

## Session Six: Who Will You Worship?



Today's Point: Who Will You Worship?

Bible Verse: Joshua 24:24

CSB: So the people said to Joshua, "We will worship the Lord our God and obey him." Joshua 24:24

KJV: And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey. Joshua 24:24

Today's Bible Skill:

- Be able to name the two parts of the Bible – Old Testament and New Testament
- Be able to identify the number of books in the Old Testament (39)
- Be able to identify the number of books in the New Testament (27)

### Bible Truth

Ask kids to turn to Joshua 24:14-15. Explain that Joshua is in the Old Testament. Instruct kids to place their index finger on verse 14 when they have found it. Offer assistance if kids need it.

When all kids have their index finger on verse 14, ask for a volunteer to read verses 14

Ask: What is Joshua asking the Israelites to do in verse 14? Allow time for kids to respond.

Joshua asked the Israelites to do three things:

First - to fear the Lord (which means to have a sense of reverence and awe for God),

Second – to worship him in sincerity and truth (which means with a true heart – one that is driven by love for God and not by a desire to impress people)

Third – get rid of all of the foreign or false gods they have and worship the Lord.

Enlist a volunteer to read verse 15

Ask: Who does Joshua's family serve? Allow time for responses.

Joshua and his family are serving the one true God. Joshua is saying that he will do what it takes to make sure his family knows, understands, believes, and follows God!

How do you think the Israelites responded? Allow time for responses.

Read verse 16

The people replied, "We will certainly not abandon the Lord to worship other gods!" (CSB)

And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods;" (KJV)

Let's look at what Joshua told the Israelites?

Read verse 23-24:

“Then get rid of the foreign gods that are among you and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.”  
So the people said to Joshua, “We will worship the Lord our God and obey him.” (CSB)

Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord God of Israel. And the people said unto Joshua, The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey. (KJV)

What do these verses mean to us? Do we worship fake gods today? (Allow kids to respond)

SAY: Sometimes we give more attention to things in our lives than we do God. Anything that distracts us from loving and obeying God, can become an idol or a fake god.

What are some things that can be fake gods? (TV, sports, toys, video games, and friends.) These things aren't bad. It is only when they become more important to us than God that they become a fake god. When we choose to follow God, He asks to be first in our lives. He wants us to worship and obey him only.

Our memory verse for today is Joshua 24:24. Call attention to poster with verse. Let's say it together.

Pray: Ask God to make your kids aware of any thing that has become a false god in their lives. Help children to choose to worship God and God alone.

## **Bible Verse Activity: Hot Potato – Joshua 24:24**

### **Materials:**

Foam Ball Bible – one for each group (no more than 6-8 kids)

Cardstock

Thin tip markers or Crayons

### **Prepare:**

Print Joshua 24:24 on cardstock – one for each group.

### **Instructions:**

Invite kids to form circles of no more than 6-8 kids and sit facing each other.

Choose one member of the group to sit in the middle of the circle. Give another member of the group a foam ball. Explain that the kid in the center will be listening to be sure Joshua 24:24 is said correctly. The kids with the ball will toss it to another member of the group saying one word of the verse (in order) as the ball is passed. Whoever is holding the ball on the last word is “out” and will change places with the person sitting in the middle of the circle. Repeat the game for 2-3 rounds.

## **Bible Skills Activity: Old Testament Craft Stick Toss Relay**

### **Materials:**

78 Jumbo (6" x 5/8") Craft Sticks

Thin tip marker or clear printable return address label

### **Prepare:**

Using a fine point permanent marker, write each book of the Old Testament on a jumbo craft stick. (Make 2 sets)

\*Suggestion: use a template for printable mailing labels – type out each book of the Old Testament. Print on clear return address labels. Place each label on a separate jumbo craft stick.

Save label template so it is available to use when sticks need to be replaced.

### **Instructions:**

Divide kids into two teams.

Explain that you will drop two sets of craft sticks in the middle between the two groups. When a book of the Old Testament is called, the first player of each team will run to the pile and locate a corresponding stick. When found, the player will grab the stick, return to the team, and place the stick on the floor in order. Continue the game until all 39 books have been called. Check to be sure the books are put in the correct order.

Suggestion: Write each book on a piece of cardstock. Hold the book called up so kids can see it while they are searching for the corresponding stick.

Variation: To add a level of competition: instead of calling out a book and running in, when “start” is called, the first team member will run in and locate Genesis, run back, place stick on floor in order, and tag the next member. The next team member will find the next book until all 39 books have been retrieved and placed in the correct order.

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