

This month we will be learning what it means to worship and how our worship ties in with the Christmas story.

Memorize the Key Passage title and location. A Shepherds Song:  
Psalm 23

Activity: Help your children experience different parts of the Psalm by reading it together with your family in your backyard or park. You can further their experience if you can find a quiet place with a creek or body of water. There are so many visuals in Psalm 23; green pastures, still waters, dark valleys, a rod and staff, a table, anointing oil, and a cup running over. Use these to help bring the passage to life.

The Bible says that "David was a man after God's own heart." He wrote many of the Psalms in the Bible. The 23 Psalm is probably the most well-known Psalm and was a declaration of who God is and who we are to Him. He provides for us, He protects us. He promises that we will live with Him forever. These are all good reasons why we worship Him.

1. Worship means that we show honor or reverence to God. It means to declare His greatness.
2. Each verse in the Psalm describes something that the Lord does or provides for us. There are six verses. Read one a day and talk about how it makes us feel and how it helps us worship God.
3. Read Luke 2: 8-12 who were the first people that heard about the Birth of Jesus. It is interesting that the first people to see the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Creator of the Universe were shepherds. It is also interesting that Jesus would later be called our GOOD SHEPHERD.

Read and memorize **Deuteronomy 16:17** this week.

Part of worship is giving.

1. Read Matthew 2: 1-2 and 10-12. Why did the wise men want to find Jesus? What did they give to Jesus?
2. Talk about the various ways that we can give back to God. Be creative. Giving is far more than giving money. It is the giving of our time, our gifts, our talents, even things like hosting people in our homes.
3. What is something you can start doing now? How can your kids give back to God?
4. Talk about all the ways your church uses tithes and offerings. Most children do not think about the vast ways our tithes are used. They are used for everything from the electric bill to starting churches in foreign countries.

Read and memorize **1 Chronicles 16:9** this week.

1. What does this verse say we should do?
2. Did you know that God rejoices when we sing?
3. Did you know that Mary may have sung when she was telling Elizabeth that she was going to give birth to God's Son? Read Luke 1:46-55. Do you see how she praised God and told of His mighty works like in 1 Chronicles 16:9?
4. Read Luke 2:13-14 to see who else sang about the birth of Jesus.
5. The verse says that we should tell of all of His wonderful works. Have each person think of praises to God for three of His wonderful works.

Read and memorize **John 4:24** this week.

1. What does this verse say about God?
2. Read Luke 1:35 to see the Angels message to Mary about her having a baby.
3. Read Genesis 1:1-2. What does it say about God's Spirit?
4. How does John 4:24 say we should worship Him?
5. To worship God in "Spirit" means we are doing more than just singing. It means we are worshipping from our heart. It is a sincere expression of our Love for God and thanks for all He has done.
6. To worship in "truth" means our worship is true to the Bible. We are not making up things that are not in the scripture.

This month we will be learning how to be saved.

Memorize the Key Passage title and location. The Conversion of Saul:  
Acts 9:1-30

Back in September we nailed some nails into a tree to remind us of the time when we asked Jesus to be our Savior. This would be a good time to go back to the tree and tell your children about the time when you asked Jesus to be your Savior. Let your children who have already asked Jesus to be their Savior tell their story too. Hopefully by the end of this month, you will be nailing some more nails into your tree.

This week we will be reading about Saul's conversion. Since it is a rather long story, we will break it down into parts.

1. Read Acts 9:1-9. What kind of person was Saul before he met Jesus? Why was he on the way to Damascus? The "WAY" means those who had believed in Jesus.
2. What did Saul see and hear on the way to Damascus?
3. What did the voice say to Saul?

Read and memorize **Luke 19:10** this week.

Luke 19:10 is a short verse with a lot of meaning.

1. Who is the Son of Man?
2. Why did He come to Earth?
3. Discuss a time when you had to seek for something that was lost. How hard did you look until you found it?
4. Who are the "lost" in the verse?
5. God had a plan for Saul even though he was trying to arrest Christians. Read Acts 9: 1-15 to see how God's plan happened in Saul's life.

Read and memorize **Romans 10:9** this week.

1. The verse tells us two things we need to do to be saved. What are they?
2. What does it mean to be saved? What are we saved from? Why did Saul need to be saved? Why do we need to be saved?
3. Did you know that a sin is anything we do that is not pleasing to God? Talk about some things that are sins. Remember, not all sins are things we do. They can be things we do not do, like not praying, not reading our Bibles, or not helping someone when they are in need.
4. Read Acts 9:16-19 What did God want Ananias to do? Why was Ananias afraid of Saul?

Read and memorize **Psalm 119:11** this week.

1. What does this verse tell us we need to do to keep from sinning against God?
2. Read Acts 20-25 to hear how Saul grew in the Lord. Do you think that Saul learned the true meaning of the Scriptures from the Disciples?
3. There are lots of resources for you and your child to start a daily quiet time. A good resource is The FOUNDATIONS series for Kids. There are two books each lasting 260 days. Both are good. Each devotion should take about 10 to 15 minutes a day to do.

This month we will be learning what it means to love one another and how to be a good person. Memorize the Key Passage title and location. The Love Chapter: 1 Corinthians 13

Activity: It is easy to send valentines cards to those we love or who are our friends. It is much harder to send them to people who are not our friends or to strangers. Think of some people you could send cards to. Remember if you send them to the prison or jail, do not include your address or last name. First names are fine. You could most likely deliver them to the prison or Jail and see if they will randomly hand them out. Check to see if your church has a prison ministry or an officer who will hand them out. Nursing homes and hospitals would also be a good place to minister to people.

1. 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3 tells us what we are like if we do not love. What is one thing the Bible says we are like?
2. The noise a cymbal makes can get quite annoying if it is repeated over and over. The Bible says we should show love, so we are not like a cymbal clanging over and over again. Can you think of someone you should love, but you find it hard to do? What could you do to show love to that person?
3. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 are some of the most well-known verses in the Bible. They tell us how we should love. Some of them are really easy and some of them are really hard. Write these verses down and display them in your house this month to be a reminder when we start sounding like a clanging symbol and not showing Gods love to each other.

Read and memorize **1 John 4:21**

1. What command do we have from God?
2. What does it mean when the Bible says that we must love our brother?
3. Who are some people in your life that you need to show more love to?

Read and memorize **1 Peter 4:9**

1. What does it mean to show hospitality?
2. What does it mean to show hospitality without grudging?
3. Read Deuteronomy 23:25 to see one way people in the Bible showed hospitality. Can you see why people might now want to do it, but did it because God said to?
4. What are some hospitality or polite things which are hard for us to do today?

Read and memorize **Proverbs 22:1**

1. What does it mean that a good name is better than great riches?
2. Name some things you can do to have a "good name" or reputation?
3. The last part of the verse tells us that having loving favor is better than silver or gold. How would someone gain loving favor from the people they knew? Does this also include God?