

God Loves Me

Worship Service



June

KIDS WORSHIP PLANNER

CHECK TO USE Worship Xpress®

ACTIVITIES

WORSHIP RESOURCES and OTHER MATERIALS



KIDS COME TO WORSHIP

- Beanbag Toss**—Toss a beanbag onto a heart, then do what's written on the heart.
- Kids of the Kingdom**—Create a wall of cups to remind the children that God made a special place for them.
- Worship Through Music**—Sing praises to God.
- Kids Talk to God (Prayer)**—Pray for someone who needs to know Jesus loves them.
- We Give to God (Offering)**—Praise God by giving Him an offering.
- Reading God's Word**—Write John 3:16 on popcorn-shaped poster board.
- Kingdom of Heaven (Preteen Xtreme)**—Draw or write about what heaven will be like.

- Red construction paper, marker, two or three beanbags, scissors
- Small plastic or paper cups
- Great Big Praise 2* and CD or cassette, CD or cassette player
- Medium-sized hearts from white construction paper (one per child), scissors, markers
- Offering container(s)
- Bible, white poster board and marker, marker board and marker, scissors
- Paper, markers



INVESTIGATE GOD'S WORD

- A Heart of Love**—Tell the children to write names of people they love on a large red heart.
- Message**—"God's Heart of Love"—A Bible Message About God's Love for People
- Healing the Broken Relationship**—Give the children an opportunity to accept God's forgiveness for their sins.

- Large red sheet of poster board, scissors, markers, tape
- June Kids Worship Connections 1*, pp. 2 and 3



DISCOVER GOD'S WAY

- Surrounding Love**—Use an object lesson to learn how much God loves them.
- Can You Sign "I Love You"?**—Say "I love you" with sign language.
- God's Love**—Discuss ways to thank God for His love.

- Various sizes of containers that fit into each other, a small figurine
- June Kids Worship Connections 1*, p. 1; pencils
- Paper, pencils



SHARE GOD'S LOVE

- Love in Any Language**—Teach the children to say "I love you" in other languages.
- Love Is All Around (Preteen Xtreme)**—Let people share how they became a Christian.
- Challenge and Blessing**—Remind the children they are loved by God.

- June Kids Worship Connections 1*, p. 4; pencils
- June Kids Worship Connections 1*, pp. 2 and 3

*Worship Xpress—Some churches plan for the KIDS WORSHIP groups to go to part of the adult worship service first. If your worship time is limited, consider choosing these activities.

Kid's Question:

What Does God Think of a Kid Like Me?

God's Answer:

God Loves Me and Provides for My Salvation

BIBLE MESSAGE

John 3:16

"God's Heart of Love"—A Bible Message About God's Love for People

BIBLE TRUTH

God says through His Word that He loves kids.

WORSHIP GOALS

To help elementary children . . .

- Know that God's Word tells us that God loves people, including children.
- Realize that God loves people so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to provide salvation for them.
- Thank God for His love and ask for His forgiveness.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"

Matthew 19:14

WORSHIP TIPS & TOOLS



WORSHIP TIPS

Worship and worship activity tips

30-SECOND SKILLBUILDER

Worship leader training tips



IN WORSHIP

Spiritual formation tips

THE WORD IN ACTION

Biblical or theological insights



Foundational words of faith

Reflect on the Word

Second Timothy 3:16 tells us that, "All Scripture is God-breathed . . ." When God breathes into something (see Genesis 2:7) it receives life. Each time we hear the message of Scripture spoken, it is God's message spoken to us.

Most Sunday School children memorize John 3:16. These words may become so familiar that we forget their significance.

John 3:16 continually points us to the message of God's love for people. Even when people turn away from God and follow their own will, God's love remains.

Jesus chose to sacrifice himself, so people might be restored to a loving relationship with God, the Father. God's love sent Him, but Jesus willingly accepted the role as Savior.

Jesus' life, death, and resurrection portray God's act of salvation for humanity. We see the life *we* should lead. We see the love *we* should portray. We see the forgiveness and acceptance *we* should experience and provide to others.

Hear the words of John 3:16 once more: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Connect with Your Kids

In today's mixed-up, dysfunctional world, children need to hear the message of God's love, forgiveness, and acceptance. Sin separates people from God, but He is always reaching out to restore the relationship.

Children need to hear the message of God's love and acceptance. Use today's message to remind children God loves them and desires to have a right relationship with them.

KIDS COME TO WORSHIP

Choose from these activities to help children enter into worship.

