

BIBLE PASSAGE

1 Kings 6; 8

LIFE POINT

The church gathers to worship and praise God.

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus' death and resurrection made the way for people to have a relationship with God.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God wants people to gather to worship Him.

SUGGESTED USE DATE: July 2**BIBLE VERSE**Sing to him; sing praise to him;
tell about all his wondrous works!
1 Chronicles 16:9 (CSB)Sing unto him, sing psalms unto
him, talk ye of all his wondrous
works. 1 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.
1 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV)Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
1 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him;
Talk of all His wondrous works!
1 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)**SCHEDULE AND PROPS****Huddle Ups** (optional)

Supplies (for each small group):

- “Pray, Give, Go”—none
- “Praise Puppet”—paper lunch bag (1 per child), markers

Countdown Video (3 minutes)

Props: none

Worship Song (3 minutes)

Props: none

Welcome and Prayer (5 minutes)

Props: none

True2Life Drama (or *Mooseberry video*) (3-5 minutes)

Props: Bible

Connection Point Game

(10 minutes)

Props: 2 dice, 2 cups, 1 sheet of paper, scissors, marker

Worship Song (3 minutes)

Props: none

Bible Story (10 minutes)

Props: Bible; photos of your pastor, worship pastor, and other worship leaders

Worship Song and Offering

(3 minutes)

Props: none

Connection Point Bible Verse

(5-8 minutes)

Props: none

Connection Point Missions

(5-8 minutes)

Props: none

Real Life Connections

(3-5 minutes)

Props: none

MUSIC AND MEDIA

- **Countdown:**
Countdown video
- **Worship Song:**
“All”
- **Welcome and Prayer:**
Life Point and *Bible Verse* slides
- **True2Life Drama:**
Mooseberry Life Application video (optional)
- **Connection Point Game:**
Connection Point Game slide
- **Worship Song:**
“We Are Your Church”
- **Bible Story:**
Bible Story and *Christ Focus* slides; *Notebook Bible Story* video (optional)
- **Worship Song and Offering:**
Worship song of your choice
- **Connection Point Bible Verse:**
Connection Point Bible Verse and *Bible Verse* slides
- **Connection Point Missions:**
Connection Point Missions and *Connect to Missions* slides
- **Real Life Connections:**
Real Life Connections, *Real Life Questions*, and *Life Point* slides

Huddle Ups (Optional)

Huddle Ups are for churches that have a drop-off time before the session begins or a pick-up time as parents arrive at the end of the session. It's a great time for interaction with a small group leader through games, conversations, or review questions. Play the countdown video to signal the end of Huddle Ups and the beginning of the session.

- ➔ Estimated time: varies according to schedule
- ➔ Tech: none
- ➔ People: Small Group Leaders
- ➔ Supplies *(for each small group)*:
 - “Pray, Give, Go”—none
 - “Praise Puppet”—paper lunch bag *(1 per child)*, markers

Huddle Up: Pre-Session

“PRAY, GIVE, GO”

Prep: none

- Teach kids the following motions:
 - Pray—Fold hands in prayer.
 - Give—Hold hands out in front of you.
 - Go—Jog in place.
- Guide kids to form pairs. If you have an uneven number of children, join in the fun yourself!
- Lead pairs to turn their backs to one another.
- Count down from three.
- Tell kids to quickly turn to face their partners while doing one of the motions.
- Explain that pairs who chose the same motion are out of the game and must be seated.
- Play until only one pair remains.
- Invite all kids to rejoin the group and play again as time allows.
- Mention that praying, giving offerings, and going places to tell about Jesus can all be ways to worship God.
- Tell kids they will hear that worship is an important part of what the church does.
- Watch for the countdown video to signal the end of Huddle Ups. Guide your small group to join the others to begin worship.

