

kidz CONNECTION - it's all about the GROWTH!,
(Grace, Relationships, Obedience, Walk of
Faithfulness, Talking with God, Heart for God and
Others)

Obedience - Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week one – Sunday School

Scripture – Ephesians 4:26; Genesis 4:1-12.25.26

Lesson – Obedience changes me so I'm filled with
worship instead of anger!

Verse – Ephesians 4:25-28

Opening - 20 minutes

- Music - 15 minutes
- Activity - 5 minutes
 - Directions – Assign children to a specific group so they may make their props and practice their part – feel free to copy and print out each group’s part so children may read them during the lesson -
 - Small Group #1 – Adam, Eve, Cain & Abel – the family scene - have children represent/act as these four – just follow along with the drama as indicated - and remaining small group members will make “family photos” to hold up during their portion of the drama – baby “photos”, family vacations, family portraits, school recitals etc.
 - Small Group #2 – Cain and Abel – the career scene – have children represent/act as these two – just follow along with the drama as indicated - and other small group members will make sheep and plants to hold up and show how Cain was a farmer and Abel cared for the sheep – graduation photos, photos of Cain’s veggies getting first prize at the county fair and Abel’s sheep getting the blue ribbon, etc.
 - Small Group #3 – God, Cain and Abel – the moment of choice – anger or worship scene - have children represent/act as these three – just follow along with the drama as indicated - and remaining small group members will make “snapshots” of Abel choosing to obey God and Cain choosing to do things his own way and then being angry when God wasn’t pleased with his sacrifice – Abel obeying and worshipping God with his sacrifice and Cain choosing to do things his own way, Cain being angry with a very angry face, Cain killing Abel by hitting him with a rock, God confronting Cain with what he did, etc
 - Small Group #4 – Adam, Eve, Seth and family – the new family worship scene – have children represent/act as Adam, Eve, Seth and his family – just follow along with the drama as indicated - and remaining small group members will make “family photos” to hold up showing how Seth’s family chose to obey and worship God – Seth’s family photos, Seth and family worshipping God, etc.
 - Supplies –
 - Paper
 - Markers

Lesson - 10 minutes

Cast –

- Storyteller #1 – any child who can read
- Storyteller #2 – any child who can read
- Storyteller #3 – any child who can read
- Small Group #1 – Adam, Eve, Cain & Abel – the family scene
- Small Group #2 – Cain and Abel – the career scene
- Small Group #3 – God, Cain and Abel – the moment of choice
- Small Group #4 – Adam, Eve, Seth and family – worship scene

Storyteller #1 – **Once upon a time, there was a man and a woman, actually the very first man and woman, and they became husband and wife!**

(Send in Small Group #1 – and have Adam and Eve step forward – “photo/drawings” may be held up as they fit with the on-going drama)

Storyteller #2 – **Hold on! Wait a minute!**

Storyteller #1 – **What’s the matter?**

Storyteller #2 – **You sound as if you are telling a “make-believe” story – you know, once upon a time. You don’t sound like you are telling the real, true account of the first man and woman ever!**

Storyteller #1 – **Well, my story is the real, true account of the first ever man and woman and it did happen, once-upon-a-time.**

Storyteller #3 – **Let’s just get on with the story! We have established it is a true story, so get on with it!**

Storyteller #1 – **Yes, well . . . once upon a time, there was a man and a woman, actually the very first man and woman, and they became husband and wife! The man, Adam and the woman, Eve began their family and were the proud and happy parents of two bouncin’, baby boys, Cain and Abel!**

(Have Cain and Abel from Small Group #1 step forward – Adam, Eve, Cain and Abel will respond as following dialog indicates)

Storyteller #1 – **This family was much like any family . . .**

Storyteller #2 – **What do you mean, they were much like any family? They were the very first family ever. How could they be like any other family since there weren’t any other families to be like?**

Storyteller #1 – **Well . . . they were like families as we know them today, for the most part. I mean, there was a dad and a mom and children. You know . . . a family! They loved each other. They did things together. They went places, ate meals, played games, talked, taught their sons important things . . . they were a family.**

Storyteller #2 – **Not all families are like what you described. Some families do not get along. Some families do not talk together or play games or eat together. Some families might only have a dad or a mom.**

Storyteller #1 – **True, not all families look the same as Adam and Eve’s family, but they were the parents in this family and they did teach their children important things. Adam and Eve told their sons they used to live in an amazing garden God made for them! They told their sons how they used to be able to know, walk and talk with God until the sad day when they chose to not obey God and ended up having to leave the garden. They told their sons if they wanted to know and walk with God, they would have to choose to obey God and then allow obedience to God to change how they lived their lives.**