Beanbag Toss

Energy Level: Medium

Before worship, cut medium-sized hearts out of red construction paper. On the back of each heart write an instruction for the kids to do. For example: "Give two friends a high five," "Do five jumping jacks," "Tell someone, 'God Loves You,'" or "Tell someone that Jesus loves them." Spread the hearts on the floor in the center of the open area with the instruction side of the heart facing down.

Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Have the children stand in a large circle around the hearts. Give two or three children a beanbag.
2. Have the children with the beanbags throw them onto a heart. Have each child look at the bottom of the heart and do what it says.
3. Pass the beanbags to two or three more children and repeat. Continue until everyone has had an opportunity to play.
4. Say, *Each of you were given something to do when you read the sentence on the heart. Some of you did high fives, some of you told someone that God loves them, and some did other things. God loves each of you. He has given us the Bible to help us learn about Him and His love. God loves people, and He especially loves children.*

- red construction paper
- marker
- two or three beanbags
- scissors



Kids of the Kingdom

Energy Level: Medium

- small plastic or paper cups



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Choose two volunteers (one boy and one girl) to come to the front of the class.
2. Give a stack of cups to the boy and a stack of cups to the girl. Tell them to create a wall of cups.
3. Have the girls cheer for the girl and the boys cheer for the boy.
4. Say, ***Just as these walls were made by your own hands. God has created heaven, a special place for those who have asked for His forgiveness and live in a right relationship with Him. God wants all of us to enjoy this place and be with Him one day. Let's review our unit Bible verse together.***
5. Repeat the unit Bible verse: "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these'" (*Matthew 19:14*).

Worship Through Music

Call to Worship: Say, ***Sing to God, sing praises to His name.*** Choose from the following songs:

"The Greatest Thing," No. 20

"Think About His Love," No. 32

"You Can't Imagine How He Loves You," No. 38

"Psalm 139," No. 48

- *Great Big Praise* 2 book and CD or cassette
- CD or cassette player



Kids Talk to God (Prayer)

Energy Level: Low

Steps for Worship Activity:

Before worship, cut out a medium-sized heart from white construction paper for each child.

1. Give each child a white heart and marker. Say, ***Aren't you glad that you know that God loves you? There are many people who would like to know (or be reminded) that God loves them.*** Have the children write the name of one person they want to know about God's love.
2. Have the children place the hearts on the altar.
3. Have an adult pray for the children, thanking God for His love for each of the children. Ask God to help the children share His love with the person whose name is on the heart.

- medium-sized hearts from white construction paper (one per child)
- scissors
- markers

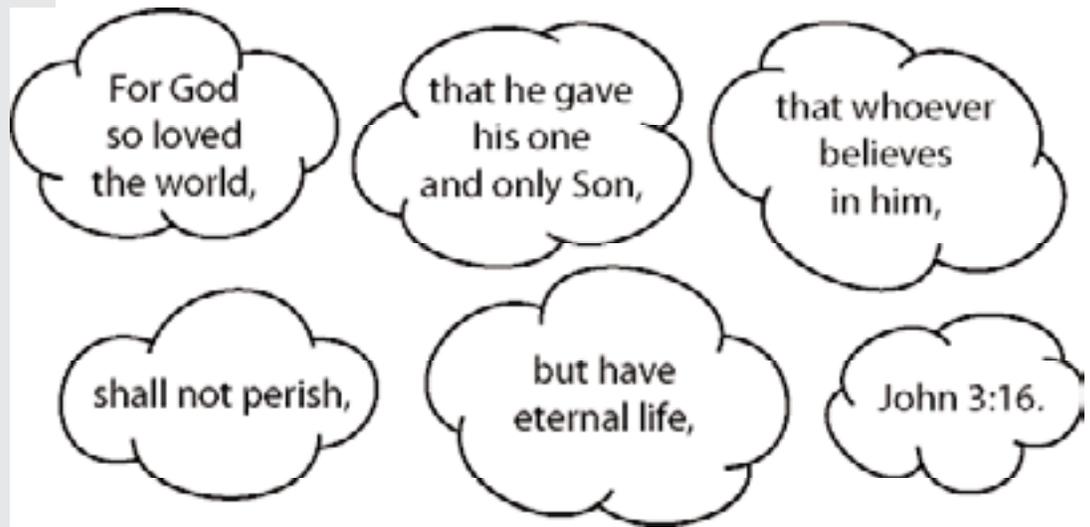


We Give to God (Offering)

Place an offering basket(s) at the front of the worship area. Have the children walk to the front and place their offering in the basket(s).

