

# Teach Me to Worship

**THIS MONTH**  
*We Will...*



## *Learn*

**Week One**—The Right Reason

**Week Two**—The Right Offering

**Week Three**—The Right Focus

**Week Four**—The Right Amount

## *Read*

- Malachi 3:8-12
- Genesis 4:1-7
- Ezra 2:68-69
- Exodus 35:4-5, 20-22, & 29
- Luke 21:1-4

## *Sing*

- “This Is My Father’s World”

## *Memorize*

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, **for God loves a cheerful giver.**”

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Children’s Worship Curriculum *from*

**cdm**  
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES



# The Right Reason

## LEADER'S Review

### SUPPLIES Needed



#### TO PRINT:

- Large Memory Verse to hold up (1 copy)\*
- Letter to Parents (1 copy/family)

#### TO GATHER:

- Hymnal/lyrics for songs\* (Optional: guitar or music to sing along with)
- Basket for offering\*
- Supplies needed for "The House That God Built" activity

#### OPTIONAL:

- Kid's Activity Sheet (1 copy/child)
- Elements of Worship Icons\* (Found in the introduction section.)

\*These items will be needed every week.

Presents are always so exciting. They make us feel loved; they make us feel good; they make us happy—only if they are good gifts. If they don't have any meaning, we can tend to think they are worthless.

Gratefully, God has always given us good gifts—moments with loved ones, rides in the sunshine, books to be read when it's raining outside. Could our lives really be full without these gifts? What about the greatest gift of all? Christ's love for us is the gift that motivates us to pursue more and more for the sake of the Kingdom. Yet, the amount of thanksgiving that emanates from our lips is minimal. What a waste if God gives us things and we don't reciprocate in any manner! In Malachi, the Israelites were in the midst of many blessings—returned from Babylon, given a homeland again, blessed with bountiful crops—and how did they react? They wondered what God meant when He showed them their faults.

Giving back to God is something we often don't think is important, but it is through our gifts of tithes and offerings we give something back to the God who gave it all in the first place. Upon receiving our thanks, what is His response? He gives us even more. What a mighty God we serve!

*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
His hand the wonders wrought.*

(Verse from "This Is My Father's World")



***Sing the first verse of “O Worship the King” that we learned several months ago. (1 minute)***

## Praise

***Sing a worship song with the children. (5 minutes)***

- “This Is My Father’s World”

***Since the Doxology is so often sung at the end of the offering in churches, we will learn and sing the Doxology at the end of each offering time this month. (2 minutes)***

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Lead the children in confessing their faith by teaching the following catechism question.**  
**(3 minutes)**

*First Catechism*—Question 106

Q. What does the tenth commandment teach you?  
A. To be content with whatever God chooses to give me.





## Reading of the Word

*Read Scripture. (1-2 minutes)*

Malachi 3:8–12

<sup>8</sup> Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. <sup>9</sup> You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. <sup>10</sup> Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. <sup>11</sup> I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>12</sup> Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.”



## Prayer

*Have a prayer of praise for our great covenant-keeping God, who promised a Messiah. (1-2 minutes)*

Dear God, we have seen how You have kept every one of Your promises. The most important one was Your sending Jesus as the Messiah to save us from our sins. Thank You for always keeping Your promises, even when we don’t keep ours. In Jesus’s name we pray. Amen.



## Hearing the Word

*Teach the lesson to the children using the text below as a guide. (5-8 minutes for lesson; 10-15 minutes for activities)*

This month we are going to learn about tithes and offerings. Let’s review what we have learned the last few months about worship before we get started with our new topic.

### *Review Questions:*

- What are some of the elements of worship we have learned about? *Call to Worship, Prayer, Praise*
- Why do we worship God? *Because He loves us and calls us to worship*
- Where can we worship, praise, pray, and share the Good News of Jesus? *Everywhere!*

Do you know what tithes and offerings are? (*Wait for answer.*) Yes, that’s right, but giving is more than just putting money in the offering plate. It’s giving back to God the thanks and glory due Him. This month we’re going to study what God says about giving our money and other things back to Him and the way we should give back to Him. We’ll learn that, like prayer, praise, and all of worship, tithing and offering are not just a Sunday morning activity; it’s something we should think about daily.

