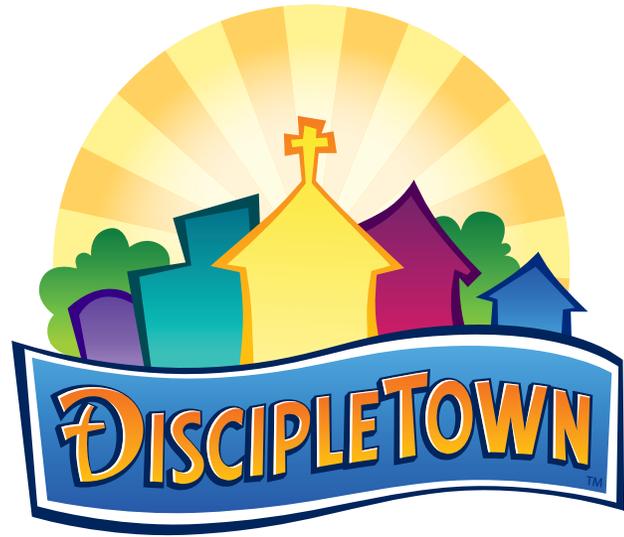


HOW TO WORSHIP GOD

Lesson Guide Sample (Lesson 1)

DiscipleTown is the Kids Church curriculum from **DiscipleLand** and Karl Bastian, the Kidologist! This customizable, teacher-driven curriculum provides everything you need to essential skills for victorious Christian living!

This sample includes the first nine pages of Lesson 1. The full *How to Worship God* download includes additional pages and higher image resolution, plus three more lessons of material. Find a complete list of product components at DiscipleLand.com.





How to Worship God

Lesson 1—Show God's Worth

Unit Summary

Worship is not a new concept to children, but it is often misunderstood. Too often, kids do not realize the significance of worshiping the one, true God. Children assume that “worship” is synonymous with “singing.” This unit provides an understanding of what true worship is—and it offers some very practical ways that children can incorporate worship into their lives. This first lesson explains the core meaning of worship, “to show worth.” The second lesson will impart practical instruction on how to have daily quiet-times with God. The remaining two lessons will demonstrate how kids can worship through giving and by serving others.

Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you will introduce kids to worship as a concept that is far broader and deeper than merely singing hymns and praise songs. You will challenge children to consider new and different ways that they can worship God.

Paul's Power Principle: Worship is a show of worth.

Lesson Outline

Spark Interest

- Welcome! (p. 2)
- Let's Meet-n-Greet! (p. 2)
- Let's Worship! (p. 3)
- Puppet Intro (p. 3)
- Let's Play! (p. 3)
- Connect with Your Kids (p. 4)
- DiscipleTown Visitor (p. 4)

Explore Scripture

- Let's Search!—Bible Dash (p. 5)
- Paul's Power Principle (p. 5)
- Let's Learn!—Why Worship? (p. 5)
- Dee's Disciple Tip (p. 6)
- KeyVerse (p. 6)

Inspire Action

- Dramatize the Point (p. 7)
- Object Talks (p. 7)
- Let's Talk! (Small Groups) (p. 7)
- Super Citizen (p. 7)
- Let's Pray! (p. 8)
- For the Home (p. 8)
- Let's Review! (p. 9)



DISCIPLE TARGETS

In this lesson, your children will...

KNOW

- God made people to worship and honor Him

FEEL

- Inspired to worship God in a variety of ways

DO

- Worship and honor the Lord in new, creative ways

SUPPLIES ✓

General Supplies

Bibles, puppets, video projection (optional)
Pencils, pens, paper

Spark Interest

WELCOME!: candy, popsicle sticks
LET'S PLAY!: poster board, various items
CONNECT WITH YOUR KIDS: valuable personal item

Explore Scripture

KEYVERSE: none

Inspire Action

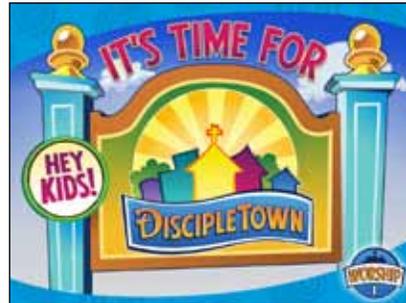
DRAMATIZE THE POINT: actors, chairs (optional)

Bonus Items

SNACK: chocolate coins
GROUP ACTIVITY: fire pit, rocks, paper, lighter

PowerPoint Presentation

As you plan your lesson, select PowerPoint slides that correspond to the lesson elements you choose. In the "Slide Sorter" View, you can rearrange and/or delete the slides as necessary. For descriptions of the included slides and tips on their use, see the notes accompanying each slide.



