

We Worship the King

Lesson 20a — Praise Our King!

Lesson 20b — Remembering Our King Who Suffered

Lesson 20c — Rejoicing in Our Resurrected King

Lesson 20d — Serving Our King

OVERVIEW

The overall aim of this series of lessons is to present to the students the importance of worshipping God. To develop this concept, various ways we can worship are brought out lesson by lesson. Since this unit will be taught during the month of Easter, the ways we can worship are woven around the Easter and Resurrection theme.

We start the lesson with the story of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Though this lesson is traditionally studied on the Sunday before Easter, we have moved it up one week in order to give us a Sunday to study the crucifixion. The emphasis for this week is ways we can worship God with our words.

The study of the suffering Christ went through at the time of His crucifixion is the springboard for discussing ways we can worship Christ by remembering what He went through for us. The poignant drama of this event is one which makes a strong impression on little minds

and hearts, and they need to learn to remember it with a feeling of gratitude and praise to Jesus.

The joyous spirit of Easter lends itself beautifully to a lesson on how we can worship God by singing songs and praising the Lord in music. Many Sunday schools will be featuring special Easter presentations at this time, and these can be woven into teaching the objective of the lesson.

In our final lesson of the unit, the students will learn of Christ's instructions to Simon Peter concerning spreading the message of the Gospel. Help your class see that service to God is another way we can worship Him.

As you develop these four lessons with your class, look for ways you can allow the students to experience each of these different ways of worshipping God. Large group sessions should also center around the worship service theme.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS UNIT

Refer to Unit 7 for additional ideas concerning the lessons in this unit. Although the specific lesson objectives may be different, the patterns provided and activities suggested will be applicable in many cases.

CONTEST IDEAS

Give each child a sheet of paper divided into four sections, with one of the four memory verses for this month printed at the bottom of each section. Each Sunday of the month have the children recite that Sunday's memory verse and draw a picture of the lesson (i.e., palm leaf, donkey, cross, tomb, praying hands, lamb, etc.) above the printed memory verse. At the end of the month ask the children to recite from memory each of the month's memory verses. Give each child a prize.

Cut flowers and palm branches from construction paper (see Patterns). Give a supply to each teacher. Cover a large bulletin board or wall space and title it WE WORSHIP THE KING. Have the children think of ways they can praise and worship God. When they think of an idea, they tell it to the teacher who writes the idea on a flower or branch. On the reverse side, the teacher writes the class name (or teacher's name or grade designation). The branch or flower should be posted on the board with the class side out. Each idea can be posted only one time per class. For instance, if several children suggest singing, only one flower should be put up. At the end of the month, the class with the most flowers or branches wins, and their ideas are read aloud to the whole group.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Divide the bulletin board into four main sections, prefer-

ably using real palm branches for dividers. Make a silhouette cutout for each lesson (see Patterns), placing the cutouts on the board in each of the four sections. Use the bulletin board as a memory aid when asking children to recite previous memory verses for the month.

A bulletin board display and unit project could be combined, serving for the entire unit. The board should be divided into scenes for each lesson or make one large scene, letting your students draw in appropriate figures each week. Or if you prefer, ideas for figures and scenes can be made up ahead, using an opaque. These could be colored in class for an in-class activity, or have them colored and allow the students to help put them on the board.

Make a bulletin board using the cross as the focal illustration (see Patterns). Use a tan background, and make the cross from brown paper. Use a fine-point marker to draw the grains on the wood. Add the words **IT IS FINISHED** on the cross.

Use the word **EASTER** in large block letters in the center of your board (see Patterns). Make your background pale blue, and use celery green for the lettering, white for the lily, and dark green for the leaves. Have your children draw their version of the story and display their work around the edges of the center design.

To emphasize the fact that new life finds its source in the person of Jesus Christ, use the words **I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE** as the theme for your board (see Patterns). From construction paper make the background bright yellow, the daisy white, the rock gray, and the blades of grass green. If you wish, add a flowered border around the edges of your board.

UNIT PROJECTS

Make craft dough crosses (for key chain or note holders). Mix $\frac{1}{4}$ cup white glue, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour, and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cornstarch. Knead the mixture until it is smooth and easy to work with. Trace a cross pattern onto a piece of heavy paper and cut it out. (Making several will make the project faster.) Roll the dough out flat until it is about $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick. Lay the cross patterns on the dough and carefully cut around them with a table knife. Let them dry overnight. For key chains, poke a hole near the top of the crosses before they dry. Paint them with

a mixture of white glue and food coloring. Make designs or write names on them. For note holders, put magnets on the back. You could also glue magnets to clothespins.

Reproduce the miniature Easter booklet pages (see Patterns). Each Sunday give your students the pages which coincide with that Sunday's lesson. Let them color the pages with felt pens. On the last Sunday, assemble the book. Thread the pages together with heavy thread, as indicated by holes on the left side of the pictures. Make covers from colored felt, folded to form a front and back cover. Attach covers by applying a layer of glue to the left margin of the top and bottom page. Press cover against booklet and use clamps or clothespins to hold the edge until dry.

CHART IDEAS

Make enough Easter bookmarks for each child (see Patterns). Cut flowers from different colors of construction paper and attach to the end of a strip of light cardboard. Print or write **JESUS LIVES** on the strip.

Make a scepter for each child from a paper towel tube. Cover each tube with shiny paper, foil, or gift wrap. Decorate with glitter and sequins, etc. Cap the scepters with removable cones made of paper. Each Sunday, let your students draw a picture representing that week's story, roll it up, and place it in the tube. You might wish to display the scepters on a bulletin board.

Make a crown for each child (see Patterns). Trace the crown onto colored construction paper. The children could add decorations with felt tip pen and add varied seals to the crown. Cut a strip of construction paper $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide to fit the head of each child and paste or staple to front section of the crown.

SUPPORT MATERIAL

The Bible Tells Us About God's Son — Sticker and Coloring book, Standard Publishing
Crucifixion and Resurrection — Pict-o-graph, Standard Publishing. Contains material for Palm Sunday, Crucifixion and Resurrection.

The Joy of Easter — Bible mural, Concordia
The Life of Jesus — by Ruth Odor, Standard Publishing. Includes feeding the 5000, Resurrection and six other stories.