Let’s pray together before we start: “Dear God, thank You for teaching us how to worship You. Thank You that we learn about how much You love us even through our tithes and offerings.



*(Hearing the Word–Continued)*

Help us to learn about Your goodness even more. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen."

What kind of things has God given to you? ***(Wait for answers, and then possibly add: family, pets, somewhere to live, food to eat, a school to go to, a bed to sleep in, clothes to wear.)*** Did you ask for these things? No—then why do you have them? ***(Wait for answers.)***

What else has He given you that you haven't asked for? *(Sunshine, stars in the night sky, rain, a church, flowers by the roadside, birds in the air)* Did you ask for any of these?

Isn't it amazing God gives us so much without us even asking? He provides us with things we don't even think we need. The Bible tells us God gives to all people sunshine, wind, and rain—for warmth, for comfort, and to grow crops.

What do you have that you have asked God to give you? ***(Wait for answers.)***

Isn't it amazing God gives us so much? As we heard in the hymn today, this is our Father's world! He does so much to make sure we know He is here with us.

What do you think would be a good response to God for giving us all these things? ***(Allow them to respond.)*** We need to thank someone who is kind to us, and we need a good way to thank God for all He has done for us. Let's take a look at how some people reacted to what God gave them.

A long time ago, when God's people, the Israelites, were disobedient, He punished them by letting another nation take them captive, taking them away from their homes for a long time. Finally, God kept His promise to return His people to their homeland because He loved them. Being away from home had been really hard, so God made sure when they returned, He showed them great love. After they returned to Jerusalem, they soon forgot how much God had done for them in bringing them back home and giving them many good things. God was very frustrated with them. He asked them many questions in the book of Malachi—the last book of the Old Testament. He asked them why they had turned away from Him. He told them He never changes, and that He would always take care of them. His people didn't believe Him. They thought that God should just give without wanting any thanks.

God said their lack of thanks was like stealing from Him. If someone robbed you, how would it feel? ***(Wait for answers.)*** Did you know someone could rob God? Doesn't it seem strange to think that we can rob God? The Bible tells us that, indeed, God's people rob Him by not giving their tithes and offerings as thanks for all He's done! Remember, in our Bible story God had given the Israelites everything. All He asked in return was for them to show thanks by giving some back to Him. Their obedience would have shown the other nations they trusted God to provide for them, but their refusal to give back robbed God of the glory due Him in all parts of their lives.

In the book of Malachi God told His people if they brought their tithes and offerings, He would bless them—so much that their blessings could not be contained in the storehouses they had. It would be like the windows of heaven had opened, and every need of the people would be removed. He promised to make their crops bountiful and keep the crops from being



*(Hearing the Word–Continued)*

destroyed by pests; He would even keep the fruit from falling off their trees before it was ripe. But what happened when the Israelites didn't obey and bring the tithes and offerings into God's temple? ***(Wait for answers.)*** Exactly the opposite of what God had promised happened: crops were destroyed, fruit fell to the ground before it was ripe, and there was great need in the people's lives. Israel was not thankful, so God did not bless them.

What can we learn from what is described in the book of Malachi? *(to be thankful and to give back to God)* That's right. God gives us everything we have—all we need and more. All He asks in return is that we have thankful hearts and give back some of what He gives us so others can be blessed. We don't want to rob God. We can do what He asks.

Let's give thanks to Him right now. Let's take turns, each thanking God for just one thing He has given us. ***(Start this time of prayer thanking God for the group of boys and girls present. Allow time for each child—who wants—to thank God for just one thing. Close the time by thanking God for giving us so much and for giving us His Word to teach us.)***

**ACTIVITY:** *Do the House That God Built Activity with the kids. (See instruction sheet.)*

*While they are working on their houses, begin to teach this month's memory verse, using the shorter (highlighted version) for younger kids. Remind them of how much they have from God; we must all say "Thank You!" to such kindness by giving back!*

## Benediction

***Recite the following verse. (1 minute)***

May the God of peace be with you all. Amen (Rom. 15:33).

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