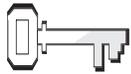


Words to Remember



References

Deuteronomy 4–6; 28;
Patriarchs and Prophets,
pp. 462–468



Memory Verse

“Love the Lord your
God and . . . serve him
with all your heart”
(Deuteronomy 11:13, NIV).



Objectives

The children will:

Know that we
choose to worship
God when we choose
to obey Him.

Feel loyalty to
the God of heaven.

Respond by making deci-
sions that honor and obey God.



The Message

We worship God
when we choose
to obey Him.

Monthly Theme

We worship God when we obey Him.

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Moses is presenting his last message to the Israelites. Soon he will go to Mount Nebo where he will see the Promised Land from afar. There he will die. His message speaks of love that results in obedience and service, which results in great blessings from God. In this farewell speech he reminds them of God’s care as He led them from Egypt and throughout more than 40 years in the wilderness.

This is a lesson about worship.

God had blessed His people throughout their journey to the Promised Land. Although they had rebelled again and again, He still loved them with a love that called for a response of love, loyalty, service, and obedience—all of which are a part of worshipping Him. God calls us to that same commitment today and offers us the same blessings as we worship Him through obedience to His commands.

Teacher Enrichment

“Moses stood before the people to repeat his last warnings and admonitions. His face was illumined with a holy light. His hair was white with age; but his form was erect, his countenance expressed the unabated vigor of health, and his eye was clear and undimmed. It was an important occasion, and with deep feeling he portrayed the love and mercy of their Almighty Protector” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 463).

“The laws which God gave His ancient people were wiser, better, and more humane than those of the most civilized nations of the earth” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 465).

“If thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, ‘blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field,’ in ‘the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle. . . . The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto’” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 466).

“Moses closed with these impressive words: ‘I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life’” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 467).

Room Decorations

See Lesson 10.

Program Overview

Lesson Section	Minutes	Activities	Materials Needed
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	
1 Readiness Options	up to 10	A. <i>Famous Last Words</i> B. <i>Obedience School</i>	none guest speaker
Any Time Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	Fellowship Songbook Mission Offering Prayer	none <i>Sing for Joy</i> <i>Children's Mission</i> basket or other container none
2 Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story Memory Verse Bible Study	adult Bible-times costume none Bibles
3 Applying the Lesson	up to 15	"W" is for Worship	none
4 Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Into My Heart</i>	heart pattern (see p. 144), red paper, scissors, pencils or pens

***Prayer and Praise me be used at any time during the program.**

TEACHING THE LESSON

Welcome

Welcome students at the door. Ask how their week has been—what they are pleased/troubled about. Listen to last week’s memory verse and encourage the children to share any experiences from last week’s lesson study. Have them begin the readiness activity of your choice.



Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

A. Famous Last Words

Say: **We’re going to play a word game. Do you know what a compound word is? Yes, it’s two words put together to make one word, such as *seashore*. Today we’re going to be talking about Moses’ last words to the children of Israel, and we are going to play a game that involves words. I’m going to say the first word of a compound word, and you have to give me the last word to go with it. See how fast you can finish the word.** Let some of the children take turns thinking of compound words for the others to complete. Suggestions:

out/side	bed/time	fisher/man
play/ground	sun/shine	class/room
rain/bow	some/thing	every/one

Debriefing

Allow responses as you ask: **What is a compound word?** (two words put together to form one word) **Did you enjoy playing this word game? How hard was it? When we want to share our thoughts, we use words, we talk. It is a way to let others know what we are thinking. Our Bible story today is about Moses talking to the children of Israel. He had a special message for them, one he wanted them to remember all their lives. Today’s memory verse tells us more about that message. It says: “Love the Lord your God and . . . serve him with all your heart” (Deuteronomy 11:13). When we love and serve God, we will obey Him. And when we obey God, we are worshipping Him. Today’s message is:**



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

Say that with me.

You Need:

- guest speaker

B. Obedience School

In advance, ask someone who has taken their dog to obedience school to speak to the class. Have them share what obedience school is, what the dogs learn, the benefits of obedience training, etc. Say: **We have a guest speaker here today who is going to talk to us about obedience school. Have you ever heard of obedience school? Who usually goes to obedience school? Yes, dogs, although an obedience school for people wouldn’t be a bad idea!**

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Does anyone have any questions they**

would like to ask our guest? Thank the guest speaker. **How is what a dog learns in obedience school like what you are being taught by your parents? Our Bible story today is about Moses and something he wanted to teach the children of Israel. He had a special message about the blessings they would have by obeying God. He especially wanted them to remember to love and obey God. The memory verse today is "Love the Lord your God and . . . serve him with all your heart" (Deuteronomy 11:13). When we love and serve God, we will obey Him. And when we obey God, we are worshipping Him. Today's message is:**



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

Say that with me.