Huddle Up: Post-Session

“PRAISE PUPPET”

Prep: none

- Review the Life Point: **The church gathers to worship and praise God.**
- Discuss the various ways that people worship and praise God at your church.
- Give each child a paper bag and markers.
- Lead each child to create a hand puppet.
- Encourage kids to draw on the bag a nose, mouth, eyes, and so on.
- Lead kids to form groups.
- Challenge each group to prepare a puppet show that displays a way to praise God.
- Suggest that groups use their puppets to sing a praise song, repeat a Bible verse, say praise sentences, or demonstrate ways to obey God.
- Give groups time to prepare their puppet shows.
- Allow each group to present its puppet show to the group.

Countdown Video

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Countdown Video*
- ➔ People: none
- ➔ Props: none

(Play the Countdown video to signal the beginning of worship time. Kids will count aloud as they join the large group.)

Worship Song

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: “All” *(lead sheet available on DVD-ROM) or download a worship song of your choice*
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

Worship Leader

Hi, kids! It's great to see you today! I love when our church family gathers to praise and worship God!

Let's do that, right now! Stand and praise God with me as we sing.

(Show the music video.)

(Kids stand to sing.)

WELCOME AND PRAYER

- ➔ Estimated time: 5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Life Point* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Bible Study Leader
- ➔ Props: none

BIBLE STUDY LEADER

Welcome to worship, everyone! I'm glad that each of you could join us today. What do you like to do at church? *(Allow for responses.)*

There are so many great things to do at church! We get to see our friends and play fun games. We hear Bible stories, sing songs, and learn about Jesus. We pray together, give offerings, and serve others.

(Show Life Point slide.)

Most importantly, **the church gathers to worship and praise God.** Say that with me: **"The church gathers to worship and praise God."**

Worship is how we respond to God and what He has done. We worship God when we give Him honor, reverence (*respect*), and praise. What is a way that people can praise God? *(Allow for responses.)* Those are great answers!

Today's Bible verse says that one way to praise God is to sing to Him! Let's say together 1 Chronicles 16:9.

(Show Bible Verse slide—select preferred version.)

(Lead kids to read your preferred version.)

BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):

- Sing to him; sing praise to him; tell about all his wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (CSB)
- Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. 1 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)
- Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. 1 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV)

- Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)
- Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)

Do you have a favorite praise song? What is it? *(Allow for responses.)* I like those songs, too! The songs that we sing at church should praise God for who He is and what He has done. We can sing songs to praise God for sending Jesus and for the ways God cares for us.

Let's pray to praise God and thank Him. After we pray, we will check in with the True2Life team *(or the Mooseberry kids)*.

God, You are awesome, and there is no one like You. Thank You for Your creation and good plans. Thank You for Jesus. Thank You that we can gather to worship and praise You. We love You! In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

TRUE2LIFE DRAMA

- ➔ Estimated time: 3-5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Mooseberry Life Application* video *(optional)*
- ➔ People:
 - Ron *(a church kid who is learning about God)*
 - Dave *(Ron's neighbor who loves baseball)*
- ➔ Props: Bible
- ➔ Prep: none

Ron and Dave enter from opposite sides of the stage. Ron carries a Bible.

Dave: Hey, Ron! Where are you going?

Ron: It's Sunday. I'm going to church with my family. Do you want to come?

Dave: I don't think so. There's a baseball game I want to watch. Besides, church sounds boring.

Ron: What makes you say that?

Dave: Well, it just seems like a really long time to sit and be quiet. Don't you get tired of sitting and listening to people talk?

Ron: That's really not how church is. We do read from the Bible and listen to our pastor, but we also do lots of other stuff, too.

Dave: You do? Like what?

Ron: Well, one reason we go to church is to worship God.

Dave: What's *worship*?

Ron: Worship is responding to God and what He has done. Some of the ways we worship God are singing, giving offerings, and praying.

Dave: Can't you do that at home? Why do you have to go to church to do that?

Ron: We can worship at home, but God wants us to worship as a large group, too. It's encouraging to see other people worship with you.

