

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

Obedience – Preschool/Early Elementary

Third quarter – Obedience changes me!

Week one – Sunday School

Scripture – Genesis 4:1-12.25.26

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

Verse – Ephesians 4:26

Opening - 20 minutes

- Music - 15 minutes
- Activity - 5 minutes
 - Supplies –
 - Paper lunch bags
 - Crayons
 - Allow children to decorate their bags with drawings of each person in their own family

Lesson - 10 minutes

Supplies –

- Blue stickers – three per child
- Cotton balls – two per child
- Dried fruit – small amount per child
- Paper cups – one per child
- Happy face sticker – one per child
- Sad face sticker – one per child
- Praying hands sticker – one per child

Greet children and call them to join you in your Bible lesson area. Have children sit with their small groups in sharing circles, knee to knee.

Say – **I noticed you drew such wonderful pictures of your families on your bags! Well done! Our story today is about a real family who lived long ago. Once upon a time, there was a man and a woman; actually they were 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! I need two helpers from each small group to join me!** (Allow each group to send two helpers)

Say – **I have blue stickers, two for each of you, to help you remember Adam and Eve had two baby boys, Cain and Abel. My helpers will bring the stickers back to share with everyone in their small group. When you receive your stickers, put them on your bag.** (Give each helper enough stickers to share with everyone in their own small group so each child ends up with two blue stickers)

Say – **Thank you! Adam and Eve were the parents of Cain and Abel. They were happy with their family and knew they needed to teach their sons important things.**

Ask – **What are some important things your parents have taught you? In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, tell**

- one important thing your parents have taught you!** (Allow a moment for groups to do this)
- Say – **Sounds like your parents have taught you important things! Adam and Eve had important things to teach their sons, too! They taught Cain and Abel how to grow plants. Let's pretend we are Cain and Abel and are growing plants!** (Lead children in digging a hole, planting a seed, watering their plants and harvesting fruits and veggies)
- Ask – **If you could grow any plant, what would it be? In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, tell what your favorite plant is!** (Allow a moment for groups to do this)
- Say – **Adam and Eve taught Cain and Abel how to care for the animals. Let's pretend we are Cain and Abel and are caring for animals!** (Lead children in feeding animals, giving them water, playing with animals, etc.)
- Ask – **If you could care for any animal, what would it be? In your small group, beginning with your Small Group Shepherd, tell what your favorite animal is!** (Allow a moment for groups to do this)
- Say – **Adam and Eve taught Cain and Abel many important things! They also taught their sons about when they used to live in an amazing garden God made for them! They told 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, talk 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. Yes, 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 angry and jealous with his own brother.**
- Ask – **What do you think Cain's face looked like when he was angry and jealous?** (Allow children to show you their angry/jealous faces)
- Say – **My! What angry faces you make! Well, 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! I need one helper from each small group to join me!** (Allow each group to send one helper)

Say – **I have some cups and fruit for each of you. My helpers will bring the cups and fruit to their Small Group Shepherds and will help them fill and hand out a snack of fruit to each of you!** (Send the snack back with your helpers and allow children to enjoy their snack)

Say – **Your snack can help you remember Cain worked hard and was proud of the fruit and veggies he grew. 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 sheep in the land!**

Ask – **What sound do sheep make?** (Allow children to baaa)

Say – **Yes, you are right! Sheep baaa! I need one more helper from each small group.** (Allow each group to send one helper)

Say – **I have cotton balls for each of you. My helpers will bring the cotton balls to share with you! Put your cotton ball in your bag and let it remind you Abel cared for the animals!** (Send the cotton balls with your helpers to share with the children in their small group)

Say – **Cain and Abel 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. I need two more helpers from each small group!** (Allow each group to send two more helpers)

Say – **I have happy face stickers and sad face stickers. When Abel gave his best to God, he was choosing to obey and give what God said to give. Abel's obedience changed him so his heart was filled with worship to God! God was very, very happy with Abel's obedience! I'm giving some of my helpers happy face stickers to share with the others in their small group!** (Give one helper from each group enough happy face stickers to share with the others in their group – allow them to return and hand out their stickers)

Say – **Sadly, Cain chose to give God 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. When God saw Cain chose to do his own thing, He was not happy. I'm giving my helpers sad face stickers to share with the others in their small group!** (Give your helpers enough sad face stickers to share with the others in their group – allow them to return and hand out their stickers)

Say – One son chose to allow obedience to God to change his life and the other chose to do his own thing. Put your stickers on your bag and let them remind you God was happy with Abel’s obedience and was sad with Cain’s choice to do things his own way. Of course Abel was happy his obedience and worship pleased God, but Cain was not happy. Cain was more than “not happy”. In fact he was angry. Cain threw a tantrum!

Ask – Have any of you ever thrown a tantrum when you were angry? What does your face look like when you throw a tantrum? (Allow children to show you their angry, upset faces)

Say – You are right. Tantrum, angry faces are not very happy. Well, Cain 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! 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. So, Cain had a choice to make . . . obey and worship God or disobey God and be angry.

Ask – What do you think Cain chose to do? Did he choose to obey and worship God, or did he choose to keep doing things his own way and only have room in his heart and life for disobedience and anger? (Allow children to respond)

Say – Sadly, Cain chose to continue to disobey God and became angrier and angrier with Abel. Instead of admitting his own disobedience made him sad, Cain blamed Abel for his unhappiness. Cain tricked Abel into helping him in his garden and when he had the chance, 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. 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.