SPARK INTEREST

Choose from the following activities and ideas to engage kids and grab their attention.



Welcome!—Candy Auction

Supplies: candy, popsicle sticks



It is essential to establish the mood and topic early in your service to capture kids' attention and interest. Today's lesson focuses on showing "worth" to God. In order to quickly engage the children, start early with an auction of different types of candy. As the kids arrive, give each child a zip-lock baggie with 100 popsicle sticks inside (to bid on the candy that goes up for sale in the auction). Consider inviting a guest to come and be a fast-talking auctioneer—complete with a microphone and podium. Place a large sign that says "CANDY AUCTION TODAY" on the stage as well as outside your children's church room.

End the auction five minutes into your service. When you conclude the auction, let the kids know that they will be able to exchange any leftover popsicle sticks for a candy bar on their way out today. End by saying, **Wow, candy must be very valuable to you all! Some of you bid everything you had on candy you wanted. Today we'll talk about how we reveal what is valuable to us and how we can give our all to show it.** Keep it short and simple—there will be more impact later when you bring this experience into your final challenge.



Let's Meet-n-Greet!

Have the kids greet each other and ask three people, "What's your favorite candy?" Leaders should leave the stage and welcome any child they don't recognize. Let your visitors know how glad you are that they are here. Ask if anyone had a birthday this past week. (See the **How to Use DiscipleTown** guide for quick and easy ways to acknowledge visitors and birthdays.)



Let's Worship!

While it is traditional to begin a worship service with a time of singing, be sure to select several songs that reflect the value and worth of God, or at least talk about our need to praise Him with singing. You may wish to sing only one or two songs at the beginning of this lesson and save time at the end for the children to respond by honoring God through praise and music.

Recommended Song: *Lord, You Are More Precious Than Silver*



Puppet Intro

Leader & puppet introduce today's lesson. You will find a scripted version of this intro at the end of the lesson. Supplies: puppet

Puppet* is heard singing terribly before it appears on stage, or as the leader is coming out with the puppet. After demonstrating several horrible sounds or bits of songs, the leader asks why the puppet is singing. It answers that it is taking singing lessons and needs to practice. When asked why it is taking lessons, the puppet explains that it heard the lesson today was about the importance of worship. It wants to do a better job worshiping, so it is taking singing lessons. Explain to the puppet that singing is just one of many ways that we can worship God. Puppet is shocked and surprised to learn that worship is more than singing. The leader says that today we will learn several different ways we can worship, but that we also will be doing some singing. Puppet starts to croon again, and the leader suggests that the puppet work on another method of worship right away. When asked what it is, the leader says, "silent meditation." Then, as the leader introduces the topic to the children, the puppet never says another word, just nods and makes noises without opening its mouth. Finally, the puppet exits humming a worship song the kids know well (or one you will sing next, as you could do this before your worship segment).

***PUPPET:** Develop a puppet character to use regularly. The children will get to know the personality and enjoy these regular visits. Dee, Cy, and Paul puppets are available at DiscipleLand.com



Let's Play!—The Price Is Wrong

Supplies: a collection of toys and common objects (see below)



Option 1: Choose four kids (perhaps two boys and two girls) to be contestants on the game show, "The Price is Wrong!" Give each child two signs—one that says "RIGHT" and the other, "WRONG." Show various common toys or household objects along with a price tag that clearly shows a value, such as \$1.00 or \$25.99 or \$1,000,000. On the count of three, contestants raise one of their two signs to indicate whether or not they think the price tag is correct. Award a point or piece of candy each time they guess correctly. The last item is a figure or image of Jesus with a price tag that says \$2.00. The children should guess that is WRONG. Talk about how priceless Jesus is, and yet some people don't show God the value He deserves. (A humorous twist would be to say you went to a "dollar store" this week and show all items from the *dollar* store...if you want every child to be correct every time!)

