

Review and Celebration

Theme Lesson

PREPARATION

Objective

Students will celebrate God for who he is, what he has done, and for what he will do in the future.

Outcomes

1. Students will create small group presentations to review major concepts and express their love and awe for God.
2. Students will participate in a celebration party for God.

Note: This lesson is a combination of review and celebration. Four activity centers are designed to appeal to different interests of students and provide a variety of ways for them to express their awe and admiration of God – for who he is and what he is doing in the world. There is no game for Lesson 13. You may want to extend the length of this lesson by incorporating the time they normally use for games into the theme lesson to give students an extended time to prepare their presentations. Follow this lesson with the “Prayer Postures” Prayer Activity on p. 12 which is a time of individual and group commitment.

Directions

1. Choose sites for four activity centers to take place simultaneously: Creation Celebration, Creative Movement, Cheer Squad, and Power Team.
2. Make one copy of the “Center Directions” (pp. 3-4) Cut each sheet in half on the line. Place the appropriate set of directions at each center for your adult helpers.
3. At the Creation Celebration station, set up the tables. Set out the mural paper (craft or butcher paper) or pieces of poster board. Set out the art supplies (washable markers, art foam, ribbon or rickrack, construction paper scraps, colorful scraps of cloth, wallpaper samples, scissors, glue and glue sticks) to decorate the posters.
4. At the Creative Movement station, set up the CD player with “I Can Only Imagine” CD.
5. At the Cheer Squad station, provide the ten “Key Words” pictures and the “Key Word Definitions and Hand Motions.”
6. At the Power Team station, set out several 3-pound barbells, jump ropes, and exercise mats.

**PREPARATION: 25 min.****TEACHING: 30 min.**

Materials

- one copy of “Center Directions” (pp. 3-4)
- mural paper (craft or butcher paper) or large poster boards (enough for several children)
- washable markers
- art foam
- ribbon or rickrack
- construction paper scraps
- colorful scraps of cloth
- wallpaper samples
- scissors
- glue and glue sticks
- tables
- music CD of song, “I Can Only Imagine” (versions by Mercy Me, Amy Grant, and Integrity Music)
- CD player
- ten “Key Words” pictures (Introduction pp. 7-16)
- “Key Word Definitions and Hand Motions” (Introduction pp. 17-21)
- exercise equipment: several 3-pound barbells, jump ropes, exercise mats
- balloons and crepe paper streamers (optional)
- three to four extra adult helpers

7. Recruit leaders for each activity center. This is a great opportunity to invite parent volunteers to participate. If leadership is minimal, you may combine two centers together and have students work on both stations if time permits.
8. Invite several parent volunteers to bring drinks and cups for the “Celebration Pizza Pinwheels” snack time.
9. Optional: Have a parent volunteer decorate the area where you have snacks with balloons and crepe paper streamers.

Creation Celebration Center

Objective

The emphasis should be to express the wonder of creation – God is our Creator and loves his creation, which includes all the peoples of the world.

Review

Remind students that they have seen videos, eaten snacks, played games, and made crafts that match with different groups of people around the world. Allow students to share anything they remember about any of these groups: Rajput of India, Kenyans, Turks of Turkey, Khamba of Tibet, Navajo Indians, Tajiks of Central Asia, Han Chinese, Ethiopians, Malay of Southeast Asia, and Bhil of North India.

Task

Make a wall mural or posters using a variety of art supplies. Students can create abstract designs or draw specific pictures. Remind students that they have seen videos, eaten snacks, played games, and made crafts that match with different groups of people around the world. Encourage students to create pictures that show people from many cultures. If students need ideas, encourage them to show people's clothing, their surrounding environment, homes, things they eat, how they work, what they play, etc.

Creative Movement Center

Objective

The emphasis is that every people group will be represented in heaven.

Review

Remind students that they learned what worship in heaven will be like. Ask them these questions to review Revelation 7: "Will only people from our country be in heaven? Will people from all groups in the world be there? What will these people hold up and wave in their hands as they worship? (palm branches) Who is the Lamb that they will worship? (Jesus) Will all the people praise God in the same language?"