Prayer and Praise



Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Allow time for sharing experiences from last week's lesson study and review last week's memory verse. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special warm greeting to all visitors.



Suggested Songs

- "Father, I Adore You" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 21)
- "God Is So Good" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 13)
- "Trust and Obey" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 113)
- "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 119)
- "Teach Me, Lord" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 110)



Mission

Use a story from *Children's Mission*. Emphasize obedience in the story.



Offering

Say: **When we bring our offerings to God, we are worshipping Him.**

You Need:

- basket or other container



Prayer

Ask students for ways God has blessed them in their lives. In your prayer, thank God for the blessings He gives.

2

Bible Lesson

You Need:

- adult Bible-times costume

Experiencing the Story

Characters: adult in Bible-times costume to tell the story, children to be Israelites

Setting the scene:

Dress an adult in a Bible-times costume and have them tell or read the story. Have the children follow the adult around the room once and sit down on the floor in front of them.

Say: **Because Moses had struck the rock to bring water from it instead of speaking to it as God had commanded, God had told Moses he couldn't enter the Promised Land. Pretend that you are the children of Israel, and you are about to go into the land that God promised you. Let's listen to find out what happens.**

Read or tell the story.

Moses looks longingly out over the Jordan River into the Promised Land. He is sad that he won't be able to go there. He pleads with God to let him go with the people. But God tells Moses not to talk about it anymore.

So Moses doesn't ask or complain about it anymore. He accepts God's wisdom and will. But now Moses thinks about you, the children of Israel. Who is going to lead you now? Who is going to care about you as much as he has? He prays to God, asking Him to provide a good leader.

God hears Moses' prayer, and He tells Moses that He wants Joshua to be your new leader. Joshua is a man of wisdom and faith. So Moses is happy with this choice of Joshua.

But God has one last thing for Moses

to do. It has been many years since God first gave the Ten Commandments to His people. Most of the people had been small children when Moses went up the mountain and received the Ten Commandments from God. They couldn't have understood what was happening or what it meant. God wants Moses to once more tell and explain the laws God wants them to follow as they are about to enter their new land.

Moses' face is lit up with a holy light. His long white hair flows down over his still-strong shoulders. His clear and wise eyes look out over the thousands of people standing before him. These are his last words to the people.

With much emotion he starts talking. He repeats the history of the people, telling how they were enslaved in Egypt and rescued by God. He reminds them of the great miracles God performed so they could escape through the Red Sea. He provided food and water, and guided them by a pillar of fire and cloud. He tells them of the sins of their parents who grumbled, complained, and worshipped idols. He reminds them of why they had to travel in the desert for 40 more years before they could go into Canaan. Moses also talks of the great patience and love of God toward them, of His forgiveness and grace.

Moses tells them that the rules God has given them are wiser than all the rules of other nations. They are to be an example of God's wisdom and care to the other nations. They are told of the wonderful things awaiting them in Canaan.

Then Moses goes over the laws with them again. He is afraid that they will forget and stray away from God. So he reminds them of the wonderful blessings that would be theirs if they obeyed, and

the curses that would come upon them if they didn't. He tells of the blessings of wealth and prosperity of family and things and food, of being leaders, and of protection against enemies. He also tells of the curses of losing their land, of no peace or safety, of living in fear and sorrow, and of diseases.

Then Moses closes with a song. It tells of the wonderful way God had shown His love in the past, and it tells of future events and the final victory of Christ's second coming. Moses tells the people to memorize this song, to teach it to their children, to chant it as a group when they gather for worship, and to sing it to themselves as they work. He doesn't want them to forget his last words to them. And God doesn't want us to forget Him or His laws. He wants us to choose to obey Him.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:

Why was Moses talking to the people for the last time? (They were about to enter Canaan, and he wasn't going with them.) **What was he worried about?** (a new leader for them; that they would forget God) **What are some of the things Moses told the people?** (their history, God's protection and miracles, to remember to obey God's law, God's blessings if they obeyed, God's curses if they disobeyed, etc.) **What did Moses want the people to learn and teach their children?** (a song about the law) **Would the people's obedience be a form of worshipping God?** (yes) **That reminds me of our message. Let's say it together:**



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

If time allows, read and discuss the "Song of Moses" (Deuteronomy 32) together. Or do so as part of the Bible Study today.

Memory Verse

Teach the following memory verse words and actions to the students. Repeat until the children know the verse.