Option 2: Instead of choosing contestants, allow every child to play. Put two large signs on opposite sides of the room labeled RIGHT and WRONG. Have kids stand on the side they think shows the right answer. If they are correct, they get to keep playing. If they are wrong, they return to their seat. The last kids left, who got *every* answer correct, come up for a prize or candy. End the same way as Option 1, explaining how much God is worth.



Connect with Your Kids

This object lesson primes the kids to think about value. **Supplies:** valuable item

Bring something to church that is valuable. Perhaps it is an old watch, a baseball card, something autographed, a family heirloom, or something you saved up money to buy. Tell why it is valuable to you. The value does not need to be monetary—sentimental value is okay—but for the next segment, an item with financial value will be helpful. Conclude by explaining that we all have things we value. Items that are worth a lot to us usually are carefully protected—given a place of prominence to display or locked up to keep them safe. Wonder aloud about the item's value if you were to sell it. (Lead into *DiscipleTown Visitor*.)



DiscipleTown Visitor

Find a script version of this segment at the end of this lesson.

Andy the Appraiser*: As you are wondering about the current value of the item you brought, an actor begins to cross the stage as if strolling through town. You can be creative with his outfit, but an older man with a cane, long coat, and spectacles might fit the character. As he approaches, say to the kids, **Oh, there is Andy the Appraiser! An appraiser is someone who is skilled at determining the value of an object. Let's ask him!** Stop Andy and ask for a minute of his time. Briefly explain the object and ask him to tell you what he thinks is the current value. Andy should ask some questions, showing great interest, and end by giving you a really high value, perhaps suggesting you submit it to a museum or sell it at an auction. Of course, you say you'd never sell it—it is worth far too much to you. Talk about how you show its worth to you in how you care for it. (You might say you had it brought to church in an armored vehicle just to be safe!) You could ask Andy, almost jokingly, how much he thinks God is worth, and let Andy stammer and stutter as he tries to describe how much God is worth! After Andy exits, ask the children what valuable items they may have and what they do to show how much those items are worth to them. (Accept two or three answers from the audience, or have kids turn and tell their neighbor.) Conclude by explaining that today we are going to talk about worship—what we do to show God how much He is worth to us.

***CHARACTERS:** These are suggested characters and names. Please feel free to change or adjust to suit your kids' needs and tastes.



EXPLORE SCRIPTURE

Seize on the children's interest and direct them into God's Word.



Let's Search!—Bible Dash

Supplies: Bibles



Kids with Bibles all participate, or invite volunteers to come to the front. **Let's see what the Bible has to say about worship.** As children hold Bibles closed with hands on covers, leader states the reference twice. Then on the command, "SEARCH!" the students race to locate the verse. Once they have a finger on the verse, they can stand and call out, "FOUND IT!" Have the child read the verse aloud while you project the verse on a screen via PowerPoint. See suggestions for comments on each verse below. Keep comments brief and to the point of the lesson.

- *Psalm 100:1-2* **Singing is one of the most common ways we worship.**
- *Psalm 97:9* **No one is higher, or more valuable, than God.**
- *Psalm 118:24* **Every day we find new reasons to worship God. Every day is a gift.**
- *Psalm 95:6* **Kneeling before God shows humility and respect to our Creator.**
- *Psalm 150:3-5* **We can praise God with musical instruments and with dancing.**



Paul's Power Principle: Worship is a Show of Worth The *one thing* you want kids to learn today is that worship is much more than singing hymns and praise songs in church—worship is *anything* we do to show God how much He is worth to us.



Let's Learn!—Why Worship God? *Psalm 95:1-7a*

Supplies: Bibles



Have the children locate Psalm 95:1-7a in their Bibles. Read all the way through the passage and then go verse by verse, noting for the children why God is worth worshiping.

- #1 Reason: He is our Savior (v. 1)
- #2 Reason: He has done so much for us (v. 2)
- #3 Reason: He is great and mighty (v. 3)
- #4 Reason: He is our Creator (vv. 4-5)
- #5 Reason: He loves us and cares for us (v. 6-7)

Explain that worship is a "show of worth." Ask the children to come up with ways that we can show God how much we value Him. Here are some possible answers:

- Praying (When we pray, we show God that He is worth our time.)
- Singing (When we sing songs to God or about Him, we show He is worth our devotion.)
- Playing an instrument (When we praise the Lord with instruments, we show He is worth our efforts.)



