

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 Focus

SUPPLIES Needed



TO PRINT:

- Large Memory Verse to hold up (1 copy)*

TO GATHER:

- Hymnal/lyrics for songs*
(Optional: guitar or music to sing along with)
- Basket for offering*
- Supplies needed for Hearing the Word activity: White paper, crayons/markers, building blocks/legos

OPTIONAL:

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

*These items will be needed every week.

LEADER'S Review

The focus of my heart can be so easily distracted. My inbox is filled with great retail offers on products from food, clothing, books, and gift-giving items. I'm afraid that were it not for the grace of God in every area of my life, I would never have the right focus about anything, much less giving. However, when I find myself meditating on God's Word, the refocus begins.

I am overwhelmed by the grace of God in saving me and letting me be born in a covenant home where I was taught about the sovereign God who loved me and sent His Son for me, so that I never remember a day of my life when I did not know that Jesus loved me. Besides my home, the church was the place I was most comfortable; I have wonderful memories of pastors and teachers who influenced my life. My parents gave us wonderful examples of how to give of our time, talent, and treasure, for they did all of the above, as did all of those parents, teachers, and pastors who influenced me so greatly. It is now my turn to teach the next generation about the joy it is to give the first portion back to God. Just as the Israelites in today's Bible story, we bring our gifts out of obedience but even more so out of thankfulness for what God has done for us.

Thank you for teaching these little ones as you are teaching by your very example what it means to give of your time and talent.



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)

- ## Tithes and Offerings

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.

Confession of Faith

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. (1-3 minutes)

Ezra 2:68-69

⁶⁸ Some of the heads of families, when they came to the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem, made freewill offerings for the house of God, to erect it on its site. ⁶⁹ According to their ability they gave to the treasury of the work 61,000 darics of gold, 5,000 minas of silver, and 100 priests' garments.

Exodus 35:4-5, 20-22, 29

⁴ Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "This is the thing that the Lord has commanded. ⁵ Take from among you a contribution to the Lord. Whoever is of a generous heart, let him bring the Lord's contribution: gold, silver, and bronze.

²⁰ Then all the congregation of the people of Israel departed from the presence of Moses.

²¹ And they came, everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him, and brought the Lord's contribution to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. ²² So they came, both men and women. All who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and armlets, all sorts of gold objects, every man dedicating an offering of gold to the Lord.

²⁹ All the men and women, the people of Israel, whose heart moved them to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done brought it as a freewill offering to the Lord.



Prayer

Have a prayer of praise to our great Jehovah Jireh, which means "the Lord provides." (3-4 minutes)

Dear Father, You truly are our Jehovah Jireh, the Lord who provides for our every need. Thank You for Your love and provision for us. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.



Hearing the Word

Teach the lesson to the children using the text below as a guide. (6-9 minutes for lesson; 7-15 minutes for activity)

Last week, we talked about the two brothers who brought their offerings to God.

Review Questions:

- Do you remember their names? *Cain and Abel*
- What did Abel bring to God? *He brought the best of his flock.*
- What did Cain bring to God? *He did not bring his best crops.*
- Did it matter what the brothers brought? *No*
- What mattered regarding the offerings that Cain and Abel brought?
The attitude of their hearts

(Hearing the Word–Continued)

- What did God see in their hearts? *Abel believed God and loved him. Cain did not give his best to God, and his offering showed his heart.*

We've studied the reason we give to God and our attitudes about giving. This week we are going to look at where we give our money. Where do you spend your money? The grocery store? Toy store? If you spend money there, can we say you like that place and those things you buy are important? Have you ever had to save up money in order to buy something? What was it? How important was it to you to save up that money? Did you often think about that certain thing while you were saving your money?

We like to give our time, money, and energy to things that we feel are important. Too often, what we give our money towards is not always what God would consider important.

God knows our hearts. He knew the hearts of the Israelites. He knew that they would want to spend their money on things that didn't matter. That's why God told us in the Bible where to spend our money.

Before we see where He wants us to put our money, let's pray together: "Dear Lord, You know our hearts. We know that our hearts would rather spend our money on things we think are important. Please help us to see Your ways are better than our ways. Thank You for giving us these examples. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen."

We have read about two different times God's people gave tithes and offerings to Him. From our previous lessons, we have seen God definitely wants us to give back to Him to show our love and gratitude for Him. We know God looks at the heart of the giver. The Israelites knew that too. They knew what God required of them. He had been very clear when He told all of His people to bring a tenth of all they had earned. That means if someone earned \$100, he would bring \$10. Anyone who earned \$10, would give \$1 to God. If they had a huge crop, they would divide it into 10 equal parts, and one of those parts would be given to God. Not only did they give their tithe to God, but they also gave special offerings to God.

One of the times God's people gave special offerings to Him was during the building of the Tabernacle in the desert. It was a big tent used as a place of worship. Moses asked the people to give things that would help decorate the place where God was to dwell. It was important to give an offering to build God's house. When the call went out for the people of God to give, they were eager and excited. They gave gold, silver, jewels, and other beautiful materials which were needed. The people also provided the priests the things they needed for themselves and for making sacrifices in the Tabernacle.

God's people provided for the Tabernacle until the day Solomon built a permanent temple in Jerusalem. Then they brought their tithes and offerings to the Temple, a great and beautiful place for worship. When the people were disobedient, and God sent armies to carry the people away and destroy Jerusalem, He kept His promise to bring them home. When they returned to Jerusalem after their captivity in enemy nations, what do you think



(Hearing the Word–Continued)

they started to rebuild first? The most important need was to have a place to worship God. Ezra records the actions of God’s people upon their return to Jerusalem. They gave great amounts of money, perhaps all they had, and many months of work to rebuild the temple. They valued it. There was no stopping the work they had dreamed about over the years while away from home. God’s people wanted to give all they had to return to worship God as He directed them.

Who are the people we need to work for our church? ***(Have a child come up to take the part of each job as you call them.)*** We need: Pastors, Sunday School teachers, musicians, sound techs, deacons, elders, assistants, etc.

What do workers in our church do for us each week? *(Preach the gospel, tell people about Jesus, feed the poor, visit the sick, visit prisoners, teach Sunday school, plan our worship times, take care of the building...)* Each of the workers at our church has a job that helps spread the Kingdom of God throughout the world. Are these things important to us? Yes. God is pleased when we share the good news about Jesus. The people who work at our church are doing Kingdom work, and they need our support to continue. God has given each of us a job to do. We all are serving the Kingdom, and we are all called to give our tithes and offerings so the church can continue to worship and honor our great God.

(This may be a good time tell about a special ministry the children can begin to support with their giving each week in Children’s Church.)

ACTIVITY: *Have the kids draw a picture of what they think the Temple in Jerusalem or the Tabernacle (tent) looked like. Bring in blocks or toy bricks to “build a church” that looks like the one you worship in now.*

Benediction

Recite the following verse. (1 minute)

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

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1700 North Brown Road, Suite 102
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043
Bookstore: 678.825.1100
www.pcabookstore.com

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