(Have Small Group #1 return to their seats and send out Small Group #2. Cain and Abel will step forward, follow dialog while the rest of the group shows their “photos” as fits with the dialog)

Storyteller #3 – **I think I’ll pick up from here and tell more of this story. Adam and Eve had very important things to teach their sons, but sadly, their son Cain didn’t really listen to what his parents told him. Cain didn’t choose to obey God and let obedience change his life. Cain allowed himself to become jealous of his own brother.**

Storyteller #2 – **Maybe Cain wasn’t really jealous of his brother but thought Abel was spoiled and always got his way while he had to do all the chores. Maybe he thought everything worked out better for Abel.**

Storyteller #3 – **Well, sometimes brothers and sisters might feel like this with their younger brothers and sisters. We don’t know a lot about Cain and how he felt, but we do know he loved to grow things! Cain grew the most amazing plants you ever saw! His blueberries were the bluest and juiciest! His apples where so huge, you could make a pie from just one apple! His watermelons where so sweet and his potatoes made the best mashed potatoes you could ever want! Yes, nobody grew plants as amazing as Cain!**

Storyteller #1 – **Sounds like Cain worked hard in his garden!**

Storyteller #3 – Yes he did. Cain worked hard and was proud of his veggies. Abel chose to be a shepherd. He cared for his sheep and made sure they had the freshest grass to eat and the clearest water to drink. His sheep had the softest wool and grew strong and healthy; they were the best in the land!

(Have Small Group #2 return to their seats and send in Small Group #3. God, Cain and Abel will step forward, follow dialog while the rest of the group shows their “photos” as fits with the dialog)

Storyteller #1 – Sounds like Abel worked hard as a shepherd!

Storyteller #3 – Yes, they were both hard workers. When it was time to offer a sacrifice to God, Abel took his best firstborn lamb and gave it to God! Cain took his best veggies and gave them to God.

Storyteller #2 – Sounds like they both chose to give their best to God!

Storyteller #3 – Yes, but when Abel gave his best to God, he was choosing to obey and give what God said to give. Abel’s obedience filled his heart with worship for God. Abel’s sacrifice was all about choosing to obey God and then to show how obedience changed him so he wanted to worship God! Cain however; chose to give what he wanted to give and didn’t choose to obey. Cain’s heart was filled with pride in himself and not with worship for God. Cain’s sacrifice was all about choosing to do what he wanted by trying to show what a great farmer he was. It was not about obeying and worshipping God.

Storyteller #1 – One son chose to allow obedience to God to change his life and the other chose to do his own thing. When God saw Abel’s sacrifice, He was pleased! When God saw Cain’s sacrifice and how he chose to do his own thing, He was not pleased.

Storyteller #2 – Of course Abel was happy his obedience and worship pleased God, but Cain was not happy.

Storyteller #1 – You can say that again! Cain was more than “not happy”. In fact he was angry. Cain threw a tantrum! He wanted to know what was wrong with his amazing and perfect veggies! They weren’t as messy as a stinky old lamb. In fact, Cain was sure his beautiful veggies were considerably better than any lamb could ever be!

Storyteller #3 – Yes, sadly, Cain was extremely angry. God told Cain if he wanted Him to be pleased with his sacrifice, then he needed to choose to obey and do what God said to do instead of what he wanted to do. God said Cain needed to let obedience change his life

and change how he thought and acted. When Cain chose to disobey, he didn't have room in his heart for worshipping God. All he had room for was anger.

Storyteller #2 – So, Cain had a choice to make . . . obey and worship God or disobey God and be angry.

Storyteller #1 – Exactly. Sadly, Cain chose to continue to disobey God and became angrier and angrier with Abel. Cain tricked Abel into helping him in his garden and when he had the opportunity, he killed his brother. God knew what Cain did and asked him where Abel was. Cain was still angry so he told God he wasn't Abel's babysitter so why should he know where he was.

Storyteller #3 – Of course God knew where Abel was and what Cain did, so God told Cain he would no longer be able to grow amazing veggies. Cain would have to leave his home and wander around with no place to have as his home.

