

WORSHIP AT THE TABERNACLE

LEVITICUS 16; 19; 26



CHRIST CONNECTION: God told His people to show they were sorry for their sins. The people could not pay for their sins, so God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for their sins. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why do we need to be saved? We are sinful and need Jesus to rescue us from sin.

KEY PASSAGE: There is no one holy like the Lord. 1 Samuel 2:2

STORY POINT: God told His people to obey and worship Him only.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

LEADER Bible Study

God's levitical commands for atonement emphasize the gravity of people's sin, as well as His graciousness to redeem their trespasses. Though our modern-day context seems so far removed from this sacrificial system, these guidelines from Scripture foreshadow the great, eternal sacrifice on which we place our hope: Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

Why did God enact so many requirements for worship and sacrifice? How does Jesus fit into each of these God-ordained regulations?

God created stipulations for His people's sacrifices because He, as a holy God, cannot tolerate sin. There was a weightiness to all the High Priest did throughout the year and on the Day of Atonement. God called the Israelite community to practice holiness in every area of their lives—from respecting their elders and upholding the Sabbath to fleeing idolatry, offering sacrifices, and caring for those in need. He revealed His character through these expectations of holiness; they were to be set apart and known in the world by how they conducted themselves, treated others, and demonstrated justice.

While God knew perfect obedience would be impossible for His people, He promised to bless them as they sought to live in obedience. What's more, He swore to dwell among them! However, He also swore that their disobedience would bring consequences. He explained that His people did not have to walk on the path of destruction but were invited to walk the path of abundant life through a covenant relationship with Him. God offered them lives marked by repentance and remembrance of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He promised to never reject His people, destroy them, or break His promises.

We see the fulfillment of these promises through One who became God incarnate and lived in perfect obedience to God's commands. While the priests offered sacrifices daily for themselves and others, Jesus provided an eternal sacrifice to settle the debts of God's people for all time. His righteousness is counted to us when we place faith in Him. Lead boys and girls to see God's kindness in providing forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus. May you show them the true meaning of worship as you guide them to see God's worthiness through today's passage.



PREPARE

THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



WELCOME

10-15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



LEARN

25-30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



LOVE

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel

30-40 MINUTES



LIVE

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



BONUS

60-65 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers for an additional hour



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



WELCOME

Hide and seek items

- Big Picture Question Poster
- clothing items
- towel
- bar of soap



LEARN

Spend money

- dry erase board
- dry erase markers
- eraser

Tell the Bible story

- "Worship at the Tabernacle" video (optional)

Review the Bible story

- Bible Story Picture Poster
- sticky notes

Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker



LOVE

Wash items

- clothesline
- clothes pins
- towels
- dishpan with soapy water
- doll clothing

Make a bookmark

- cardstock
- assorted stickers



LIVE

Wave streamers

- 12-inch streamers, 2 per child

Missions activity

- "The Praetorian Project" missions video (optional)

Snack and Transition

- hand sanitizer (optional)
- "Match the Clothes to Aaron the Priest" activity page, 1 per child
- Big Picture Cards for Families



BONUS

Say the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker

Toss beanbag

- Bible Story Picture Poster

Pay with play money

- play money
- assorted classroom items

Play with goats near and far

- plush goats, 2



WELCOME Preschoolers

Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, Christ Connection, story point, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

HIDE AND SEEK ITEMS

Hide clothing items and a towel, washcloth, and bar of soap around the room for children to find. Instruct them to find the items and bring them to you by the Big Picture Question Poster. Ask children to identify the items they found for you then read the big picture question and answer to them. Ask them why would clean clothing and bath items be hidden around the room for them to find. Suggest it has something to do with the Bible story.

SAY In order for Aaron the priest to talk to God, he had to get ready. Part of getting ready was washing himself and wearing special clothes. Part of Aaron's job as priest was to help the people say sorry to God for the wrong things they had done. Just like the people in the Bible, we do wrong things that make God sad. This is sin. Sin is anything we think, anything we say, or anything we do that doesn't please God. We can't fix our sin by ourselves. Just like our big picture question is, Why do we need to be saved? We are sinful and need Jesus to rescue us from sin. Let's learn more about this together.



Worship songs

- * I've Got the Joy
- * I will trust you God

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 SPEND MONEY

Wear or borrow a clothing item with pockets. Gather children to group time. Discuss ways to spend money. Write ideas onto a dry erase board. Position the dry erase board, markers, and eraser where children can see their ideas written.

