

LESSON 5

I CAN PRAISE GOD WITH A JOYFUL HEART

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Is Worthy of Praise

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 63; 108

GOD'S BIG STORY: Throughout the Psalms, David expresses that God is worthy of praise. He models that no matter our circumstances, we can praise God with a joyful heart!!

WORD OF WONDER: How God made me is amazing and wonderful. —from Psalm 139:14

Activity: Drumming for God

Activity: What Sound Is It?

Worship

God's Big Story

Snack

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Musical Praise Parade

Activity: What Sound Is It?

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: What Sound Is It? Pictures (1 set/SG)

Ahead of time, print a set of the What Sounds Is It? Pictures. **Optional: Using YouTube, or Spotify, pull up some sound effects to use for some of the items instead of the pictures.

Spread the pictures out on the floor, mixing up the order. Gather the kids in front of you near the pictures on the floor. **We're going to listen to some sounds. When you hear a sound, go stand by the picture of what you think makes that sound.**

Play each sound effect, waiting after each one for kids to move to the matching picture. Be ready to help if needed.

What sound did you like hearing the most? Allow the kids to respond.

What do you think God likes to hear? Allow the kids to respond. **God is so amazing, and we can tell Him all the time how amazing He is! How can we tell God we think He's great?** Allow the kids to respond. **We can tell Him He's great by singing to Him, making music, or clapping our hands. He loves to hear our praise! Praise means we tell God how awesome He is!**

Our Wonder Truth today is: GOD IS WORTHY OF PRAISE.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

IS WORTHY—Put hands up over head and pump them up and down.

OF PRAISE—Wave hands over your head.



Worship

Today we're learning that God is worthy of our praise. That means God is amazing, and we can tell Him how wonderful He is! Let's sing together to God and praise God.

Play songs from the Little Learners Playlist and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible,

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Bible Story Picture (1/SG)

Our God's big story today is from the book of Psalms in the Bible, written by David. Can you say, "David"? Pause and encourage the kids to repeat you. **Good job! David wrote poems that were like songs telling God how awesome He is.**

Let's find out more from the Bible as we read some of the song poems.

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video, read Psalm 63:1–8 and 108:1–5 from the Bible, or use the script provided. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to give kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

When I say, "Praise God," wave your hands in the air. Allow kids to practice.

Throughout his whole life, David went through a lot. He was sure to praise God (wave hands in the air). **God protected David from wild animals in the desert, and David was sure to praise God** (wave hands in the air). **David was chased by bad guys who wanted to hurt him, but God kept him safe, and David made sure to praise God** (wave hands in the air). **God also made David king over all Israel, and David made sure to praise God** (wave your hands in the air).

David wrote one of his song poems to God when he was having a hard time in the desert. He was so thirsty, but instead of a drink, he said that all he wanted was God! He said he thought about God at night, and about how we can praise God (wave your hands in the air) **any time of the day or night. He also said it's good to praise God** (wave your hands in the air) **in church or the place where His people come to learn about God and worship Him.**

David was sure to praise God (wave your hands in the air) **because he had felt God's amazing love. David said he would joyfully praise God** (wave your hands in the air) **all the time, as long as he lived—and that there's nothing better in life than to praise God!** Wave your hands in the air.

In another song poem (Psalm 108), David was sure to praise God (wave your hands in the air) **joyfully because of all that God has done. David said he would play music for God to praise God** (wave your hands in the air). **He would wake up early so he could praise God** (wave your hands in the air) **all day long! David was sure to always praise God** (wave your hands in the air) **with a happy heart when things were going well and when things were hard because God was always there for him. God is so amazing. He deserves our praise all day long! Praise means telling God how awesome He is—and we can do it at any time and in any place.**

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

WORD OF WONDER

How God made me is amazing and wonderful.

—from Psalm 139:14

Our Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series is from Psalm 139:14. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together. Practice the verse with the kids.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **HOW GOD**—Point up with both hands.
- **MADE ME**—Point to yourself with two thumbs.
- **IS AMAZING**—Put one arm out to your side for each word.
- **AND WONDERFUL**—Burst both arms up and out to the sides at the same time.
- **FROM PSALM 139:14**—Hold your hands open in front of you, as if holding a book.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

Dear God, thank You that You are always there for us. You protect us and watch over us, and we want to thank You and say that You're awesome! We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God did a good work when He created every one of you. He is good, and He deserves our praise all the time. As you leave today, may you remember to celebrate God and tell him how great He is!

Activity: Musical Praise Parade

SUPPLIES: toy musical instruments (or toys that make noise) plastic containers with dry beans or rice (optional), tape (prep only, optional)

Leader Tip: If you don't have enough musical instruments, encourage kids who don't have one to clap and cheer.

Line kids up and give each one a musical instrument or a toy that makes noise. You can also make your own noisemakers by filling plastic containers with dry beans or rice and taping them closed.

We're learning about how David praised God. We can praise God any time. Praising God doesn't just mean singing or making music. Praising God means telling Him that we love Him and He's amazing. We're going to make a musical parade for God! Have any of you ever been to a parade? Allow kids to respond. **Did you hear music at the parade?** Allow kids to respond. **I love hearing music at a parade. I think God loves hearing music that we make for Him too! David played music for God, and we can too. Let's all walk around the room in a line like they do at a parade. As we walk, we'll make music together for God and tell Him we think He's awesome!**

Invite the kids to join you in a praise parade around the room.