Dee's Disciple Tip: Here is an easy way to remember seven ways to worship God:

W = Win others to Jesus

O = Obey God

R = Read the Bible

S = Sing praises

H = Help others

I = Invest in God's work (giving)

P = Pray to the Lord

In the weeks ahead, we will learn more ways to show God how much He is worth to us. In other words, we'll discover more ways to worship Him throughout our week and lives.



KeyVerse

Topic: Worship God

Reference: Hebrews 12:28-29



Suggested hand motions to help the children learn and remember the theme verse:

- **Therefore,** (With the right arm, point across the room ("there") and then hold up four fingers: "there-four")
- **since we are receiving** (Reach out with both arms (one is already extended) and pull both hands back as though receiving something)
- **a kingdom** (Interlock fingers and make a circle with arms in front (almost as if hugging an invisible person) indicating a defined space or "kingdom")
- **that cannot be shaken,** (Keeping fingers interlocked, just shake the arms like an earthquake)
- **let us be thankful,** (Keeping fingers interlocked, pull the hands in until palms are against the heart)
- **and so worship God** (Separate hands and extend them outwards away from the body until palms are up)
- **acceptably with reverence and awe,** (On the words "reverence" and "awe," extend first the right arm and then left arm all the way up)
- **for our "God is a** (With arms still fully extended upward, change hands so that each points toward heaven)
- **consuming fire."** (Wave arms as though they are flames.)

Repeat several times. Ask volunteers to come on stage to help demonstrate. Use these motions throughout the unit to teach and review the verse.



INSPIRE ACTION

Encourage kids to apply the Bible truth to their lives.



Dramatize the Point

Act this out or read as a story. **Supplies:** actors and chairs

Set up a small classroom, with a teacher and six students. The teacher welcomes them to Sunday school and then says, **Okay, it's time to see who took my challenge this past week to creatively worship God. I'd like each of you to share what you did to worship the Lord. We will vote to choose which person did the best job worshipping.** The students all share something they did to worship God.

The first: **I sang in the evening service last Sunday, and everyone told me I did a wonderful job.**

The second: **I chose a Christian song to perform in a solo recital at school in orchestra.**

The third: **I turned on the Christian radio station so loud all the neighbors could hear it!**

The fourth: **I read my Bible for an hour each day.**

The fifth: **I saw someone who was hurt and prayed for him/her.**

The last: **I wasn't able to worship God all week. Because my parents had to leave on a trip, I stayed at my elderly grandmother's house and took care of her. I was too busy helping my Grandma to sing or read my Bible. I'm so sorry, but I will try harder next week.**

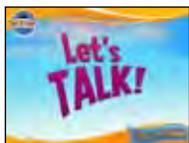
The class votes, and they choose the last student. By serving her grandma all week and obeying her parents, she worshiped God! The teacher reminds the class that worship is not just singing praise songs—worship is *anything* we do to show God how much He is worth to us.



Object Talks—Magnify God

Supplies: video projection

The video clip for this lesson features Karl, the Kidologist, doing a short object lesson on worship. A conversation between a young 10x magnifying glass and an older 200x microscope illustrates what it means to "Magnify the Lord" in daily life. Use this short teaching video to show the kids or to train a leader to do the talk "live." *Featured verse:* Psalm 69:30



Let's Talk!—Small Group Discussion

If you break into small groups, the following discussion questions will help your group leaders get personal with their students.

- 1) Name one thing you own that is worth a lot to you. What makes it so special?
- 2) If your house were on fire, and you could save only three things, what would you grab?
- 3) In what ways do you like to worship God?
- 4) What could you do this week to worship God in a new way?



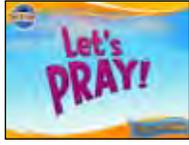
DiscipleTown Super Citizen

Choose a child who worshiped enthusiastically during the singing time. Mention how you appreciated how he or she sang with such joy and energy. **Worship like that pleases God, who sees our hearts as well as our actions when we worship by singing.** (By using the phrase "worship by singing," you remind children that singing is just one of the ways we worship God.)



Let's Pray!