Task

Help students create a special dance or movements to go with the song, "I Can Only Imagine." First play the song on the CD player and have students listen to the words. Listen for key words that could be interpreted by movements. Allow students to come up with the actual movements. This can either be done as a whole group or allow each student to make up his or her own movements.

Center Directions, continued

Cheer Squad Center

Objective

The emphasis is that the “Key Words” tell us what is important to God and how he works.

Review

Show students each of the ten “Key Word” pictures. Let them name the word that matches each picture. Allow the students to explain each “Key Word” using their own words or examples. Review the hand motions. Use the “Key Word Definitions and Hand Motions” for reference.

Task

Help students to create a cheer using the ten “Key Words.” This activity may be as simple as the leader saying, “Give me Purpose” and the students shouting “Purpose!” and striking a pose that expresses that “Key Word.” Present the remaining “Key Words” in any order.

End the cheer with the leader asking, “What’s God’s Purpose?” Students respond with, “To make his name known! Yeah!”

Power Team Center

Objective

The emphasis is that God has power to accomplish his purpose.

Review

Remind students that God is the most powerful of all. Let them share examples of his power in creation. Then ask, “Do you remember any Bible stories where God showed his great power to people?” If they need help ask, “How did God show his power when David met the giant Goliath? How did Jesus show his power when he used the little boy’s fish and bread? How did God show his power after Jesus died on the cross?”

Task

Help students demonstrate the concept of strength by creating an exercise routine using small 3-pound barbells, jump ropes, and mats for sit-ups, push-ups, running in place, etc. Students may demonstrate individually or as a group. Have students end their routine with a call and response shout (barked out loudly in a military-style chant).

Leader: Who’s got power?

Students: God’s got power!

Leader: Where does he use it?

Students: Everywhere!

Leader: Why does he use it?

Students: To make his name known! Yes! (kids flex muscles)

TEACHING (CORE)

THEME LESSON: CELEBRATION

Directions

1. Gather students together to introduce the lesson. Say, *“Boys and girls, today is a day of celebration! We are going to celebrate God and all the things we have learned about him over the past weeks. We will do three things during this time. One, you will choose a center in which you will create something to show your love and awe of God. Second we will share our creations of awe to God with all the children in the group. Third, we are going to have a party with refreshments!”*
2. Have the students walk with you on a brief tour of the four centers. Explain the center options at each center as follows:
 - Creation Celebration: *“You will use these art supplies to make big pictures that show things God created and loves. Make sure you include lots of people from different places around the world. If you like to draw, you will enjoy this activity.”*
 - Creative Movement: *“You will listen to a song on a CD that tells about heaven. You will make up a dance or body movements to go with the words to the song. If you like music or dancing, you will like this activity.”*
 - Cheer Squad: *“You will look at the ten ‘Key Word’ posters and make up a cheer about them. If you like to act like a cheerleader or cheer at sports events, you will like this activity.”*
 - Power Team: *“You will use this exercise equipment to show strength. You will also learn words that tell about how God uses his power. If you like to do exercises or gymnastics, you will like this activity.”*
3. Direct your adult helpers to go to their center. Allow students to go to the center of their choice. Allow 20 minutes for preparation and practice.
4. When the center activities are complete, gather the students together to present their creations.
5. Say, *“You looked like you had a great time at the centers. I am excited to see what you have created for God today! Before we begin, let’s talk to God and tell him how much we love him.”*
6. Pray, *“God you are awesome! You are great! We love you and want to show you our love. Please enjoy the creations we have made for you!”*
7. Have the students and their leader stand in front of the group and present their creation. Allow time for them to get their props ready. Following each presentation, affirm the students’ efforts. Emphasize the important message each of their presentations represents about God.
 - Creation Celebration: God is the Creator. He loves his creation, including all the peoples of the world.
 - Creative Movement: People from every group around the world will worship God in heaven.
 - Cheer Squad: “Key Words” tell us how God works and what is important in life.

Materials

- four centers set up with supplies
- “Center Directions” (pp. 3-4) at each center
- three to four adult helpers

- Power Team: God is all-powerful. God has the power to accomplish his purpose.

IN CLOSING ...

Go directly into the “Prayer Postures” prayer activity on p. 12.