Dave: I think I get it. It's kind of like baseball.

Ron: Church is like baseball?

Dave: Well, yeah ... but with less dirt.

Ron: You'll have to explain this one to me, Dave.

Dave: Well, it's cool to watch a baseball game on the television at home, but it's more exciting to play the game with your friends.

Ron: Well, that's not exactly the same ... but, I get what you mean.

Dave: I think I can see why church might be cool. You get together with other people who want to cheer for God.

Ron: (*amused*) *Cheer* may not be the right word, but yes, at church we praise and worship God.

Dave: I'll have to think about coming. Church isn't exactly what I thought it was.

Ron: You can come anytime, Dave! You are always welcome to ride with my family.

Dave: Can I come even if I don't know how to worship and praise God like you? I might feel embarrassed if I don't know what to do.

Ron: I'll hang out with you! You won't be by yourself.

Dave: I'll think about it! Have fun at church!

(*They exit.*)

(END SCENE)

CONNECTION POINT GAME

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Game* slide
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, 6 kids
- ➔ Props: 2 dice, 2 cups, 1 sheet of paper, scissors, marker

GAME INSTRUCTIONS:

- *Label each cup: SING IT, DO IT.*
- *Cut a sheet of paper into 10 strips.*
- *On 5 paper strips write the titles of hymns or praise songs with which your group is familiar. (Write 1 title per paper, such as "Jesus Loves Me," "God Is So Good," "Amazing Grace," "Oh, How I Love Jesus," and "The B-I-B-L-E.")*
- *Fold the song titles and place them in the cup labeled "Sing It."*
- *On the remaining 5 papers write:*
 - *Do a chicken dance until the leader says: "Stop."*
 - *Crabwalk across the game area.*
 - *Introduce yourself to all of the members of the other team as if you have never met any of them.*
 - *Play air guitar until the leader says: "Stop."*
 - *Pretend to hit a baseball and run all of the bases.*
- *Fold the papers and place them in the cup labeled "Do It."*
- *Choose 6 kids.*
- *Form 2 teams.*
- *Choose a team to play first.*
- *Invite a player from the first team to roll the dice.*
 - *If the player rolls an even number, lead him to pull a paper from the cup labeled "Sing It."*
 - *If the player rolls an odd number, lead him to pull a paper from the cup labeled "Do It."*
- *Direct the player to read aloud the paper.*

- Challenge the team to sing the song or do the action indicated on the paper.
- Award a point if the team successfully completes the task.
- Alternate turns between teams.
- Keep a point tally and play as time allows.
- Name the team with the most points as the winner.

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Game slide.)

It's time to play a game! Who would like to play?
(Choose six kids. Form two teams.)

Teams, you will take turns rolling the dice and completing a challenge.

If a player on your team rolls an even number, he will reach into the "Sing It" cup, pull out a paper, and read it aloud. Your team must sing the song that's named on the paper.

If a player on your team rolls an odd number, she will reach into the "Do It" cup, pull out a paper, and read it aloud. Each person on your team must complete the challenge that's named on the paper.

We will alternate turns between teams. Teams will earn one point for each song or challenge they complete. If a team doesn't want to sing or do the challenge, the turn is over, and they do not score any points.

Do all of you understand how to play? (Answer any questions and play the game.)

That was fun! Thanks for being good sports and playing along!

Playing a game is fun, but that's not why we come to church. We come to church to worship and praise God. Did you notice that the songs our teams sang were all church songs? Church songs are different from other songs that we hear. Church songs lead us to worship God.

God wants people to gather to worship Him. Let's sing a worship song, right now. After we sing, we will hear about a group of people who gathered to worship God.

