**1. Motivate**

How can you recognize a genuine fan? (pic of The Big Nut)

* has team colors
* wears a t-shirt with player’s name

A video introduction to the lesson is available. View at <https://watch.liberty.edu/media/1_vu1183t3> . If you have no
Wi-Fi where you teach, best to download to your computer from <https://tinyurl.com/yxf5sg79>

* carries a sign or a big foam hand
* how much noise they make
* always optimistic about their team
* doesn’t miss a home game
* knows all the players
* knows the stats
* has all their player cards
* stands the whole game
* holds his/her team in awe

**2. Transition**

A fan is totally devoted to his or her team, as seen in attitude and actions.

* We could make a comparison to our devotion to God.
* Our relationship with God is seen in how we honor Him.

**3. Bible Study**

3.1 Honor God’s Name

Listen for how to honor God.

Exodus 20:7-11 (NIV) "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. 8 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Consider the significance of a name, especially in the Old Testament period?

* often showed the character of the individual
* might have something to do with the birth or the parents’ reaction to the birth

Lecture
Points

* the name could be chosen to signify family ties
* the name might be given to communicate God’s message
* even today, you probably don’t choose a name for your child that was the name of someone in your past that was mean or silly or maybe the name of your pet – you want a name that will receive respect

So, why was (is) honoring God’s name important, beyond the fact God said we were to do so?

* demonstrates our dedication to Him
* shows we honor who He is
* we are in awe of Him, desire to revere Him
* if we refer to someone by name in a derogatory sense, it does *not* honor them

What are some ways that people today, even believers, can dishonor or misuse God’s name?

* cursing, profanity, mocking
* irreverence – speaking in such a way that we do not hold God in awe, in reverence
* frivolous, insincere, thoughtless use of God’s name
* OMG as a common expression of surprise
* professing Christ, but walking in worldliness certainly dishonors God’s name or reputation

How is the Sabbath to be honored?

* keep it holy – distinct, unique, different, separate
* refrain from work
* you and your whole family, even the servants and the animals are to rest

What is the rationale for resting from work?

* we model God’s treatment of “work” days
* He “worked” six days in creation
* then “rested”, ceased “work” for the 7th day

Why do we often struggle to slow down and take a break?

* we have very crowded schedules
* always lots to do
* we have so many “inputs” into our lives
* there are multiple opportunities to spend our time, our energies, our attention
* if we don’t keep going, someone else will pass us in achievement or rewards
* we might have the feeling that to sit and do nothing productive is unspiritual

What benefits of practicing a day of Sabbath (or Lord’s Day) rest resonate with you?

* we so often feel frazzled, drained in our responsibilities and commitments
* it’s good to be able to set those things aside and fiddle unproductively
* emotionally and physically it’s good to just sit and maybe even drowsily nod off
* spiritually it’s good to take time away from the work week and focus on Who God is and what He is doing

What positive actions can you take to honor the Lord’s day?

* worship, praise
* set aside special time to spend with Him
* take time away from your work activities – don’t become a workaholic or exercise-oholic

3.2 Honor God through Worship

Listen for how the psalmist honored God.

Psalm 145:1-3 (NIV) I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

What title did the psalmist give to God?

* King
* my God
* Jehovah – Yahweh … The God Who IS (contrasted to them who ain’t)

What actions did he commit to taking toward the Lord?

* exalt
* praise
* extol
* praise

Do you think that praise is necessarily communicated or can it just be felt or thought internally?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Must be Communicated | Can be felt/thought internally |
| * Jesus said that if we didn’t praise Him, the very rocks would cry out
* as a group it must be communicated verbally, musically, acted out
 | * admire God through meditation
* view His creation in awe
* silently pray to Him
 |

⇨ Can happen *both* ways … *but it must happen*!!!

How is God’s greatness “unsearchable?” How are his works “mighty”, “wonderful”, and “awe-inspiring”?

* we cannot understand or fathom the size of the universe, and yet he created and controls it all
* God’s creation (even just on this planet) is far beyond our understanding
* many of the complexities of the human body are yet to be understood
* spiritual issues such as why God loves us and wants to forgive us
* we cannot understand the concept of the Trinity
* Scripture gives us hints about the end times, but we cannot see specifics
* why and how the preaching of God’s Word is so powerful and changes lives

What can we do to help stay focused on God’s power during difficult or discouraging circumstances?

* daily reading and heading God’s Word, God’s Truth
* when you cannot pray because of the emotional (or physical) turmoil in your life, pray the Psalms … they express a great variety of emotions and experiences
* don’t abandon God … He does not abandon you
* claim God’s promises

3.3 Honor God in Word and Deed

Listen for admonitions to parents, grandparents.

Psalm 145:4-7 (NIV) One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. 5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. 7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

Beyond his personal commitment to honor God, what was the psalmist convinced must take place?

* he wants to pass on that commitment to children and grandchildren
* he will tell them of God’s mighty acts
* he will make every effort they also honor God and in turn communicate God’s power, authority, and love to *their* children

What are some words the psalmist used to speak of the work of the Lord among humankind?

* mighty acts
* glorious splendor
* majesty
* wonderful works
* awesome works
* great deeds

When have you experienced God’s wondrous works and awe inspiring acts?

* viewing a sunset
* experiencing something like the Grand Canyon
* seeing the stars at night
* God changing someone’s life

In what ways is our faith passed on to the next generation?

* teach memory verses early (children memorize easily)
* teach songs early
* Deut. 6:6-7 (NIV) *These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*
* take them to Sunday School
* be involved in their spiritual experiences
* always be ready/willing to listen when they want to talk
* model the Christian life before them … much more is caught than taught

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week’s lesson.

Application

Repent.

* Confess to God any times you misused the name of God and failed to honor Him with your life.
* Turn away from these failures, turn back to honoring God.

Journal.

* Journaling is a great way of identifying the pressing thoughts on your heart and mind.
* When you sit down to write, the natural flow of your thinking comes out.
* Take a moment each day this week to journal about your relationship with God and thoughts about Him.
* Let your own words reveal to you how much you honor and worship Him.

Share.

* If you are on social media, consider how you can post and share God-honoring posts this week.
* Or consider how you can share a testimony of how great God is and the great acts He has done.
* If you are not on social media, seek to share a testimony of God and His power in your life with others you communicate with during the week.
* Go ahead and brag on God. He deserves it.



More Family Activities at <https://tinyurl.com/yxf5sg79>

Crossword

Clues and words taken from Exodus 20:7-11; Psalm 145:1-7 (NIV)