(Have Small Group #3 return to their seats and send out Small Group #4 – Adam, Eve, Seth and his family will step forward and follow dialog while the rest of the group shows their “photos” as fits with the dialog)

Storyteller #3 – Adam and Eve were so sad. Their son Abel was dead and their son Cain had to wander the earth as a homeless person. God gave Adam and Eve another son, Seth. Once again, Adam and Eve told their son how they used to live in an amazing garden God made for them! They told Seth how they used to be able to know, walk and talk with God until the sad day when they chose to not obey God and ended up having to leave the garden. They told Seth if he wanted to know and walk with God, he would have to choose to obey God and then allow obedience to God to change how he lived his life.

Storyteller #2 – I've heard this before. The last time they taught their sons this, one son chose to listen, obey God and let obedience change his life while the other didn't choose to listen, didn't choose to obey God and ended up with a life full of anger. What would this son choose to do? Would he choose to listen? Would he choose to obey? Would he choose to let obedience to God change his life?

Storyteller #1 – Yes!!! Seth chose to listen to his parents! Seth chose to obey God so he could know, walk and talk with God! Seth chose to allow obedience to God to change his life! Seth did not have a life filled with anger! Seth obeyed God and his life was filled with worshipping God! Seth grew up, got married and had children. Seth

taught his children to obey God and allow obedience to God to fill their hearts and lives with worship to God!

(Send Small Group #4 back to their seats)

Wrap up by teacher -

Thank children for participating and close in prayer – **Cain, Abel and Seth all have something very important to teach us about how obedience to God changes our lives! Abel and Seth chose to obey God and allow obedience to change how they lived their lives. Their hearts and lives were so filled with obedience to God; they didn't have any room for anger. A life of obedience only has room to worship God! Cain did not choose to obey God and as a result, his life was so full of anger, he didn't have room to worship God. We need to choose to trust and obey God and then allow obedience to change our lives so we don't have room for anger and instead have room to worship God! In the coming weeks and months we will learn a lot about how obedience to God changes our lives! Thank You God for Your amazing love for us! Thank You for the way obedience changes our lives and fills our hearts and lives with worship for You so we do not have room for anger! Thank You for Your love for us, we love You, too! Amen!**

Dismiss children to their small groups for Small Group Time.

Small group time - 25 minutes

- Catch up/greet visitors/pray
- work through application flyer
- choose activity to do for coming week
- work on memory verse

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Obedience - Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week one – Optional Second Service

Scripture – Psalm 8

Lesson – I need to let obedience change my life and
cause me to worship God!

Verse – Ephesians 4:25-28

Opening

- Music
- Verse – Ephesians 4:25-28 – / **So each of you must get rid of your lying. / Speak the truth to your neighbor. / We are all parts of one body. / Scripture says, "When you are angry, do not sin." / Do not let the sun go down / while you are still angry. / Don't give the devil a chance. / Those who have been stealing must never steal again. / Instead, they must work. / They must do something useful with their own hands. / Then they will have something to give to people in need. /**
- Game - Musical Chairs x 2
 - Remove two chairs each round. Children without chairs get to say the verse and tell something they can do to show how obedience has changed their life.

Bible lesson

- Supplies –
 - 2"X3" paper rectangles – eight per child
 - Tape

Greet children and gather them in sharing circles (sitting knee to knee with the others in their small group).

Say – **Over the coming months we are going to learn many very important things about how choosing to obey God changes our everyday lives! Today we learned about Abel and Seth and how choosing to obey God changed and filled their lives with worship for God! We also learned about Cain and how when he didn't choose to obey God his life was filled with anger. We need to obey and allow obedience to God to change and fill our lives with worship for God, too! Let's make something to help us remember to obey and allow obedience to fill our lives with worship for God! Your Small Group Leader has the supplies we will need for our project. (Have Small Group Leaders give each child eight rectangles)**

Say – **You will need to listen to my instructions and obey them carefully. Take one of your rectangles and hold so it is taller than it is wide. Fold this rectangle in the middle from the right side to the left side leaving one long crease running up and down the middle. (Pause and allow children to do this – fold a rectangle as you go so children can see how to follow your instructions)**