WORSHIP SONG

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights (optional)
- ➔ Music: "We Are Your Church" (lead sheet available on DVD-ROM) or download a worship song of your choice
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

WORSHIP LEADER

The writer of Psalm 71:8 says that his mouth is filled with praise all day long! What a wonderful way to live! Sometimes it's easy for our mouths to be full of complaining or arguing. Instead, we should say words of praise and thankfulness to God! Let's stand together and worship Him.

(Show the music video.)

(Lead kids to sit as song ends.)

BIBLE STORY

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Christ Focus and Bible Story slides; Notebook Bible Story video (optional)
- ➔ People: Bible Study Leader
- ➔ Props: Bible; photos of your pastor, worship pastor, and other worship leaders

Option 1: Use the suggested props and tell the following Bible story. Gather photos of your pastor, worship pastor, choir members, orchestra members, offering ushers, and others who help lead your church to worship.

Option 2: Play the Notebook Bible Story video.

Option 3: Tell the Optional Bible Story available on the DVD-ROM. This session's optional Bible story: "David Moved the Ark to Jerusalem," 1 Chronicles 15–16.

BIBLE STUDY LEADER

(Show Bible Story slide.)

We've heard that **the church gathers to worship and praise God**. How do we do that, and who leads us to worship? (Show each photo. Name the person in the

photo and describe his or her role in leading your church to worship.)

It is important for the church to gather and worship. Today's Bible story takes place after King Solomon finished building the temple. Finally, the temple was ready for worship!

(Open Bible to Bible 1 Kings 8.)

Solomon gathered all of the elders, tribe heads, and leaders in Jerusalem. It was time to move the ark of the covenant and other special things into the new temple.

King Solomon and the people of Israel offered sacrifices of sheep, goats, and cattle to God. The priests carried the ark into the inner sanctuary, which was the most holy place in the temple. When the priests came out, a cloud filled the temple, and God's glory was in the cloud.

King Solomon stood before the people and prayed to God. Solomon was glad that God had kept His promise and helped him build the temple.

(Read 1 Kings 8:23.)

He said: LORD God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below.

Solomon prayed for the people and for the future of Israel. He asked God to help them and to forgive their sins. He also asked God to hear their prayers.

(Read 1 Kings 8:54-55;60-61.)

When Solomon finished praying this entire prayer and petition to the LORD, he got up from kneeling before the altar of the LORD, with his hands spread out toward heaven, and he stood and blessed the whole congregation of Israel with a loud voice: ... "May all the peoples of the earth know that the LORD is God. There is no other! Be wholeheartedly devoted to the LORD our God to walk in his statutes and to keep his commands, as it is today."

Solomon and all of Israel celebrated for 14 days. Then the people blessed the king and went back home. They rejoiced and thanked God for His goodness to them.

(Close Bible.)

The people were happy to worship God at the temple, and I'm happy to worship God at our church building. People can worship God anywhere, but it is special when the church worships together. People at church worship by praying, giving, singing, reading the Bible, and learning more about God and Jesus. There are many ways to show our love and praise to God!

(Show Christ Focus slide.)

Because God is holy, only the priests could approach God—and only if they followed special instructions! Jesus changed all of that. Jesus' death and resurrection made the way for people to have a relationship with God. We do not need a priest to ask God to forgive our sin. We can pray to God ourselves! When we trust Jesus as Savior and Lord, we can ask God to forgive our sin and enjoy a relationship with Him forever.

We have so many reasons to worship and praise God. We can worship God just because of who He is. He is good, holy, powerful, and loving. He is Creator, Healer, Comforter, and the one true God! God is awesome, and He is worthy of our worship.

WORSHIP SONG AND OFFERING

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: Use a favorite song or download a worship song of your choice.
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

WORSHIP LEADER

King Solomon praised God and led the people to worship Him. Remember Solomon's words: "LORD God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below." *(1 Kings 8:23)* Let's pray Solomon's prayer to God.