Love	Cross arms over chest.
the Lord your God and . . . serve him	Point upward.
with all your heart.	Hold hands out, palms up, as if giving something. Point to heart.
Deuteronomy 11:13	Palms together, then open.

Bible Study

Have adults ready to assist nonreaders with this activity.

Allow response time as you ask:

We're talking about obeying God's commandments today, so let's review the Ten Commandments together.

Open your Bibles to Exodus 20:1-17.

Have volunteers take turns reading the verses.

Say: **Do you know there is another commandment, the greatest commandment? Do you know what it is? Let's look at Matthew 22:36-40.** Have someone read the verses aloud.

Debriefing

Tell me in your own words what these verses say.

When we follow these commandments, will we be happy? (Yes, because God made us and knows what makes us happiest.)

When we follow these commandments, are we worshipping God? (yes) **Let's say our message together again:**



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

You Need:

- Bibles

3

Applying the Lesson

“W” is for Worship

Show the children two gestures:

Worship—make a W with your two hands by holding them up with your thumbs pointing together.

Not Worship—make an X by crossing your forearms.

Read the following list of activities and have the children indicate whether the activities show God that we love Him—with the W for worship, or make the X to show it’s not worshipping God. Add your own, or ask the children to take turns suggesting activities for the other children.

pull the cat’s tail
 go to church on Sabbath
 help your neighbor rake leaves
 steal a toy from your friend
 disobey your dad
 pray and sing songs to Jesus
 do a good job on your chores
 lie to your teacher
 share your snack with a friend
 take flowers to a sick person
 visit an old person on Sabbath
 drink lots of water
 bake cookies for a lonely person
 throw rocks at the ducks
 lie about lying to your teacher
 talk sassy to your mom
 enjoy picking up shells along the sea-shore
 cheat on your math test
 be happy for a friend who got a new bicycle
 pray before you go to sleep

offer to help new neighbors move in
 read your Bible
 watch fighting shows on TV
 complain and whine
 eat all junk food for lunch
 be friendly to a new student
 obey parents rather than friends
 read a book to a younger child

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:

How do we show God we love Him?

To worship God means to trust Him. We believe and obey what He says.

When I say “worship,” what do you think of? Allow time for responses. Many people think only of Sabbath church services. Yes, we worship God on Sabbath, but we also worship Him all week long by the way we live.

When we are obedient to Him and treat those around us with dignity and respect, we are worshipping Him.

One of the best ways to worship God, or show Him we love Him, is by doing what He tells us to do in His Word, the Bible.

Can you think of any benefits in the good scenarios we talked about earlier? (Parents and teachers and others will be happier with you, people will respect you, you are witnessing about being a Christian, it feels good to obey rather than get in trouble, being kind will fill your mind with good things, have peace in your heart, etc.) **Let’s say our message together:**



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

4

Sharing the Lesson

Into My Heart

In advance, copy the heart pattern (see page 144) onto red paper. Have each student cut out a heart and write their name on the blank line provided.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:

Who would like to read what the heart says for us?

Yes, it's our memory verse. And you wrote your name there to show that you want to serve Jesus with all your heart. When you do this you will be choosing to obey Him. And that makes Him very happy.

Take your heart home and share it with someone as you tell them how you want to serve Jesus with all your heart and you are trying your best to obey. Let's sing together "Into My Heart" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 125).

Now let's say our message together one more time:



WE WORSHIP GOD WHEN WE CHOOSE TO OBEY HIM.

Closing

In a short prayer, ask God to help the children to want to worship Him by being obedient. Thank God for the benefits and blessings He gives us.

You Need:

- heart pattern (see p. 144)
- red paper
- scissors
- pencils or pens

Words to Remember

References

Deuteronomy 4–6;
28; *Patriarchs and
Prophets*,
pp. 462–468

Memory Verse

“Love the Lord your
God and . . .
serve him with
all your heart”
(Deuteronomy
11:13, NIV).

The Message

We worship God
when we choose to
obey Him.

Do your parents ever say things like “Don’t forget to take out the trash”? Or “Don’t forget to feed the dog”? They are reminding you to obey. The children of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land—without Moses. What would he say to them?

Moses looks longingly out over the Jordan River into the Promised Land. He is sad because he won’t be going there. He pleads with God to let him enter that land with the people. But God says to Moses, “Speak no more of this. You may view the land, but you may not enter it.”

So Moses doesn’t ask about it anymore. He accepts God’s wisdom and will. But now Moses thinks about the children of Israel. Who is going to lead them if he can’t? Who is going to care about them? He prays and asks God to provide a good leader.