- Say – **Well done. Open your rectangle and then fold each corner to the middle of your rectangle, along the fold line you just made.** (Pause and allow children to do this)
- Say – **Fold your bottom two corners to the middle one more time – after this fold it will look as if you are holding a very small kite.** (Pause and allow children to do this)
- Say – **Set this piece aside and fold each of your other seven rectangles the same way. While you are folding your rectangles, talk in your small group and tell a time in the coming week when you will allow obedience to change you so you worship God instead of responding in an angry way!** (Allow children to fold each of their rectangles while they talk in their small group)
- Say – **You have followed my directions and obeyed. Now, with the bottom side up, place one of your folded pieces on top of another with top points together, turn slightly so one edge of the top piece is along the center fold line. Use tape and tape over the top of these two pieces. Add another piece in the same way, tape and add another piece until all your pieces are taped together in this way.** (Allow children to do this)
- Ask – **What did you make?** (Allow children to respond – a star – tell children to set their stars to the side for now)
- Say – **Yes, you made a star! In the passage in Psalm we are about to study, David says the stars make him realize how amazing and glorious God is! Earlier we learned when Cain chose to disobey God his life was filled with anger, but when Abel and Seth chose to obey; obedience changed their lives and caused them to be filled with worship for God! David knew all about how obedience to God changed his life and filled his heart and life with worship for God! Psalms has a lot to say about worshipping God! I want to know what God’s Word says!** (Read Psalm 8)
- Say – **Psalm 8 is a psalm of worship and praise to God for Who He Is and what He has done! When we do not obey God things generally do not go the way we want them to go and our lives become filled with anger. When we obey God and allow obedience to change our lives, we will be people whose lives and hearts are filled with worship for God! We will be people who notice all the big and small ways God is at work in our lives and we will worship Him! David noticed how God was at work in his life in big and small ways and became a person who worshipped God! Let’s show how obedience to God changes us by worshipping God like David did for the amazing ways God is at**

work in our lives! **“Dear Lord, Your name is more amazing than anything in the whole, entire world!”** (Allow children to repeat prayer)
“Dear God, You are more awesome than anything in heaven!” (Allow children to repeat prayer)
“When I think about the moons and stars You created and filled the heavens with, I want to worship You!”
(Allow children to repeat prayer) **“You are so far above people and yet You think about us and care about us and gave us this world to live in and care for!”** (Allow children to repeat prayer)
“Oh Lord! I want to worship You because You are more awesome than anything in the entire world!” (Allow children to repeat prayer)

Say – **God is so far above anything and anyone else, we should obey Him! When we obey God this obedience will change our lives! One way our lives will change is by being so filled with worship for God, we won’t have room in our hearts and lives to be angry. In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Leader, tell a time when you might feel angry, but will instead choose to obey God and allow obedience to change you and fill you with worship for God instead!**
(Allow a few moments for groups to do this)

Say – **David wrote the Psalms to worship God. Many were songs, nearly all were prayers! David wrote how he felt, questions he had and even when he was sad and confused. We can share our worship for God through songs, like David did! Let’s take time to show how obedience changes our real lives by making up a song to worship God! In your small group, make up a short worship song to God – it is fine to use a tune to another song. I’ll give you just a few minutes to make up your worship song and then each group will get to sing their song for us! (Give groups a few minutes to think of their song and then allow each group to sing their worship song for the class)**

Say – **I so enjoyed this time to worship God with you! Worshipping God by praying words from Scripture back to God and worshipping God by singing songs! Obedience does change our lives, but the ways it changes us are wonderful, incredible ways to be changed!**

Ask - **What can you do this week to show how obedience has changed you and filled your heart and life with worship for God? Talk about this in your small group for a moment. (Allow groups to do this)**

Ask – **Who will tell me what you talked about? (Allow a few children to share)**

Say – **David obeyed God! David’s life changed from obeying God! David’s life was filled with obedience and worship for God! The same is true for us! When we obey God, obedience will change us too and fill our lives with worship for God! Small Group Leaders, go around your**

circle and pray the following from Psalm 8 for each child in your group, by name, ***“Thank You, LORD for loving _____ Please help him/her obey You so his/her life can be changed by obedience and be filled with worship for You!”*** (Allow groups a few moments to do this, and then when they have all finished, close in prayer.)

Extra time craft

Supplies –

- Memory Cross – one per child (www.kidzconnection.us)
- Verse stickers or verse on paper – follow template – one per child
- Markers
- Two-sided tape – for verse on paper
- scissors

Directions –

- Help children place their verse stickers/verse on paper with two-sided tape in the correct places on their Memory Cross and allow them to decorate as they like

Say – **Use your Memory Cross in the coming month to help you learn our verses from Ephesians 4. Think about what you can do to show how obedience to God changes your real, every day life!**

Additional Craft

Supplies –

- Stars from earlier
- Markers
- Tape
- Magnetic strip

Say – **Write words or draw pictures on your star to show things you will worship God for then cover the rest of your star with tape and put the magnet on the back. Put your magnet where you will see it and remember to let obedience change you by filling your heart and life with worship for God!**

If you have extra time – play your memory verse game again.