start right here.** Hand the Bible to the first student. As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you—remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? **Let's begin.** *You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it. Continue with the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

Refer to previous Lesson Flip Chart pages. **Wow! Isn't it fun to learn about Jesus? Let's think about some of the things we've heard from the Bible so far.** *Refer to Lesson 1 Flip Chart.* **We learned that Jesus came to earth to save sinners!** *Refer to Lesson 2 Flip Chart.* **Jesus is omnipotent—all-powerful! Remember how He showed His power over nature?** *Refer to Lesson 3 Flip Chart.* **And He showed His power over disease.** *Lesson 4 Flip Chart.* **He even has power over death!** *Refer to Lesson 5 Flip Chart.*

Then He fed more than 5,000 people from just a couple of fish and a few loaves of bread. And He called Himself the bread of life because He is the only way sinners can have eternal life. *Refer to Lesson 7 Flip Chart.* Jesus also taught His people. He said we should love and obey God from the heart. We should not get angry with our friends. He said to love our enemies and be kind to those who are mean to us—and pray for them, too!

Jesus knows we can't do these things by ourselves. But if we trust and love Jesus, He will change our hearts. And it will get easier to do the things He asks us to do—even loving our enemies and not getting angry at other people.

Now you would think that everyone would be glad to listen to Jesus. He did such amazing things! God sent Jesus to save sinners and give them eternal life. But there were times when the people did not treat God and His Word with respect, and Jesus did not like that. Jesus wanted God to get the respect and honor He should get. Jesus wanted the people to treat His Father right.

The Bible tells us about some of those times—times Jesus was upset because His Father, God, was not being treated right. I am going to read about one time like that now. It is from the Gospel of John. *Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book is. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.*

This is a time when Jesus got angry at the people who did not love the Father and treat Him right. Let's find out what happened. The Bible tells us where this happened, and what was going on. Listen as I read John 2:13–14. *Read John 2:13–14 emphasizing the answers to the questions below.*

? This was a special time of year for the Jews. What was it? *Re-read John 2:13 emphasizing "Passover."*

Passover was a special holiday that the Jews celebrated once a year to remember how God had saved them from slavery in Egypt.

? What city was Jesus in? *Re-read John 2:13. Jerusalem.*

Right! When the Jews celebrated Passover, many people would come to Jerusalem. This was a celebration to honor God. They went to the Temple to offer animals, like lambs and doves, to God. They came from all over. Some people had to travel a long, long way. So instead of bringing their animals with them on the trip, they would buy one when they got to Jerusalem.

That is what the Bible is telling us about. Listen again as I read John 2:14. This is what Jesus found in the Temple when He went in. Listen carefully. *Read John 2:14 emphasizing "oxen," "sheep," "doves," "money changers."*

? Hold up Illustration 1. What did Jesus see? *People selling oxen.*

? Hold up Illustration 2. What else did Jesus see? *People selling sheep.*

? Hold up Illustration 3. And the Bible says there were birds. What type of birds? *People were selling doves.*

John 2:13–14

➤ Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text. The children should hear God's Word and know they can answer questions from it. It is not too hard for them.

John 2:15

- Re-read the verses if necessary.

? *Hold up Illustration 4. And who were the people mentioned? Money changers. Refer to the Illustrations. This is what Jesus saw in the Temple of God! People were selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and there were money changers. The Temple was supposed to be a place where people could come and worship God, not a place for buying and selling animals and dealing with money! No! Jesus wanted the people to treat His Father right!*

So what did Jesus do? Listen to this in John 2:15. *Read John 2:15 with enthusiasm.*

? **What did Jesus make for Himself?** *A whip of cords.*

? **What did He do with the whip?** *Re-read John 2:15. He drove the animals, the people selling them, and the money changers out of the Temple.*

Refer to Flip Chart. Yes! Jesus drove the animals and the sellers out of God's Temple. Then He drove the men who were changing money right out! And while He did that, Jesus poured out their money and turned their tables over. These people were not worshipping God, and they were not showing respect to God the Father.

Then Jesus said something to these people as He drove them out. Listen carefully to what He said. *Read John 2:16 emphasizing "take these things away."*

? **What did He tell these people?** *Take these things away!*

Right! Jesus told the sellers and the money changers to take their animals and their money and get out of the Temple. This was His Father's house. This was where people were supposed to worship God and praise Him, not sell animals! Jesus wanted the people to treat His Father right.

Refer to Lesson Flip Chart. The Temple was supposed to be a holy place of worship and honor to God the Father. But the people who were selling animals and changing money were not worshipping or honoring God. They were using the Temple as a place to make money. Jesus was angry because the people were not treating God right. Jesus was defending God's honor! And He was right to do so.

SONG TIME

Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page. God is holy. He is our perfect Creator. There is no one else like Him, yet He loves each of us. God deserves our respect and honor. Let's praise God together. Teach and sing "No One Like God."

Good job! Let's sing another song to our God. This one is called, "We Gather All Around." *Teach and sing "We Gather All Around" together.*

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Our memory verse reminds us that Jesus is the only way for us to come to the Father for forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Let's practice our memory verse song now. Sing it with me. Here we go! *Sing the Memory Verse Song two or three times.*

Repeat songs as time allows. You may want to add hand motions, stomping, marching, or instruments.

- Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page and Flip Chart Memory Verse Page during this part of the lesson.

- Lyrics can be found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the end of this Teacher Guide.