- offering container(s)





Reading God's Word

Popcorn Bible Verse

Energy Level: Low

Before worship, make large pieces of “popcorn” from white poster board. On each piece of “popcorn,” write a phrase of John 3:16. Make one piece of popcorn for each group of children. Write the whole verse on the marker board.

- Bible
- white poster board and marker
- marker board and marker
- scissors



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Divide the children into equal groups. Give each group a piece of scripture popcorn.
2. Have the children read together John 3:16. Before reading the verse again, tell the children their group will need to “pop” into the air when their part of the verse is being read.

Preteen Xtreme

Kingdom of Heaven

Energy Level: Medium

Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Give each preteen a large sheet of paper and markers.
2. Have the preteens write a description or draw a picture of what they think heaven will be like. Say, *God has prepared a place for those who have asked for and received His forgiveness of their sins. That place is heaven.* Read Matthew 19:14 to the preteens. Say, *Heaven isn't reserved just for adults. God loves children and wants them to be a part of His family.*

- paper
- markers



INVESTIGATE GOD'S WORD

Choose from these activities to help children investigate God's Word.

A Heart of Love

Energy Level: Medium

Before worship, cut a heart from a large sheet of red poster board.

- large red sheet of poster board
- scissors
- markers
- tape (to be used following today's Bible message)



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Hold up the large, red poster board heart. Say, **Today we are going to learn about love. When I think of love, I usually think of red hearts just like this one.**
2. Write the phrase *A Heart of Love* across the top of the heart. Say, **I love someone.** Using a marker, write the name of a family member or friend on the heart.
3. Then say, **Each of you has someone you love.** Have the children use markers to write the names of people they love on the large red heart.
4. Say, **God wants us to love each other, but He also wants us to love Him. He loves people so much that He provided for our salvation by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for our sins. God's love is available to you and anyone who will receive it.**

Message

God's Heart of Love

A Bible Message About God's Love for People

(Tell a favorite story about someone you love: mother, father, child.)

As much as I love _____, I don't love him or her as much as God loves each of us. He loves people so much, He was willing to do whatever it took to rebuild a relationship with them.

There was a time, when God and people had a great relationship. There was no sin in the world. Adam and Eve's disobedience to God changed that and caused a separation between God and people. Each person is born separated from God. *(At this point, begin tearing off medium-sized sections of the poster-board heart. Continue tearing off pieces as you continue the message.)*

Each time you and I disobey God, it saddens Him. But even though our sin separates us from God, He continues to love us.

He loves you and me so much. He did not want us to continue in our sin. He wanted to rescue us. *(Finish tearing the heart pieces.)*

God sent His Son, Jesus, so you and I could have eternal life with Him in heaven. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, people can be forgiven of their sins. To forgive means to treat someone who has done something wrong as if he or she had not done wrong. Romans 5:8 says, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Do you know what else happens when God forgives us? *(Give children an opportunity to answer.)* Our broken relationship with God is repaired. *(Begin taping the pieces of the heart back together.)*

Healing the Broken Relationship

Energy Level: Low

Before worship, ask three or four volunteers to be available to answer questions the children may have. You will also want to have a follow-up program, such as "The Basic Bible Studies for Children," to help children as they begin their new journey of faith.

Steps for Worship Activity:

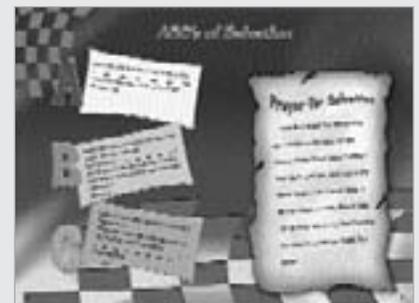
1. Say, **I want to give you an opportunity to heal the broken relationship with God, by asking God's forgiveness for your sins.** Distribute *June Kids Worship Connections 1*, pages 2 and 3. Present the ABCs of Salvation from the *Kids Worship Connections 1*, pages 2 and 3. Use these pages for the children to follow along.
2. Invite the children to come forward for prayer if you have an altar. (You may want to have soft music playing.)
3. Say, **I am going to pray for you. Then I want you to pray, asking God to forgive**

• June Kids Worship
Connections 1, pp. 2 and 3



WORSHIP TIPS

- A**
Admit that you have sinned and be sorry for it.
(Romans 3:23)
- B**
Believe God loves you and sent His Son, Jesus, to save you from your sins.
(John 3:16)
- C**
Claim Jesus as your Savior. Love God and follow Jesus.
(Romans 10:13)



your sins, become your Savior and best Friend, and help you live an obedient life to God. If you need help with the prayer, I can help you. Pray a short prayer thanking God for the child and for his or her willingness to ask for forgiveness.