SONG: MY NAME WILL BE GREAT

Before the Activity Directions

1. Preview “My Name Will Be Great” on the DVD.
2. Practice the hand motions.

Directions

1. Say, “*God wants to make his name known to people all around the world.*”
2. “*Who can name a place in the world where people will worship God?*”
Allow responses. (Students may name cities, countries, or even land formations like “in the mountains.”)
3. “*Let’s listen to a song we learned several weeks ago. Listen to the words and watch the hand motions of the children on the DVD.*”
4. Play the “My Name Will Be Great” song through once.
5. Direct students to stand up. Play the song again, inviting students to sing along and try the hand motions.



PREPARATION: 3 min.

TEACHING: 5 min.

Materials

- “My Name Will Be Great” song (MS)
- TV/DVD



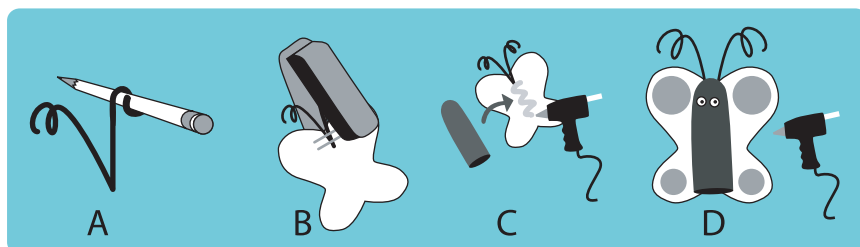
CRAFT: NEW CREATION BUTTERFLY

Before the Activity Directions

1. Cut out the “Butterfly Pattern” (p. 10). Lay the pattern on the poster board and trace one butterfly for each student. Using sharp scissors, cut out the butterflies.
2. Cut the black chenille wires in half to make 6-inch lengths.
3. Cut the fingers and thumb off of the black gloves. These will become the body of the butterfly. Trim the knit pieces across the bottom to the same height as the butterfly’s mid section.
4. Cut the sheets of dot stickers apart into groups of three or four.

Directions

1. Say, *“Today we are celebrating what God has done for us and for people all around the world. Through his Son Jesus, God has given us new hearts that love him. God accepts us as his friends and we can bring him the worship he deserves.”*
2. *“God has created animals and insects that show us how things can change from the inside out. Have you ever seen a cocoon or a chrysalis? What change is taking place inside?”* Allow responses. (A caterpillar is turning into a butterfly or moth.)
3. *“The Bible says that when Jesus changes us on the inside, we become a new creation. Today we are making a butterfly to remind us that God loves us and is working in the lives of people all around the world to make them into new creations and bring them into a friendship with him.”*
4. Pass out a poster board butterfly shape to each student. Say, *“Here are the wings on the butterfly. Now we will make the butterfly’s antennae.”*
5. Pass out a chenille wire and pencil to each student. Show them how to bend the wire in half to form two antennae. Demonstrate how to curl each end of the wire around the pencil to make the curly tops of the antennae. (See A below.)
6. Have your assistant help you to staple the base of the chenille wire to the center of butterfly’s body near the top. (See B below.)
7. Pass out a glove finger to each student. Say, *“This will be the body of the butterfly.”* Have your assistant help you hot glue the knit body to the center of the butterfly, covering up the stapled base of the chenille wire. (See C below.)



PREPARATION: 15 min.