Prayer: At the end of the service, have kids close their eyes and bow their heads. Ask them to think about the many things God has done for them—to reflect on just how much God is truly worth to them. And then lead the children in the following prayer. Encourage them to repeat phrases after you as a commitment to worship God this week by showing Him—in as many ways as possible—how much He is worth to them:



Dear God, thank You for all You have done for me. You are such an amazing and wonderful God, which is why I want to worship You today. Accept my worship as a gift, though You deserve more than I could ever give. This week, help me find ways to show You just how much You are worth to me—not only in taking time to pray or sing or read Your Word, but also in how I live for You. Give me ideas of little ways I can show how much I value You. May You know from my actions that You are the most important part of my life. In Jesus' name, amen.



Cy's Challenge: Challenge the kids to watch for ways to worship God this week—more than simply praying or singing. Let them know that next week you'll give a few kids a chance to share their experiences with the group.



For the Home

DiscipleTown Table Talker: Give each child a copy of this week's *DiscipleTown Table Talker*. Be sure to show them how to put it together and encourage the kids to ask their parents to lead family devotions three times this week.

Parent E-mail: Copy and send the e-mail below to help your parents connect with their kids during the week. Send them early in the week, but not on Sunday. As a courtesy, be sure parents have opted to receive these e-mails. Review and edit as necessary to reflect the lesson elements you have used. You can also find this e-mail as a Microsoft Word document in your download bundle.

Dear Mom and Dad,

In DiscipleTown this week, we began a unit on How to Worship God. We learned that worship is more than just singing—it is anything we do to show God what He is worth to us. Perhaps you heard about the Candy Auction or "The Price is Wrong" game show. Through these and other activities we explained various ways we can show God His worth through worship. We challenged your child to think of new and different ways that he or she could worship God throughout this coming week.

Questions you can ask to get your child talking:

- 1) What valuable object did your leader bring to church?*
- 2) What were some of the ways you learned we can worship God?*
- 3) How did you decide you would try to worship God this week?*

I hope you are using the DiscipleTown Table Talker we sent home with your child. These three simple, FUN conversation starters require NO preparation and provide an easy way to connect with your child about what God is doing in his or her life.

This coming week we will show your child how he or she can have a personal quiet-time with God each day. We are praying with you that the Lord will use our current series on How to Worship God to inspire and challenge your child to deepen his or her walk with Jesus.

Making Disciples,

[Your Name]



Let's Review!

If you have extra time, use these review questions to keep the kids focused on the lesson until time to dismiss. A handful of candy will help you keep their attention. After each question, take a minute to reiterate the lesson point related to the question.

- 1) What does it mean to worship?
- 2) Tell me three ways we can worship besides singing.
- 3) How much did Andy the Appraiser say my special object was worth?
- 4) Who can quote our KeyVerse? (Hebrews 12:28-29)
- 5) What are some reasons we worship God? It's okay to peek in Psalm 95!



BONUS MATERIALS

Use these options to extend your time or as substitutes for the ideas above.



Chip's Snack Time!

Supplies: chocolate coins

A fun snack to give the children could be a chocolate coin or a \$100,000 Bar. It may be a valuable snack they will long remember!

Group Activity

Supplies: fire pit/fireplace, paper, rocks, lighter

If you have a safe place for a fire, such as a fireplace or outdoor fire pit (or a safe area of the parking lot), have all the children draw or write on a piece of paper items that they value too much and/or sins that could lead them away from God. Let the kids crumple their papers up and throw them into the place where you will burn them. Burn the entire pile as you talk about how God, as a consuming fire, is able to burn up things that can threaten your walk with Him.

Additional Ideas

- **Bookmarks:** Use the text of Psalm 95:1-7a to make a bookmark for the kids.
- **Priceless:** Before class, have a child bring something to church that is very valuable to him or her, but not necessarily expensive—perhaps a picture of a relative or a gift from someone who moved or passed away. During the lesson, notice the object, ask to see it, and then offer to buy it from the child—who will not sell it no matter how much money you offer! (This will amaze the other kids, but be sure you arrange ahead of time that the child is NOT to accept any offer!) Pull out a \$100 bill (if you can) and offer that. When the child keeps refusing, talk about how valuable some things are to people—that no one could entice them to give up what they cherish. **It should be the same way with us and our walk with God!**



Dee-Cy-Paul Application Script

At the end of this lesson, you will find a special puppet script relating to worship and featuring Dee, Cy, and Paul. Dee, Cy, and Paul puppets are available at DiscipleLand.com