4. Encourage the child to pray. As the child prays, you may need to prompt or lead them in a simple sinner's prayer. Use the following prayer to guide you in leading the child in a prayer for forgiveness.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the Cross for the wrong things I have done. I admit I have disobeyed You, and I am sorry. Please forgive me. I want Jesus to be my Savior and best Friend. Help me to obey You every day. I believe You have forgiven me. Thank You. Amen

DISCOVER GOD'S WORD

Choose from these activities to help children connect the message of God's Word to life.



this activity.

Surrounding Love

Energy Level: Medium

Before worship, find various sizes of containers that fit inside each other.

- various sizes of containers that fit into each other
- a small figurine



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Say, *How much does God love you? I don't think you realize how much God really does love you. Let's have some fun learning about God's love.*
2. Show the little figurine. Say, *This will represent you.*
3. Enclose the figurine in the smallest container. Say, *This container represents your parents, who love you very much and want to protect you.*
4. Continue putting smaller containers into larger ones repeating other people who love them. Use the largest container to represent the love of God. Say, *This container is the largest. This container is greater than all the rest. God's love for you is the greatest. In fact He loves all those who love you too.*
5. Let volunteers repeat the object lesson naming people who love and care for them. (Mom, dad, sister, brother, children's pastor, grandparent)

Can You Sign "I Love You"?

Energy Level: Medium

Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Distribute June Kids Worship Connections 1, page 1.
2. Instruct the children to complete the activity.
3. Practice the sign together.
4. Say, *God is always saying, "I love you" to you.*
5. Pray, asking God to reveal His love to each child. Have the children sign, "I love you" to God at the close of the prayer.

Answers: I, L, O, V, E, Y, O, U

I Love You.

- June Kids Worship Connections 1, p. 1
- pencils



God's Love

Energy Level: Medium

- paper
- pencils



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Divide the preteens into groups or pairs. Have each group choose someone to take notes.
2. Have each group of preteens list ways they can express their thanks to God, thanking Him for His love for them. (*Examples: Pray, read the Bible, worship Him, give offerings, live a Christian life for Him, share the good news with others.*)
3. Instruct the preteen groups or pairs to share with the whole group what they have written on their paper.
4. Say, ***These words describe how we can thank God for His love to us.***
5. Discuss why giving our thanks to God and sharing His love with others is so important. Ask, ***Why does He want us to love Him?*** (Let preteens respond.) Have a preteen read Matthew 19:14. Say, ***God loves all people—children, teens, and adults. He wants us to love Him also.***

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Choose from these activities to challenge children to go out and live their lives for God.

Love in Any Language

Energy Level: Medium

- June Kids Worship Connections 1, p. 4
- pencils



Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Have the children complete the activity in June Kids Worship Connections 1, page 4.
2. Say, ***God understands all languages. People around the world love God just as you do.*** If time allows, have the children practice saying “I love you” to each other in the different languages.
3. Encourage the children to sign “I love you” to their family or friends, telling others that God also loves them.
4. Say, ***God shows His love to us each and every day. He also wants us to show our love to Him. God showed us how much He loved us when He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for our sins. Let's stop and say a prayer of thanks to God for His love.*** Close the activity by asking volunteers to say sentence prayers to thank God.

Answers: English, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Albanian, Italian, Russian



guage” while the children practice saying “I love you” in sign language.



Love Is All Around

Energy Level: Medium

Steps for Worship Activity:

1. Say, *Today we have been reminded of how much God really does love us when He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for the things we have done wrong. Many of you know God personally because you have asked Him into your life and He has forgiven you. God's love is all around us because of you and your relationship with Him. Let me tell you about the time I became a Christian.* (Share briefly when and where you accepted Christ.) *Would any of you be willing to tell about the time and place you became a Christian?* (Allow time for some of the preteens to share.) Close by saying, *If you have not asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins, I want to invite you to do so today.*
2. Distribute *June Kids Worship Connections* 1, pages 2 and 3 to pray with any preteens who respond.

• June Kids Worship
Connections 1, pp. 2
and 3



Challenge and Blessing

Energy Level: Low

Review the unit Kid's Question: What does God think of a kid like me? Review God's Answer for the day: God loves me and provides for my salvation. Challenge the children to find new ways to share God's love to others this week. Remind the children that God loves each one of them very, very much.

Say, *May God keep you and bless you. Know that He loves you so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for you.*