God tells Moses that Joshua will lead the people. Joshua has worked beside Moses since Aaron died. Moses knows Joshua is a man of wisdom and faith. So Moses is happy with God’s choice.

God has one last thing for Moses to do. Many years have gone by since the people first heard the Ten Commandments at Sinai. Most of the adults living now were small children then (or hadn’t even been born). They couldn’t have understood what was happening at Sinai. Few of them were old enough to know what it meant. So God tells Moses to proclaim those laws once more. God wants His people to follow His law as they settle in their new land.

And so Moses calls the people together. Moses’ face is lit up with a holy light. His clear and wise eyes look out over the thousands of people standing before him. These are his last words to them.

With much emotion he starts by

repeating their history. They had been slaves in Egypt, and God had rescued them. He reminds them of the great miracles God had performed for them. He tells how they had escaped through the Red Sea. During all their travels, God had provided food and water. He had guided them by a pillar of fire and cloud. He tells them of the sins of their parents, who had grumbled, complained, and worshipped idols. He reminds them of their travel in the desert for 40 years before they could go into Canaan. Moses also talks of the great patience and love of God toward them, of His forgiveness and grace.

Moses tells them that the rules God has given them are wiser than all the rules of other nations. They are to be an example of God’s wisdom. They are to care for the other nations. They are told of the wonderful things awaiting them in Canaan.

Then Moses goes over the laws with them again. He is still afraid that they will forget and stray away from God. So he reminds them of the wonderful blessings that will be theirs if they obey God. He tells of the blessings of food, happy families, good leaders, and protection against enemies.

But Moses also tells of the curses of losing their land if they disobey. They will have no peace or safety, and they will live in fear and sorrow and with diseases.

Then Moses closes with a song. You can read it in Deuteronomy 32. It tells of the wonderful way God had shown His love in the past. And it tells of future events and the final victory of Christ’s second coming. Moses says, “Command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words—they are your life.” (Deuteronomy 32:46,47).

The people are to memorize this song, to teach it to their children. They are to remember it always. It will help them remember what God has done for them.

After this, Moses climbed Mount Nebo in the land of Moab. There he looked one

more time into the Promised Land. "And Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab, as the Lord had said" (Deuteronomy 34:5).

Daily Activities

Sabbath

- With your family, find a quiet place and read Deuteronomy 4:1–14. Who is speaking? To whom? What is his message?
- Share with someone the heart you made in Sabbath School. (Or cut out a red paper heart and write the memory verse on it.) Tell them about Moses' last talk with the Israelites. If you really mean it, tell someone that you want to give your heart to Jesus, that you want to obey His law. Then write your name here. _____

Sunday

- During worship today, read and discuss Deuteronomy 4:15–31. Who is speaking? What message does he give the Israelites? Is this a message for God's people today?
- Play "Famous Last Words." Think of a compound word (two words together that make a new word, such as "sunshine"). Say the first part of the word. Others are to think of a word to add to it to make a compound word. (More than one word might go with it.)
- Thank God for the gift of language.

Monday

- Read and discuss Deuteronomy 4:32–40 with your family. Look again at verse 33. What is Moses talking about? Why were the people shown these things? (See verse 35.) Does God want us to know these things today? How do you know?
- Learn about an obedience school for dogs. (Hint: See a library book or use the Internet with your parents' permission.) How is training a dog like the way your parents teach you?
- Ask God to help you always to be obedient.

Tuesday

- Discuss Deuteronomy 6 with your family. What are parents supposed to do? Why? What happens when people "forget the Lord"?
- Sing "Trust and Obey" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 113). Pray that your family will always trust God.

Wednesday

- Read Deuteronomy 28:1–14 together with your family. Name five blessings that will come to those who obey the Lord. Are those blessings for us today?
- Ask your family to tell how they have obeyed God today. With your family, make a list of ways you can worship God by the way you live.
- If you really mean it, sing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 119). Then pray that God will help you always to remember Him.

Thursday

- For family worship today read and discuss Deuteronomy 28:15–20. What does Moses say could happen to the Israelites? Why would it happen?
- Play a game with your family where one person asks the others to do something and then rewards them for doing it. Talk with your family about how it felt to have them obey quickly.

Friday

- Read Deuteronomy 34:1–8 with your family. How old was Moses at this time? Review the last two paragraphs of your Bible story. Where is Moses now? What would you like to ask him when you see him? Make a list of questions and share it with your family.
- Read the Song of Moses in Deuteronomy 32.
- Pray that your family will be among those who will see Jesus and Moses in heaven.