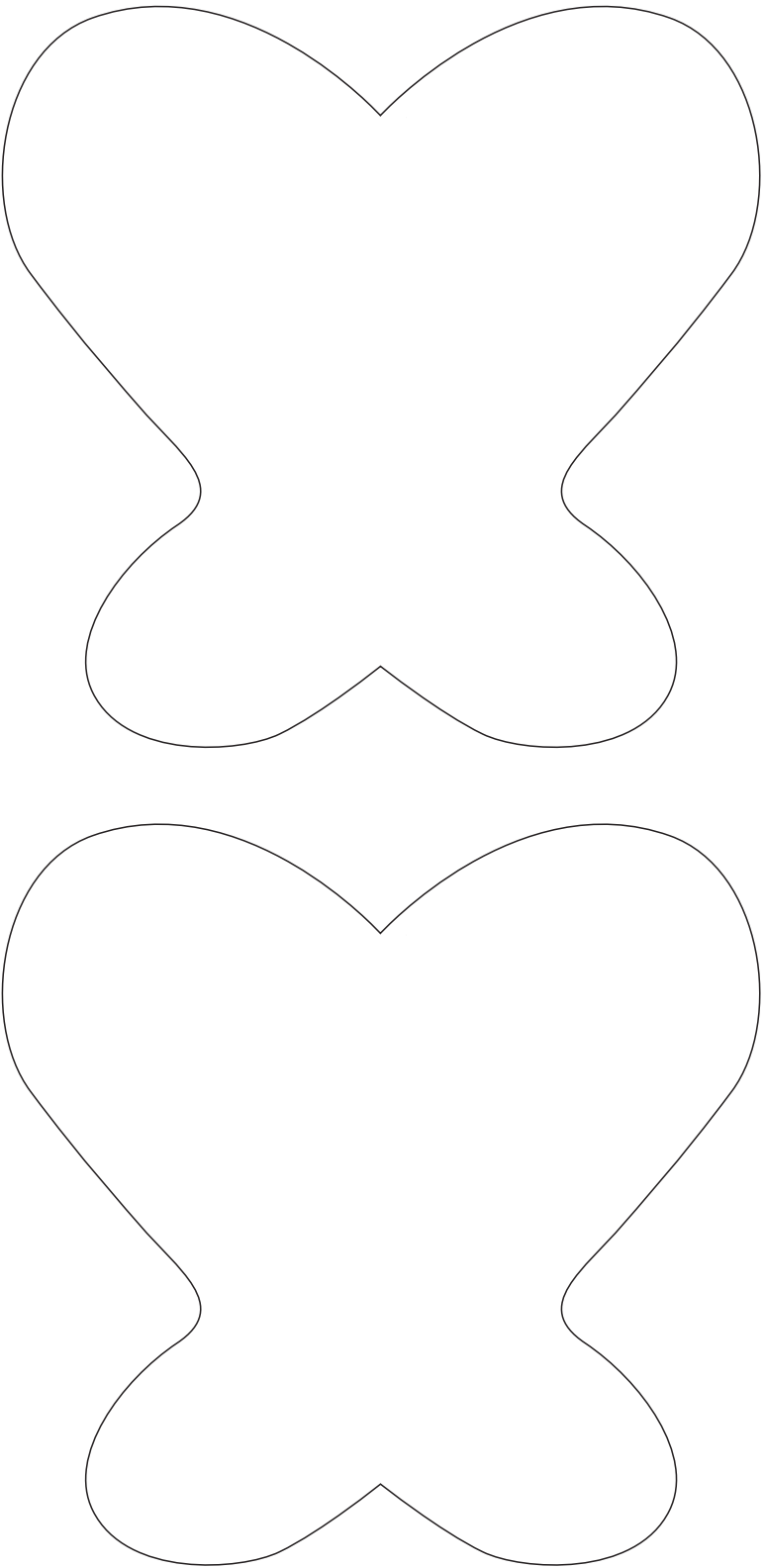
TEACHING: 20 min.

Materials

- copy of “Butterfly Pattern” (p. 10)
- black knit glove for every five students
- one piece of 22 x 28-inch lightweight poster board in bright color (makes 45 butterflies)
- sheets of peel off dot stickers in a color that contrasts with poster board color
- black, 12-inch chenille wire for every two students
- package of small paste on googly eyes
- pencils
- pair of sharp adult scissors
- staplers and staples
- hot glue cartridges and glue gun
- at least one adult helper

8. Say, *“Now let’s add the eyes and spots on the wings.”* Pass out two googly eyes and dot stickers to each student. Direct them to decorate their butterfly’s wings by putting with dots on the front and back.
9. Circulate with your assistant and hot glue the googly eyes onto the knit body. (See D on previous page.)

