



NEHEMIAH

BUILDING
MINISTRY
TOGETHER

Lesson 10: Nehemiah 8:1-12 Building Ministry Through Worship

Welcome and Play Time 10 Min

Worship is all that we are responding to all that we know of God. We can worship God while we sing, but it is more than that. We worship as we listen to the teaching of God's Word, as we reverently approach God's Word, in prayer, in our responses to His Word, as we explain God's Word to others, and as the understanding of God's Word produces repentance in our lives. Wow! That is something to celebrate!

Use this time as people are arriving for the kids to get comfortable with each other and settled in so that Mom and Dad can enjoy small group.

Bible Lesson Activities 20 Min

Activity 1: Treasure Hunt The people in Jerusalem knew that the Word of God was a great treasure. They called for it to be brought to them and read to them because they didn't have a copy of their own to read.

Set up a treasure hunt through the Word of God as you read about the value of God's Word. You can either set the clues around the room and have kids hunt them (make sure they're easy enough to find), or put sticky notes in a Bible that lead from one verse to the next.

Psalm 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalm 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

Psalm 119:72 The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.

Psalm 139:17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

Proverbs 2:1-5 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver, and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

Activity 2: Stand for the reading of God's Word. At Church, when we read God's Word, we stand up to show honor. Let's practice this way to honor God! When you hear God's Word, stand. When you hear something that isn't God's Word, stay seated.

- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

- Come on, vamanos, everybody let's go (Dora)

- There's no need to fear gizmo duck is here. (Duck Tales)

- Do not fear, for I am with you. (Isaiah 41:10a)

- How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" (Romans 10:15)

- You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. (Christopher Robin - Pooh)

- Jesus wept. (John 11:35)

- Be vewy, vewy quiet...I'm hunting wabbits! (Elmer Fudd)

Bible Reading Time & Scripture Memory 10 Min

Have children stand to honor the reading of God's Word. Pray and thank God for giving us His Word. Read the Word straight through and then give yourself time to discuss after you've read the whole passage.

Read Nehemiah 8:1-6 (NASB) Read from a Bible if you have one available

1And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel. 2Then Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of men, women and all who could listen with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month. 3He read from it before the square which was in front of the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of men and women, those who could understand; and all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

4Ezra the scribe stood at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam on his left hand. 5Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

Discuss with the children what the verses mean. Allow the children to be seated then discuss. The work is completed. The people have experienced the faithfulness of God and they are hungry for God's Word. They know what a great treasure God's Word is and they want to hear it! **What did the verses say that Ezra read to the people?** (*the book of the law of Moses*). **Does anyone know what part of our Bible that was?** (*the first five books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*). **How long did the people stand?** (*from early morning until midday*). **How does it say the people's attitudes were?** (*they were attentive - they listened carefully!*)

When the people heard God's Word they responded in honor by standing and then in worship by praising God.

Let's memorize this week's verse:

**"I delight to do Your will, O my God;
Your Law is within my heart."
Psalm 40:8**

Coloring Sheet 10 Min

Pass out the memory verse coloring sheets and have children color them. As you color repeat the verse several times to help the words sink in!

Closing/Clean Up 5 Min

Clean up and make sure everyone has shoes on, coloring sheets in hand and everything is put back in the room. Praise God for a wonderful group of young people!



I DELIGHT TO DO YOUR WILL, O MY GOD;
YOUR LAW IS WITHIN MY HEART.

PSALM 40:8