SAY “ Welcome to group time! If you have pockets, check and see if you have a bunch of money in them. Let me check mine, too. Nope! My pockets are empty. Well, then, let’s name some things so expensive we could never ever hope to buy them. [Allow responses.] Wow! That’s quite a list you came up with! In today’s Bible story, we will learn about what it costs to be forgiven of sin and how God sent Jesus to pay that price for us. ”



2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY *video*

Open your Bible to Leviticus 16; 19; 26. Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling points. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.

WORSHIP AT THE TABERNACLE

SAY “ God’s people had a special place to meet with God called the tabernacle. God told His people about a day called the Day of Atonement. He told them what to do on that day to worship Him. On this day, the high priest, Aaron, would talk to God for all the people.

Before Aaron talked to God, he got ready by washing himself and wearing special clothes. He took one goat and said sorry to God for the wrong things the people had done. Then he sent another goat far away to show that God had taken away their sins.

God gave the people rules to follow to show them what was right and wrong. He told them to share their food, tell the truth, and be kind. He told them not to steal, lie, or be mean.

God promised good things if they followed His rules, but He knew they would not always obey. He said there would be tough times, but He wouldn’t leave them. When they said sorry for their sins, God remembered the promises He made to their ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He promised to be their God forever. ”

Christ Connection: God told His people to show they were sorry for their sins. The people could not pay for their sins, so God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for their sins. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY



Display the Bible Story Picture Poster. Print JESUS in large letters on a piece of construction paper prior to the session. Cover the letters with sticky notes. Place the paper where children can see it. Ask questions about the story and allow children to remove the sticky notes to reveal Jesus' name. Questions: Where did the people meet with God? (tabernacle) What special day did Aaron wear special clothes? (Day of Atonement) What animals did Aaron use to say sorry to God? (goats) Why did the people have to say sorry to God? (They sinned.) Who did God send to pay for sins? (Jesus) Who is Jesus? (God's Son)

SAY 🗣️ God said there would be tough times for His people, but He wouldn't leave them. When they did say sorry to God for their sins, God remembered and kept His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. **GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** God promised to be their God forever. 🗣️

4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of "The Wheels On the Bus":

There is no one holy like the Lord
Like the Lord, like the Lord
There is no one holy like the Lord
1 Samuel 2:2

* "No one" worship song

5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE



Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at 1 Samuel 2:2. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Learn and say the key passage phrase together while raising and lowering your hands in worship.

SAY 🗣️ God is holy. He does not sin. **GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** God told His people to show they were sorry for their sins. The people could not pay for their sins, so God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for sins. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever. 🗣️

6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for Jesus who pays for our sins when we trust and follow Him.

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God because of what we learned

1 PLAY A LISTEN AND OBEY GAME



Play music at a low volume, but loud enough to be clearly heard. Tell the children you will tell them things to do and they must listen and do what they hear you say. Use commands like you might use for a game of “Simon Says” (touch nose, pat head, etc.), but give the commands in a very quiet whisper. Children must listen closely in order to play the game to do what you say. Play until only one child remains.

SAY It is difficult to hear people when they whisper. It is even more difficult to hear someone whisper with music playing in the background. This game was a challenge, wasn't it? But just like I gave you rules to follow, God gave the people rules to follow to show them what was right and wrong. **GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** God knew they would not always obey. But He made a way for them to say they were sorry for the wrong things they did.

2 WASH ITEMS

Hang a length of clothesline between two chairs. Spread out towels underneath the clothesline. Set up a dishpan with soapy water and a hand towel for drying hands. Place some baby doll clothes nearby. Invite children to wash clothes and hang them up to dry with the clothespins. Invite them to clean their hands, too.

SAY In our Bible story today, we learned that on the Day of Atonement Aaron had to get ready to talk to God for the people. He had to wash himself and wear special clothing. God had given the people special rules to follow on that day to worship Him. It was the special day of the year when they told God they were sorry for their sins.

3 MAKE A BOOKMARK

Cut bookmark strips from cardstock. On one side write, We will obey and worship God only. On the other side write the key passage phrase. Encourage children to decorate their bookmarks with crayons, markers, and stickers.

