

DISCOVERING GOD'S TREASURE: WHO I AM IN CHRIST

Lesson 6

Small Group Lesson Plan | Primary (Grades K-3)

LESSON 6: Empowered To Obey

Bible Story

"Great Grief in the Garden" Matthew 26:36-46

Bible Verse

"...When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross." *Philippians* 2:7b-8, *NLT*

Identity | Who God Says I Am

I am empowered to obey God even when it's hard.

Materials

- A Bible
- A snack and a nametag for each student
- A squishy ball*
- A tape measure
- Question Pack*
- "How are you feeling?" Emoji Chart*
- Treasure chest handout, one per student
- Small group prayer request sheet

*Materials marked with an asterisk are in the CKC Games Bag.





Small Group Session 1 15 Minutes

Opening Icebreaker

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

- *Act it out!* Play a brief game of action charades. Let each student perform an action of their choosing (examples: reading, skiing, playing the violin, playing basketball, etc.) and ask the other students to guess the action.
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" emoji chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- As students are eating their snack, ask, "What are you grateful for this week?"

Pray Together

Collect prayer requests from the students.

The small group leader or a child who volunteers may pray for the entire group.

Small Group Game: Hot Potato

Materials needed: A squishy ball and the Question Pack from the CKC Games Bag.

Instructions: Ask students to sit in a circle and pass or toss the ball to one another "Hot Potato" style. When the leader shouts, "Stop!" whoever is holding the ball must answer a question from the Question Pack. Repeat until everyone has had a chance or until time runs out.



Small Group Session 2 35 Minutes

Identity Exploration

Materials needed: A tape measure

Did you know that some people miss heaven by just eighteen inches?

Hold up the tape measure and show eighteen inches.

Eighteen inches is the difference between your head and your heart.

Hold up the tape measure between your head and heart area.

Some people believe with their head that Jesus Christ lived and died, but they have never trusted Jesus with their heart and lived as if what they believed was actually true.

Some people think that a great measure of Bible knowledge can get them into heaven.

Hold up the tape measure toward God. Pick up your Bible and wrap the tape measure around it.

They memorize Bible verses and attend church, but again, they have never trusted Jesus with their heart.

This tape measure also reminds me of people who think they can get to heaven by measuring their good deeds. They think if their good deeds add up to more than their bad deeds, they will make it into heaven...

Hold the tape measure at the top and go down alternating between your right and left hand as if "adding." If they are old enough students, ask them to count up (in inches or or centimeters.) When you get to the number 10, pause.

They give some money to the church. They help their mom and dad, they are nice to their friends, they listen to their teacher, but they have never trusted Jesus with their heart. The Bible says that, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." But Jesus did not fall short of the glory of God.





But God took care of our problem by his immeasurable love by giving us Jesus to die for our sins.

God's love is deeper than the sea.

Measure low.

God's love is wider than the sky.

Measure high.

God gave us Jesus. Jesus is the measure of all things. Jesus is the Son of God, offering us the free gift of everlasting life that is found in him if we receive that gift in our hearts. You and I will never measure up, but Jesus does measure up! If we receive the love and everlasting life Jesus offers us, we are no longer measured by the number of good deeds we do or the knowledge we have, but we are measured by what Jesus has done! We are measured by the perfect obedience of Jesus! When God looks at us, he sees the amazing obedience of Jesus, that Jesus was obedient even unto death!

Swing the tape measure around your head several times.



Worship | Agreeing with who God is and responding through our words or actions.

Take a listen to this Bible verse, "Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood." (Hebrews 12:3-4, NIV).

If Jesus was able to obey God to the point of death, to the point of shedding his own blood, would Jesus not be able to help you obey your parents? Would Jesus not be able to empower you to be kind to your siblings or to forgive them when they've done something wrong against you?

Invite the children to think about ways that Jesus could help them to obey God in the next week as they listen to the worship song, "God Is Able."

Encourage the children to be amazed by the incredible obedience of Jesus, and remind them that Jesus can and is able to empower them to obey God even when it's difficult or challenging.





Bible Verse Game

Review the Bible verse with a **Bible verse game**.

"...When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross." *Philippians 2:7b-8, NLT*

Treasure Chest Handout

Give each student a treasure chest handout and some colored markers or crayons. Invite the students to draw something they discovered about Jesus and something they discovered about themselves inside their treasure chest. Students should also circle the tool that they used in small group to help them discover those truths. As the students are completing the handout, ask students to think about how they can use that tool during the week.

Name: Story:



