

Little kids can know God through the Saviour

SAMPLE LESSON

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(With additional ideas
from the original text)

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How to use this series

This volume is one in a series produced by *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® for use with young children. It is our conviction that little kids *can* know God!

This book contains all the information you will need to teach your class.

The complete lesson text is included in this book. Try not to read from the book but keep eye contact with the children. A lesson that is taught, not read, is more believable and interesting for the children. More experienced teachers may want to display the visuals on an easel at eye level to the children and teach from an open Bible. This allows the teacher's hands to be free for the variety of activities woven into the lessons.

Each lesson includes many opportunities for active involvement through dramatic activities, action rhymes and songs. Be sure to evaluate the needs of your group and choose the ideas that will work best and fit within your class time.

Scriptures are quoted from the New King James Version of the Bible. If desired, you may easily substitute another translation. The verse explanations and memory verse symbols are adaptable for any translation or language.

You will find the following symbols throughout these materials. Each indicates an activity.

Activity symbols



Song



Dramatic activity



Action rhyme

Please note!

Some of the resources and suggestions regarding activities that are mentioned on the index page and in the lesson are only available in the original manual and are not included in this sample.

The suggested songs are included in the *Little kids can know God - songbook and CD* which is available from CEF.

Memory verse actions and music

Lesson 1
Sing a verse

Psalm 69:30

“I will praise the name of God with a song ...”

Actions: (1) Point to self. (2) Look up while lifting outstretched hands. (3) Point up with index fingers. (4) Cup hands around mouth.

PSALM 69:30

(Tune: Oh, Be Careful)

Traditional
Arr. Harry Dixon Loes

F C

1 I will 2 praise the name of 3 God with a 4 song. 1 I will

C F Bb Gmin

2 praise the name of 3 God with a 4 song. Psalm six - ty - nine thir - ty. Psalm

F C Dmin Bb C F

six - ty - nine thir - ty. 1 I will 2 praise the name of 3 God with a 4 song.

Lesson 1





Jesus is praised





Scripture for teachers Matthew 21:8-16
Luke 19:29-47


Central truth There are many reasons why everyone should praise the Lord Jesus

Application Unsaved and saved: You should praise Him too

Memory verse “I will praise the name of God with a song ...” (Psalm 69:30)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Welcome	Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 81), one per child Bean bag or other soft object	<p>Welcome Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags.</p> <p>Activity “Bean bag toss” Toss a bean bag to a child and have him say his name as he catches the bag. As a class say, “Jesus loves ___ (<i>child’s name</i>).” The child then tosses the bean bag back to you and you toss it to another child, making sure each child has a turn.</p>
 Worship	Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (pages 15-16) Offering basket or bank	<p>Song Prayer (CD: 13/34) “Jesus loves me” Lead the children in prayer: “Dear God, thank You that You love us. Thank You that Jesus came to Earth to be the Saviour. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”</p> <p>Song Offering (CD: 10/31) “I can know God” (chorus twice) (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)</p>
 Memory verse	PSAV-R1, PSAV-R2, PSAV-R3 and PSAV-R4 (page 77) Instructions (page 20) Music and actions (page 13)	<p>Verse Repetition Psalm 69:30 “Sing a verse”</p>
 Stretch		<p>Activity “Head and shoulders, knees and toes” The following may be spoken or sung to the tune of “London Bridge” while doing the actions: Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Knees and toes, knees and toes. Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Clap your hands and praise Him.</p>

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	Lesson text (page 22) PSAV1-1, PSAV1-2, PSAV1-3, PSAV1-4, PSAV1-5 and PSAV1-6 Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 15) “I believe the Bible” visualised song Paper donkeys (page 82) Rhythm instruments, “palm branches” (palm leaves - page 82) and coats	Lesson “Jesus is praised” Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.
 Review	Palm leaves (page 82), one per child Questions (page 25)	Game “Palm leaf path” After a child answers a question, he may lay his palm leaf on the floor along a pretend path.
Read aloud story	Text for the read aloud story (page 25) Rug	Activity Read the story to the children. Make this a special time. Children sit on a “story rug”.
 Snack	Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have)	Break Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands. Prayer Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Snack Guide conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)
 Creative activity (choose one)	25 x 25 cm (10” x 10”) green tissue paper, one per child Cardboard tubes (not toilet rolls, but about that size), one per child Glue Scissors Student activity sheets, one per child Palm leaves (page 82), three per child Play dough or clay (page 8)	Craft “Palm poms” Have each child roll his tissue paper around a cardboard tube, covering it completely, and glue it in place. The tissue paper will extend beyond one end of the tube. Next have him cut slits in the paper from the edge down to the roll (about 1.5 cm/0.5” apart). The cut strips will fall downward out of the way of the scissors. The children can wave their palm poms as they sing “Praise Him, Praise Him”, recreating the triumphal entry. Activity sheet* “Jesus was praised” Assist the children in gluing palm leaves on the road. Play dough “A special donkey” Have the children make a donkey like the one Jesus rode into Jerusalem on. Use this time to review the lesson.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 <p>Enrichment activity (choose one)</p>	<p>Eight footprints (page 82)</p>	<p>Activity "Praise parade" Have the children make simple rhythm instruments (see page 8) then use them in a praise parade.</p> <p>Activity "Walking to praise God" Tape footprints to the floor. Discuss places children can walk and praise God (eg to the dinner table, to church, to the park). When a child suggests a place, he may walk on the footprints.</p>

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“I will praise the name of God with a song ...” (Psalm 69:30)

Introduction

Do you like it when people say nice things about you? We call these compliments.

Allow response, then compliment several children on positive character traits - eg friendliness, cheerfulness, helpfulness, kindness, good listening, good manners.

God likes compliments too! The Bible says we should compliment God.

Presentation

The words written in the Bible are called verses. Each verse has an address to help us find it. The address of today’s verse is Psalm 69:30.

Say the address together three times - first while wiggling fingers in front of the body, then down low, then up high.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at Psalm 69:30. Read the verse then show flashcards PSAV-R1, PSAV-R2, PSAV-R3 and PSAV-R4.

Explanation

I will praise the name of God - To “praise” is to give a compliment or say nice things about someone. This verse tells us we should praise God. I will praise the name of God because He is the awesome Creator (maker of all things). I will praise the name of God because He is strong and powerful. I will praise the name of God because He is perfect. I will praise the name of God because He is love and He loves you and me! I will praise the name of God because He has forgiven my sin.

with a song - We can sing our words of praise in a song.

Application

Unsaved: Everyone in the whole world should praise God. You too should praise Him.

Saved: You can praise God for making you His child.

Repetition

“Sing a verse”

Point to the symbols in sequence as everyone sings the verse to the tune of “Oh be careful” (CD: 17/38). After the word song

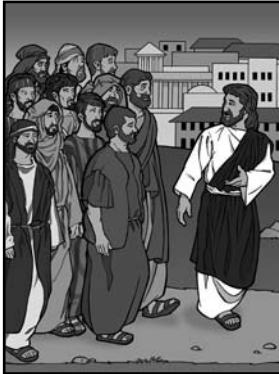
say words of praise, clapping on each word: “He’s great,” “He’s powerful,” “He’s strong,” etc.

Lesson - part 1

Do you like parades (or processions)?

Briefly discuss.

Jesus was in a parade. The Bible tells us all about it.



Flashcard PSAV1-1

Jesus and His disciples stopped near a village (little town) near Jerusalem. He told them to go into the village. As they entered they would see a colt tied up. It would be a young donkey that no-one had ever ridden. Jesus told them to untie the colt and bring it to Him. If anyone asked, "Why are you untying that colt?" they were to answer, "Because the Lord needs it." How did the Lord Jesus know all this before it even happened?

Allow response.

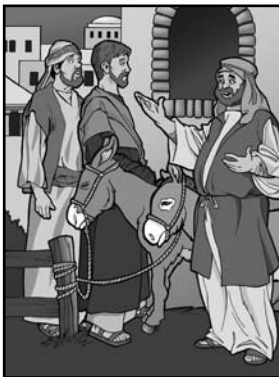
Jesus knew everything that would happen because He is God the Son. He knows your name and how old you are. He knows where you live and even what you ate for breakfast this morning. He knows what will happen tomorrow and what will happen when you are grown up. Jesus knows everyone's secrets. Isn't He amazing? Let's praise Him together by saying, "Lord Jesus, You are wonderful, You know everything."

Everyone says this together.

We know that Jesus is God's Son because that is what we read in the Bible.



(CD: 8/29) "I believe the Bible" (verses 1-2). Stand to sing.



Flashcard PSAV1-2

Everything happened just as the Lord Jesus said it would. The two disciples went into the town. They saw the young donkey tied up and started to untie it.

The owners saw them and asked, "Why are you untying the colt?"

The disciples said, "The Lord needs it," and the owners let them take the colt!



Flashcard PSAV1-3

The disciples brought the donkey colt to Jesus. Let's think about how a young donkey might act if it has never been ridden before.

Have a helper demonstrate how a colt bucks vigorously if anything is placed on its back. Place a coat as a saddle and your hand as the weight of a person.




Let the children look for paper donkeys then pretend to ride or be donkeys.

The disciples put their own coats on the donkey colt for a saddle seat for Jesus. The Lord Jesus got on with no trouble and rode the donkey. It did not buck or refuse to have Jesus ride on it. Why?

Allow time for response.

The Lord Jesus is God's only Son. He was there at the beginning of the world. He made donkeys, so He can control them. He was in charge of this colt. He made everything and He is in charge of everything. That is another reason why we should praise Him.

 (CD: 18/39) "Praise Him, praise Him".

Part 2

Lots and lots of people were going to Jerusalem. More and more started to look towards the Lord Jesus. He was calmly riding the donkey. When they saw Jesus they remembered something. God had promised to send a very special King. Long ago God had said that this very special King would ride into Jerusalem on a young donkey.


"Surely this is the Promised One, the King!" they must have said to each other.

Flashcard PSAV1-4

They were very happy and excited. To show honour and respect for Jesus the King, they placed their own robes on the road for the donkey to walk on. They also cut down palm branches from the trees and spread them on the road. They waved other palm branches in the air and shouted. I am going to read it to you from the Bible.

Read Matthew 21:9 from your Bible.

"Hosanna" means "praise". The people were praising the Lord Jesus because they knew that He was sent by God. Even before there was a world, God planned to send His only Son. The people were doing the right thing when they praised Jesus. We can praise Him too.

 Have a praise parade. Sing Psalm 69:30 using rhythm instruments or waving "palm branches". Lay the branches or coats on the parade path.

Who can remember why we should praise the Lord Jesus?

Allow response.

He knows everything. He is God's only Son. He is in charge of everything, even animals. He is the special King God had promised to send.

Not everyone was happy about this praise parade! Some of the Pharisees (church leaders) did not want people to praise Jesus. They did not believe that Jesus was God's Son. They had read their Bible and they would not believe that Jesus was the special King God was going to send. They were very angry.

"Tell the people to be quiet. Stop this praise," they told Jesus.

But Jesus said it was right for the people to praise Him. Of course it is right. We can never give the Lord Jesus enough praise. He is **so** wonderful.

The Lord Jesus knew that not all the people believed in Him. He always knows if we really love Him. As He looked over the city of Jerusalem,



He cried. He knew that many, many people in the city did not want Him. They did not believe in Him. So they would never be in God's family. They would never go to God's home, Heaven. He cried because He loved those people.



(CD: 13/34) "Jesus loves me" (verse 1).

Part 3

Flashcard PSAV1-5



At last the Lord Jesus arrived in the city. Where would He go? He loved to go to the building where the people went to worship God. The building in Jerusalem was called a temple. Shall we say that word together? Temple.

He saw lots of things there. He was not happy about everything. The people who came to the temple needed things like lambs, doves, spices, perfume and special money. Jesus saw the people buying and selling right there in the temple. Not only that, the sellers were cheating the buyers. That was sin. Doing wrong and praising God just do not go together.

The Lord Jesus was angry about this cheating. It was happening right there in the temple. He made the people who were selling things leave. He turned over their tables and told them, "God says, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of robbers'" (from Matthew 21:13).

It is good to remember that doing wrong and praising Jesus do not go together. When we sing to Him, you should not punch the person next to you. When we pray, you should not put out your tongue at somebody.

The people whom Jesus put out of the temple were angry. He had spoiled their sales. But soon others were coming into the temple. Some could hardly walk. Some were blind. They had heard that the Lord Jesus was there and thought, "Perhaps He can make us well."

Jesus cared about these people and He healed them!

Flashcard PSAV1-6



There were children in the temple too. They were watching and they started to praise Him again.

"Hosanna! Praise to the Son of David!" they called out.

The leaders in the temple were angry about Jesus healing people; they were angry about the children praising Jesus and calling Him God's special King.

"Don't you hear what they are saying?" they growled.

"Yes," answered Jesus, "and don't you know that God planned for children to praise Me?"

The Lord Jesus enjoyed the praises of the children. He enjoys your praises too! When can we praise Jesus?



Encourage discussion, helping children to see that they can praise the Lord when they are in club, church or Sunday school, but also at home, at playtime, on holiday, etc. When you see nice flowers, you can praise God that He made them. Praise God each new day that He gives us day and night.



(CD: 18/39) "Praise Him, praise Him".

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 What is praise? (Giving compliments, saying nice things about someone.)
- 2 Who deserves our praise the most? (God; Jesus.)
- 3 What can you say to praise God? (God is the awesome Creator; He is strong, powerful, perfect, loving, forgiving, etc.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 What did Jesus send the men to borrow for Him to ride on? (A young donkey; a colt.)
- 2 How did Jesus know about the donkey and its owners? (Jesus, God the Son, knows everything.)
- 3 What did people lay on the road to show honour for Jesus? (Their robes/coats and palm branches.)
- 4 Who did the crowd say Jesus was? (The promised Saviour King.)
- 5 Why did the donkey not make it difficult for Jesus to ride on it? (Jesus made the donkey; He was in charge.)
- 6 What did Jesus do about the people selling things at the temple and cheating people? (He sent them out.)
- 7 What did Jesus say people should do in the temple? (Pray and worship.)
- 8 What did the Lord Jesus do for the sick people in the temple? (He made them well.)
- 9 What does not go together with praising Jesus? (Doing wrong.)
- 10 Who praised Jesus in the temple? (Children.)
- 11 When can you praise the Lord Jesus? (Answers will vary. Examples in the lesson include at club, at church or Sunday school, at home, at playtime or on holiday; when you see nice flowers; each new day.)

Read aloud story

My name is Zack. I am not very old, but I have a great story to tell.

We were on a special outing. We were going to worship God in Jerusalem. It was great fun on the way for my cousins and I played

games as we travelled. All at once everyone was looking at a Man riding a donkey.

“Who is He?” I asked my father.

“His name is Jesus,” my father said. “I think He is a very special Person.”

People around us began to call Him “the Son of David”. That is the name for the special King God promised to send.

Everyone was very excited and called out, “Praise the Son of David!” Someone put a palm branch into my hand. I waved it and danced. I shouted as loudly as I could, “Praise to the Son of David. Hosanna to the Son of David!” I really wanted Jesus to hear me.

When we arrived in Jerusalem we went to the temple. It is very big and there is a lot of gold on the pillars and walls. As we were going in we met people coming out. They looked angry. Someone told us that Jesus had put them out because they were doing bad things in the temple.

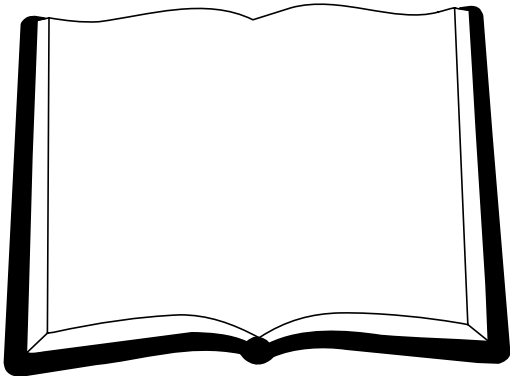
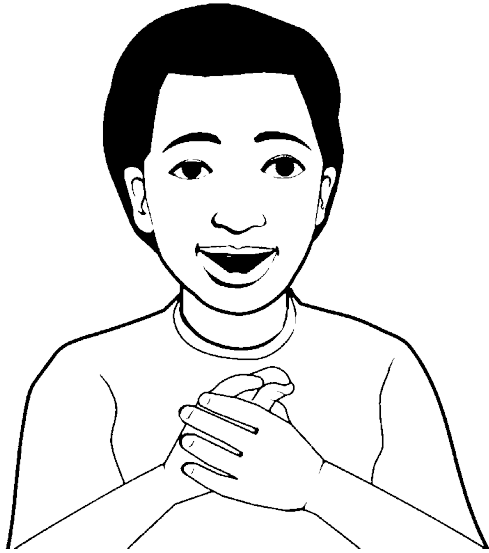
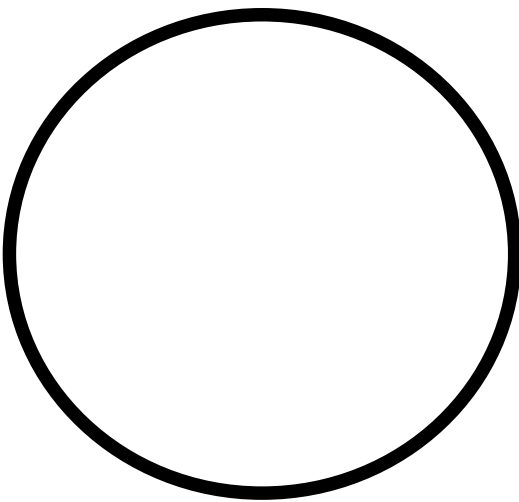

Anyway, when we were inside, my cousins and I got to stand close to Jesus. I saw a blind man being led up to Him. Jesus looked so kind. You know what He did? He put out His hand and touched the man’s eyes. Then the man shouted, “I can see!” - and he could!

Other sick people came and Jesus made them well too. I saw one man throwing away his two walking sticks. My cousins and I started to sing to Jesus. He looked very pleased but some other men were not. They told Jesus to stop us, but Jesus said He liked it. I’m glad He did for I feel like praising Him all the time!

Memory verse symbols

Lesson 1

Photocopy, colour and cut out the verse symbols. For suggestions on usage, see tips under “Use a variety of visuals” (page 5).

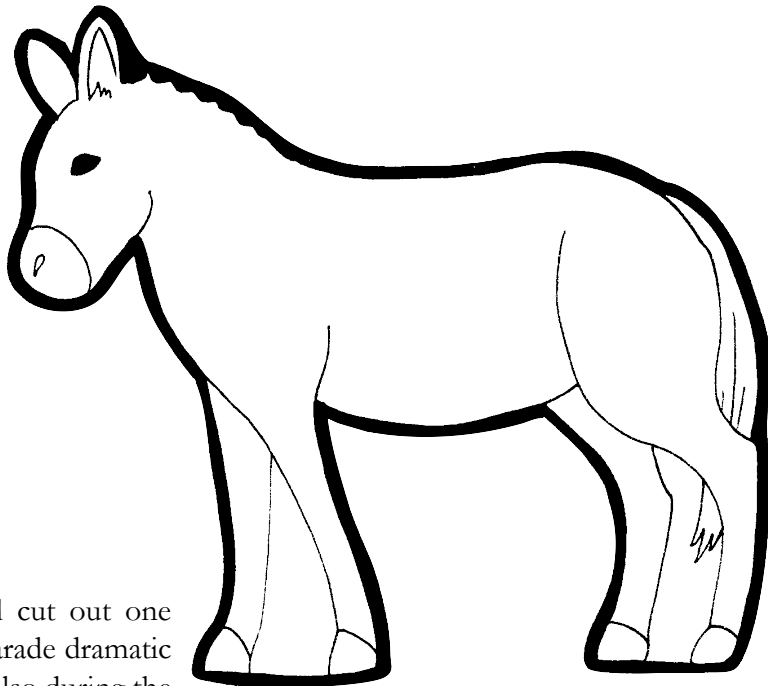
 <p>“Psalm 69:30” PSAV-R1</p>	 <p>“I will praise” PSAV-R2</p>
 <p>“the name of God” PSAV-R3</p>	 <p>“with a song.” PSAV-R4</p>

Visuals and props

Lesson 1

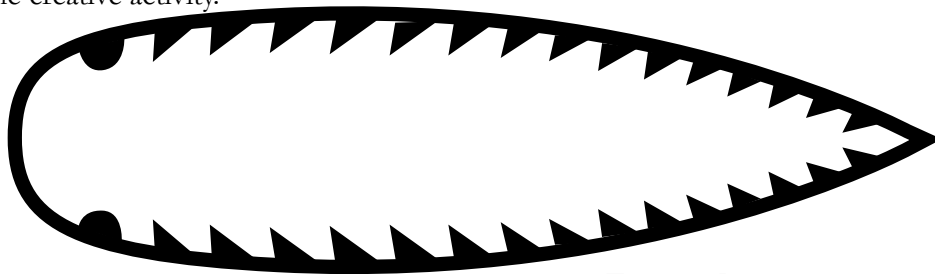
Donkey

Photocopy and cut out as many donkeys as you wish to have the children find.



Palm leaf

Photocopy on to green paper and cut out one palm leaf per child for the praise parade dramatic activity during the Bible lesson and also during the review time. Cut out three palm leaves per child for the creative activity.



Footprint

Photocopy the footprint and cut it out. Use it to trace and cut out eight card or construction paper footprints. Laminate the footprints if desired. Tape them to the floor to form a path.