Honoring God

MATERIALS

- Honoring God Signs
- Tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Print and cut out one copy each of the eight Honoring God Signs. Tape the signs to chairs, tables, walls, etc. Have the children follow you (or take turns being the leader). Make it fun by hopping, skipping, marching, etc. Move to each sign and discuss what is on the sign and how we can put it into practice. Repeat the truth that God deserves our honor and respect!

We should honor God! And we can if we love and obey God from our hearts. We're

going to play a follow-the-leader game today. When we stop at a sign, I want you to tell me what is happening in the picture. These are all ways we can show honor and respect to God every day! Everyone line up and follow me. *Play the game.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Jesus wanted the people to honor God the Father. We should respect Him, too! He is our Creator God and deserves our honor and praise in everything we do.



What Did Jesus Drive Out?

MATERIALS

- Eight What Did Jesus Drive Out? Coloring Sheets
- Crayons
- Poster putty or tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Print and cut out the eight What Did Jesus Drive Out? Coloring Sheets. Pass at least one sheet to each student. Be sure to pass all sheets out.

After they color the sheets, go around the class, asking each student to show his picture and explain if Jesus drove it out of the Temple or not. Have the students place their pictures in one of two rows on the board—things Jesus drove out and things he did not.

Each of you will get one coloring sheet. These are items that Jesus did or did NOT drive out of the Temple. I want you to color the picture first. Then each of you can show the class what you have on your

picture and tell us if Jesus wanted that in the Temple or not.

We'll put the pictures in two rows up on the board. All the pictures that can stay in the Temple in one row and all the things that Jesus drove out in another row. Let's get started.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

The people came to the Temple to offer sacrifices to God as part of their worship. But the money changers and the people selling animals and did not honor God. The Temple was a holy place where the one true, holy God was to be worshipped and honored. These people did not respect God when they made the Temple into a marketplace. Jesus was right to get rid of the things that did not belong there.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

MATERIALS

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards

INSTRUCTIONS

Put the Memory Verse Flashcards in order. Starting out slowly, show each card to students, have them repeat the verse after you. Then have students march, jog, spin, hop, etc. slowly in place reciting each phrase as they see the cards. Repeat the verse faster, moving the cards more quickly. Continue reciting faster and faster.

It’s time to think fast! We’re going to use the flashcards to say our memory verse. But, whenever we say the words on each

card, we’re going to (*march, jog, hop, skip, spin in place, etc.*) **right where we are, like this . . .**
Show example of activity in place while reciting from the cards. We will start off slow, but go faster and faster! Let’s get started. Everyone stand up.

You may want to sing the Memory Verse Song instead of saying the verse. When finished, see if anyone can say the verse using the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God is perfect and holy. He does not have any sin in Him at all. But the Bible tells us that we are all sinners and, because of that, we cannot come to God on our own. We must have a way to come to God the Father. Jesus said that He is that way—the only way—to come to God the Father and receive forgiveness for our sins.



Applying God’s Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review today’s lesson using the Flip Chart.

Passover was a holiday that the Jews celebrated every year. Many people would travel for days to Jerusalem where they could make sacrifices to God

at the Temple. When Jesus walked into the Temple, He did not see a quiet, beautiful place to worship a holy God. He saw people there selling animals and men sitting at tables with stacks of money. Were they worshipping God in here? No—not at all! They were using the Temple as a place for making money. That’s not what the Temple was for. Jesus was angry with them because they were showing great disrespect for God the Father. Jesus wanted the people to treat His Father right. So, He drove them out and told them to take it all away. None of it belonged in God’s house.

GOD’S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

We worship the same God. Jesus still wants us to treat His Father right. He still wants us to respect His Father and honor Him in everything we do. When we love God with all our heart, we will want to obey Him and do things that please Him. We can honor God the Father every day when we worship Him with our songs, read His Word, and obey our parents. Even when we share and are kind to others, that honors God, too! There are many ways to treat God right. *You may want to review the Honoring God Signs from Activity 1 as time allows.*

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to bring forgiveness of sin to us.
- Praise God for Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life.
- Pray that God will give us hearts to obey and honor Him every day.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

JOHN 14:6

(To the tune of "Jesus Loves Me")

Jesus said to him, "I am
(Jesus loves me, this I know.)

The way, the tru-uth, and the life.
(For the Bible tells me so.)

No one comes to the Fa-a-ther
(Little ones, to Him belong.)

Except through Me."
(They are weak,)

John fourteen six.
(But He is strong.)

NO ONE LIKE GOD

(To the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")

There is no one like our God, no there's not!
(If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!)
Shake head to say "no," point finger, and move side to side;
clap, clap.

There is no one like our God, no there's not!
(If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!)
Shake head to say "no," point finger, and move side to side;
clap, clap.

For His ways we cannot know.
(If you're happy and you know it,)
Point both index fingers to the head; shake head.

In all things His greatness shows.
(Then your face will surely show it.)
Spread arms out wide.

There is no one like our God, no there's not!
(If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.)
Shake head to say "no," point finger, and move side to side;
clap, clap.

WE GATHER ALL AROUND

(To the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell")

We gather all around.
(The farmer in the dell,)
Walk in circle, holding hands.

To hear God's holy Word.
(The farmer in the dell,)
Stand still, hold hands like open book.

We pray and thank Him every day.
(Hi-ho! The derry-o!)
Bow head, fold hands.

We praise and love our God.
(The farmer in the dell.)
Stretch both arms up in praise then cross arms over heart.

God is with us there.
Point away.

God is with us here.
Point to self.

God is with us everywhere.
Stretch both arms up, then outward.

We praise and love our God.
Stretch both arms up in praise then cross arms over heart.

Think of fun ways to sing. Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction. Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out! Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.