SAY Worshiping God at the tabernacle was special. God met with the people there. Aaron went to the tabernacle on the Day of Atonement to say sorry to God for the people's sins. Remember the people had promised Moses they would listen and obey God and worship only God. They promised to do everything He told them to do. God told His people to obey and worship Him only.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE for God out of love

1 WAVE STREAMERS

Give each child two 12-inch streamers. Say the key passage phrase together several times while waving the streamers in celebration.

SAY “**GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** God is holy. He can do things no one else can do. He deserves our worship. Let’s wave our streamers in celebration and say the key passage phrase together.”

2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Explain to preschoolers that Washington, DC, hosts many parades each year, including a Martin Luther King Holiday Peace Walk and Parade, Memorial Day Parade, Fourth of July Parade, National Cherry Blossom Parade, and others. Play music and let kids march around the room waving flags, streamers, or parade wands.

SAY “Doug Hanna has served as pastor of Pillar Church of Washington, DC, since the church was started. He wants people to trust Jesus as their Savior. He also wants the believers at Pillar Church to help others in DC, and around the world know more about Jesus. **[Lead a prayer.]**”

3 SNACK AND TRANSITION



Post an Allergy Alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ Connection.

SAY “God told His people to show they were sorry for their sins. The people could not pay for their sins, so God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for their sins. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.”

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.



BONUS Teaching Hour Group Time

1 PLAY WRONG WAY/RIGHT WAY



Play a “Right Way/Wrong Way” game. Name scenarios and prompt children to choose the right way or the wrong way (right = move to the right side of the room, wrong = move to the left side). Scenarios: tell things that are not true, hit a friend, give a hug, tell the truth, and so on.

2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY

Open the Bible to Leviticus 16; 19; 26. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story:

WORSHIP AT THE TABERNACLE

- God’s people had a special place to meet with God called the tabernacle. One day a year, on the Day of Atonement, the high priest, Aaron, talked to God for all the people.
- Aaron put on special clothes. He took one goat and said sorry to God for the wrong things the people had done. Then he sent another goat far away to show that God had taken away their sins.
- God gave the people rules to follow to show them what was right and wrong. God promised good things if they followed His rules, but He knew they would not always obey.
- God said there would be tough times, but He wouldn’t leave them. He would remember His promise to bless them and to be their God forever.

3 SING A SONG

Sing the song below to the tune of “The Wheels On the Bus”:

There is no one holy like the Lord
Like the Lord, like the Lord
There is no one holy like the Lord
1 Samuel 2:2

4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at 1 Samuel 2:2. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead children to tap on their heads like they are remembering something important while saying the verse. Remind children we remember God sent Jesus to pay for our sins.

5 PRAY

Pray, asking God to help us remember He is holy and no one is like Him.



BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

6 TOSS A BEANBAG

Lead children to toss a beanbag at the Bible Story Picture Poster as they say the story point and key passage phrase together.

SAY “ **GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** He provided Aaron and the people with specific directions for how to worship Him. God wanted people to know what was right and what was wrong. His rules helped people to know how He wanted them to live. God told His people to show they were sorry for their sins. The people could not pay for their sins, so God sent His Son, Jesus, to pay for their sins. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever. Let’s take turns tossing our beanbag as we say our story point and key passage phrase together. ”

7 PAY WITH PLAY MONEY

Using toys in your room and some play money, lead children to buy things with the play money. Set some prices so high no one has enough play money to pay for those things. Tell children maybe someone will come along and buy them one day. Toward the end of play, pull out enough play money to pay for all the rest of the items.

SAY “ Just like none of you had enough money to buy these really expensive things, the people had no hope of ever paying for their sins themselves. God sent Jesus to pay for their sins—and for ours. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever. ”

8 PLAY WITH GOATS NEAR AND FAR

Choose two children from the group and give each one a plush goat. Instruct one child to come near everyone else in the group and the other child to take the other goat far away from the group. Explain this is what Aaron the priest did on the Day of Atonement. The nearer goat he used to say sorry to God for the people’s sins and the farther goat showed the people God had taken away their sins. Repeat play until every child has an opportunity to carry a goat near or far.

SAY “ God gave people rules to follow to show them what was right and wrong. God promised good things if they followed His rules, but He knew they would not always obey. **GOD TOLD HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY AND WORSHIP HIM ONLY.** ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.