Ask – What do you think Cain’s face looked like when God sent him away? (Allow children to show you their sad faces)

Say – Yes, Cain was sad. When our hearts are filled with disobedience and anger, we will be sad and make others sad, too. Adam and Eve were

so sad. Their son Abel was dead and their son Cain had to wander the earth and have no home. 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. I need one helper from each small group to join me! (Allow each group to send one helper)

Say – I have blue stickers, one for each of you, to help you remember Adam and Eve had another baby boy, Seth! My helpers will bring the stickers back to share with everyone in their small group. When you receive your stickers, put them on your bag. (Give each helper enough stickers to share with everyone in their own small group so each child ends up with another blue sticker)

Say/Ask – Well, the last time Adam and Eve taught their sons about obeying God, one son chose to listen, obey God and let obedience change his life while the other didn't and ended up with a life full of anger. What would Seth choose to do? Would he choose to listen? Would he choose to obey? Would he choose to let obedience to God change his life? (Allow children to respond)

Say – 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 to allow obedience to God to fill their hearts and lives with worship for God! I need one final helper from each small group to join me! (Allow each group to send one helper)

Say – I have praying hand stickers, one for each of you, to help you remember Seth chose to obey God and obedience to God changed Seth's life by filling his heart and life with worship for God! My helpers will bring the stickers back to share with everyone in their small group. When you receive your stickers, put them on your bag. (Give each helper enough stickers to share with everyone in their own small group)

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 - 15 minutes

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

Final Application Activity – 10 minutes –

Supplies –

- Animal crackers

Say – **Abel and Seth obeyed God and gave God the offering He wanted! As you enjoy your snack, talk about how you can let obedience to God change your life this week, then spend time worshipping God!**

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Others)

Obedience – Preschool Early/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 4:26

Opening

- Music
- Verse – Ephesians 4:26 – / **Scripture says, "When you are angry, do not sin." /Do not let the sun go down /while you are still angry. /**

- Game – Obeying God Run!
 - Supplies –
 - Construction paper hearts - one per child
 - Two-sided tape
 - Large sheet of butcher paper
 - Preparation –
 - Cut out construction paper hearts and put two-sided tape on the back of each heart
 - Place large sheet of paper at one end of room
 - Object of the game–
 - Children will fasten hearts to the paper and say their verse
 - Directions –
 - Gather children and have them stand at the opposite end of the classroom as the large sheet of paper
 - Explain they're going to play a game to help them learn their verse. Tell children, you will give clues to describe one of them. When they correctly identify who the clues describe, that child will take a paper heart, run to the other side of the room and stick it on the large sheet of paper and say the verse, all the kids can help.
 - Example –
 - Clue one - this boy has blond hair (children who are not blond boys, sit down)
 - Clue two - this boy with blond hair has brown eyes (boys with blond hair, but who do not have brown eyes sit down)
 - Clue three - this boy with blond hair and brown eyes likes to, (tell something he likes to do), and is wearing a red shirt.
 - When all children have had a turn to add a heart to the paper, have entire group say their verse together.

Bible lesson

- Supplies –
 - 4"x6" paper stars – one per child
 - Vegetable oil
 - Paper towels – one per child

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! 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 one star and one piece of paper towel)

Say – **You will need to listen to my instructions and obey them carefully. Take your paper towel, wad it up and dip one corner of it into the oil your Small Group Leader has.** (Pause and allow children to do this – show as you go so children can see how to follow your instructions)

Say – **Well done. Take your paper towel with the oil on it and rub it all over your paper star. While you are “painting” your stars with oil, talk in your small group and share how you can allow obedience to change your life this week by worshipping God!** (Allow children to “paint” their stars while they talk in their small group)

Say – **You have followed my directions and obeyed. Now, hold up your star to the light and tell me what you see!** (Allow children to respond – the oil should have made their stars “transparent”)

Say - **In Psalms David says the stars made 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; their 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) Let's learn about a couple of God's Names! One of God's Names is Adonai and it means, Master and Lord! Let's bow and say Adonai together! **"Adonai, Lord God You are my Master!"** (Allow children to repeat and bow)
- Say – **Another of God's Names is, El Shaddai which means, God Almighty! Let's point up and say, El Shaddai together! "El Shaddai! God You are the all mighty God! There is none like You!"** (Allow children to repeat and point up)
- Say – **Let's learn one more of God's Names! Elohim is a name of God and means, God as the Mighty and Strong Creator! Let's make strong muscles and say Elohim together! "Dear God You are the Mighty and Strong Creator! You are Elohim!"** (Allow children to repeat and make strong muscles)
- Say – **David knew God was Adonai, El Shaddai and Elohim! Let's talk with God as Elohim like David did! "Dear God, You are more awesome than anything in heaven!" (Allow children to repeat prayer) "When I think about the moon and stars You created and filled the heavens with, I want to worship You!" (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) **God is more awesome than anything in heaven, He created everything and we can worship Him! In your small groups worship God for being the Almighty, Strong Creator and tell your favorite thing He created!** (Allow groups to do this)**
- 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 so you can let obedience change you and fill you with worship for God instead!** (Allow a few moments for groups to do this)
- Say – **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! I enjoyed worshipping God by praying words from Scripture back to God! I enjoyed worshipping God by singing songs! Obedience does change our lives; but the ways it changes us are wonderful, incredible, very good ways to be changed!**

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

Ask – **Who will share what your group talked about?** (Allow 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 –

- Extra large construction paper – one per child
- Verse – one per child – print verse on paper and cut out so each child has a copy
- Crayons
- Clear contact paper – two pieces slightly bigger than the construction paper per child

Directions –

- Help children place their verse on their construction paper and allow them to decorate as they like to show how obedience changes their life
- Help children cover their paper with contact paper to make a place mat

Say – **Use your place mat 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
- Crayons
- Large construction paper – one per child
- Clear contact paper
- Scissors
- Verse printed on paper – one per child

Say – **Draw pictures on your star to show things you will worship God for, put them and your verse on your paper, cover with contact paper for a place mat to help you learn your verse 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.