

WEEK 3

The Savior of the World is Born!

The Story of The Shepherds' Visit to Baby Jesus

Week's Objective:

To know that the shepherds were ready to leave behind their tasks in order to honor Jesus. We can honor God by making Him a priority, showing up and listening. Let's remember that God wants us to **Be Honoring!**

Prayer as you Prepare:

Father, thank You for always being present in my life. Even though we cannot see or hear You, we know You are there taking care of us. You are too good to us. We want to show You the honor and respect that You deserve. We love You, Lord. Amen.

IN THE CLASSROOM...

COLORING PAGE: Picture of the shepherds and angel and extra activity on the back

Hear It:

OBJECT LESSON: THE 5TH COMMANDMENT

[LEADER SAY]: A long time ago, God gave a set of rules to His people in order to help them make good choices and not disobey Him. These rules or laws were called the Ten Commandments. Does anyone remember the Bible story about the Ten Commandments? What were they written on and what are some of the laws?

Can anyone tell me the 5th Commandment? The 5th Commandment is to "Honor your mother and father." God wants all of us to honor our parents! To honor them means to admire and to show respect to them. God wants us to not only honor them, but be honoring to others and especially to Him!

I want to share with you a Bible story about a couple of guys who could have easily told God they were too busy. Instead, they loved and respected Him enough to want to honor Him daily. And because they were so honoring to Him, they got to meet someone very special.

STORY SUPPORT: CHARACTER STORYTELLING

Choose seven students to play characters from the Bible story. Pick three shepherds, two sheep, one angel and one Baby Jesus. As you tell the Bible story, have the shepherds, angel and Baby Jesus act out what you are saying. The sheep can act like sheep grazing by the shepherds in the field.

Find It:

1. When Jesus was born, where did Mary place Him to sleep?
A manger
2. What do shepherds do?
Take care of sheep
3. How did the shepherds feel when they saw the bright light?
They were scared.
4. What was the bright light in the sky?
An angel
5. What great news did the angels say to the shepherds?
"The Savior of the World had been born!"
6. How would the shepherds know where to find Jesus?
They would follow the light and Jesus would be lying in a manger, wrapped in cloth.
7. What did the shepherds do when they found baby Jesus?
They bowed down and worshipped Him.
8. Who did the shepherds tell about Jesus?
Everyone
9. When the shepherds returned to their fields, how did they feel?
They were thankful to God for sending Jesus and excited that they got to meet Him.
10. How can you honor God?
Answers will vary. For example, give Him praise, sing songs, spend quiet time with Him, honor your parents or follow God's Word.

Say It:

Psalm 118:28b – "...You are my God, and I will honor You."

See It:

First color the picture. Then there will be cotton balls and glue to add to the sheep. Bring the Bible story to life right off the page.

Be It:

[LEADER SAY]: Our Bible story this week reminds us that God wants us to be honoring. Sometimes life can get very busy with all the things we do. All of our activities are not bad. It is bad though when we start filling up our calendars with so much stuff that we cannot even help a friend or spend time with God. That is not honoring to others or to God.

God wants us to be honoring. There are many ways we can show honor to Him. We can spend time reading His Word. We can help a neighbor clean up their front yard. We can give him our allowance. God is the reason why we exist; He deserves our praise, honor and so much more. Do not make excuses, let's just remember to be honoring to God and to others.

CHALLENGE: HONORING

[LEADER SAY]: This week, your "Be it Challenge" is to show God and others that you are honoring. First, start by honoring God. Spend time in silence talking to God through prayer. Then, make time to be honoring to a friend or a family member. Ask them how you could help them and help. They will see how honoring you are and appreciate it.

Good luck with your challenge! Do not forget that I want to know if you completed your challenge next week.

Show It:

Your "H" hands are practicing what it means to be honoring by bowing down. It is like when you are in royalty's presence and you bow your head to show honor and respect.

ACTIVITY: WE HONOR YOU, JESUS

Objective – To remember that even though we have things to do, God should be our top priority and we need to show honor to Him all the time.

Materials –CD with one song (picked by coordinator) and song lyrics

[LEADER SAY]: Right now, we are going to spend the next ten minutes not thinking about ourselves or the people in this classroom. We are going to only think about God and how great He is! This is our way to show honor to Him, by praising the great things He has done. I am going to give each of you a sheet of music so that we can read the words to a song that we are going to listen to. We are going to listen and read—nothing else! After that, we are going to listen one more time and maybe even sing along. Remember, there is no talking or moving around.

Play the song and have your students sit either on the story time rug or spread out around the classroom. No one should sit close to anyone else.

Once the song is over, ask your students to come back together at the story time rug for a brief discussion.

Discussion –

1. What are some things God has made?
2. What kind of character traits does God possess? (i.e. wisdom, power, kindness and goodness).
3. How can we honor God this week?

FOLLOW-UP:

Would you rather have a very relaxed schedule and not know what is happening next or have a strict schedule and know what you are doing every minute of the day?