Butterfly Pattern



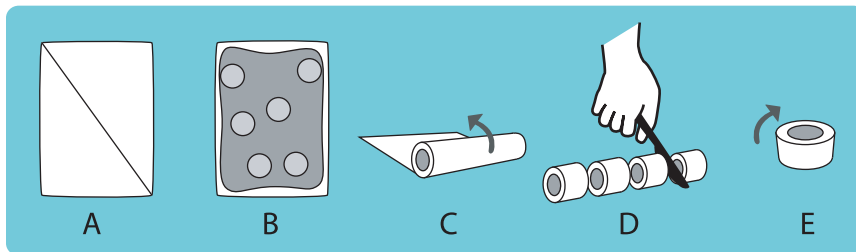


SNACK: CELEBRATION PIZZA PINWHEELS

Makes 16 servings (one serving = two pizza pinwheels)

Before the Activity Directions

1. Open one can of crescent rolls. On the cookie sheet, arrange the eight triangles of dough in pairs to form four rectangles. Press the seams together. (See A below.)
2. Layer each rectangle of dough with six slices of pepperoni and mozzarella cheese. (See B below.)
3. Roll each rectangle lengthwise to form a tube shape. (See C below.)
4. With a sharp knife, slice each tube into four equal pieces. (See D below.) You will have sixteen pizza pinwheels total.
5. Place each piece on the cookie sheet so that the flat sides are on the top and bottom. (See E below.)
6. Bake pinwheels at 325 degrees for 12 minutes or until golden brown.
7. Remove to a cooling rack. Repeat steps 1-7 with the other can of dough.
8. When pinwheels are cool, transfer them to a serving plate.



Directions

1. Pass out the small plates and napkins.
2. Serve two pizza pinwheels to each student. Put some pizza sauce on each plate for dipping.
3. Tell students that these are called “Celebration Pizza Pinwheels.”
4. Say, *“In this lesson, we are celebrating how great our God is. He makes wonderful plans and is powerful enough to accomplish whatever he sets out to do.”*
5. Before eating, lead students in a prayer of praise.



PREPARATION: 30 min.

TEACHING: 10 min.

Materials

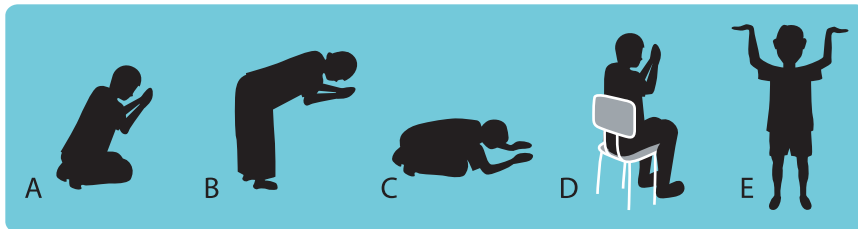
- two, 8-ounce cans refrigerated crescent roll dough
- 4 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 48 slices pepperoni
- two, 14-ounce cans pizza sauce
- sharp knife
- serving spoon
- cookie sheet
- napkins
- spatula
- cooling rack
- serving plate
- small paper plates



PRAYER ACTIVITY: PRAYER POSTURES

Directions

1. Instruct students to stand in a circle.
2. Introduce this prayer time by saying, *“Isn’t it wonderful that God loves and accepts worship from believers all around the world. Prayer is one way we can worship God. Not everyone prays in the same way. Believers around the world talk to God, not only in different languages, but also using different body positions.”*
3. *“Let’s try some different body positions. Watch me carefully and copy what I do.”* Demonstrate the following prayer postures and have the students do them with you: kneeling, bowing (bend from waist), lying prostrate (lying face down), sitting, and standing (lift hands with palms up). Use the diagram below for reference.
4. Have the students stand up again. Say, *“Boys and girls, we are going to talk to God to thank him for who he is and what he has done. If you are not sure what to say, think about the presentation you did with your group and what you were sharing about God. Then thank God for that.”*
5. *“We have tried some different prayer positions. You may stand, sit, lie down, or kneel as you talk to God. Choose whatever position which will help you say thank you to God best.”*
6. Allow time for prayers.
7. Close by praying, *“Dear God, you are great and mighty and we worship you. We love you. Thank you for teaching us about you and your purpose. Thank you for giving each of us special talents and abilities. Thank you for letting us work with you as partners in proclaiming your name. Thank you for these boys and girls and for the plans you have for them. Guide them and protect them all the days of their lives for your name sake.”*



PREPARATION: none

TEACHING: 8 min.

Materials

- none