God, there is no God like You in heaven above or on earth below! May all peoples of the earth know that You are God, and there is no other. All praise, honor, and glory belong to You, the one true God! In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Optional Giving Segment:

It's time to give an offering. Some of the money people give at church helps missionaries build churches so people can gather to worship God. If you would like to give an offering today,

(Give your own directions for how the kids can give their offerings. After collecting the offering, guide kids to stand for the worship song.)

CONNECTION POINT BIBLE VERSE

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Bible Verse* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, all kids
- ➔ Props: none

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

- *Select your preferred version of the Bible verse.*
- *Say the verse and lead kids to repeat it after you.*
- *Form groups of 5.*
- *Lead each group to compose a song by using the words of the Bible verse.*
- *Comment that songs may be any genre but may only include the Bible verse as lyrics.*
- *Give groups time to work.*
- *Allow several groups to sing their songs for the large group.*
- *Lead kids to say together the verse.*

BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):

- Sing to him; sing praise to him; tell about all his wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (CSB)
- Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. 1 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)
- Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. 1 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV)
- Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)
- Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! 1 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

Do you remember today's Bible verse? Let's say together 1 Chronicles 16:9.

(Show Bible Verse slide—your preferred version.)

(Lead kids to read your preferred version.)

This verse says we can sing praise to God and tell about the wonderful things He has done. What are some other ways to praise God? *(Allow for responses.)* Those are great ideas! Some people may praise God by doing ballet, painting His creation, or writing praise songs. There are many ways to express our praise and thanks to God!

(Lead the activity.)

CONNECTION POINT MISSIONS

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Missions* and *Connect to Missions* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader
- ➔ Props: none

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Missions slide.)

(Show Connect to Missions slide.)

(Refer to the Connect to Missions slide.) This is the Safadi family. Amer and Victoria Safadi moved to the United States and lived in Cincinnati, Ohio. After a few years, an opportunity opened for them in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Safadis met a woman in Milwaukee. She had been praying for 16 years that God would send a pastor to start an Arabic-speaking church in the area. Amer, Victoria, and Amer's brother began a church!

Soon, the Safadis felt that God wanted them to return to Cincinnati. They prayed for God to show them what He wanted, and God answered their prayers. Amer contacted Travis Smalley, pastor and missionary in Cincinnati. Pastor Travis told Amer that his church would love to help support his family to tell Arabic-speaking people about Jesus. The Safadis packed their bags and moved back to Cincinnati the very next day! Amer's brother stayed in Milwaukee and continued leading the new church.

Almost immediately, God placed Arabic-speaking people in places for Amer and his family to meet. The Safadis started an Arabic-speaking church with 22 people, and within two months, they had 55 people from 8 different countries!

Let's pray for the Safadis as they lead the church in Cincinnati.

(Invite a child to lead the group to pray. If no one volunteers, voice a prayer yourself.)

God, thank You for leading the Safadis to tell Arabic-speaking people about Jesus! We pray that You continue to send people to their church who need to know the good news. Please help the people be ready to listen and believe. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

REAL LIFE CONNECTIONS

- ➔ Estimated time: 3-5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Real Life Connections*, *Real Life Questions*, and *Life Point* slides; microphone to take to individuals in group *(optional)*
- ➔ People: Bible Study Leader
- ➔ Props: none

Lead a conversation with your kids about today's Bible story and Life Point. Show the Real Life Questions slides and discuss each question.

BIBLE STUDY LEADER

(Show Real Life Questions slides.)

We've heard a lot today about worship and praise. Now, I want to hear from you! How do you worship and praise God?

- How do you worship God at church?
- How are songs at church different from other songs you hear?
- Why does God deserve your worship?
- What words can you say to praise God?

(Show Life Point slide.)

The church gathers to worship and praise God. Say that with me: **"The church gathers to worship and praise God."**

I'm thankful for our church. It's good for us to gather and worship God. I'm glad that you came today. Invite a friend and come again next time! I'll see you then.

Leader note: *If you plan to utilize the post-session Huddle Up, dismiss kids to their small groups.*