

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

LESSON 4: GOD IS JEALOUS

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [Overview](#)

This Sunday school lesson will help children understand that our jealousy is bad, but God's jealousy is good because He is the only one we should worship.

by Leah Pittsinger

TOPICS

Character of God, Emotions, Honor God, Jealousy, Knowing God, Love

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

Jealous or Thankful? (Activity) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (12 MINUTES)

"Do not worship any other [thing], for the Lord, whose name is Jealousy, is a jealous God." Exodus 34:14 NIV

Help the children understand that even though our jealousy is bad, God's jealousy is good because He is the only one deserving of our best love, attention, and worship. Tell the children that because God is so good, cares for us, and loves us, He is right to be jealous when we love other things more than Him.

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. If possible, use a children's Bible, so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

Introduction:

Moses was the leader of the Hebrew people, but the people always made bad decisions. They chose to love things (idols) more than they loved God and disobeyed His rules. We do the same thing! God created us and gives us everything we need (including salvation), so He is right to ask for our full love.

Read Deuteronomy 10:14-15, 20-21 (God chose us and deserves our best love.)

Discussion Questions:

1. What belongs to God? (*Everything.*)
2. What has God done for us? (*Chosen us and given us great things.*)
3. How would it feel not to be chosen for a game? (*Sad, angry, upset, etc.*)
4. How must God feel when we chose other things over Him? (*Sad, jealous, etc.*)

Read Romans 6:23 (God gave us eternal life through Jesus.)

Discussion Questions:

1. What are sins? (*The bad things we do.*)
2. Who paid for our sins? (*Jesus, by dying on the cross.*)

Conclusion

Because God has chosen us, given us great things, and provided salvation through Jesus Christ, He is jealous when we love other things more than we love Him. We can be thankful and ask God to help us love Him more than anything else.

FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

All Our Love (Game) [Click here](#)

ALTERNATE FUN TIME (15 MINUTES)

I Am Thankful (Craft) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Start by praying to God and thanking Him for His love, as shown through His provision and the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Then serve the children fruit cups and small cups of water. During the snack, talk with the children about a time when you loved something more than God, and how He used His word to correct and forgive you. Explain that as we learn more about God our love for Him will grow!

CLOSING ACTIVITY (5-10 MINUTES)

As children wait for their parents to arrive, review today's lesson by asking the following questions:

1. Who should we love more than God? (*No one.*)
2. What should we love more than God? (*Nothing.*)
3. Why is God's jealousy justified? (*Because He made us and deserves all our love.*)
4. Why is our jealousy bad? (*Because being jealous means we aren't thankful for what God has given us.*)
5. What can we do when we feel jealous? (*Pray, be thankful, etc.*)

Reiterate to the children that knowing God is jealous for our love should help us make right decisions. Because God created us and provided

salvation through Jesus Christ, it is right for Him to expect all our love. Also add that receiving salvation is a personal choice that must be made before death. Encourage the children to speak to you, a parent, or another Christian adult if they have any questions about believing in Jesus.

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to learn that God should be honored.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

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JEALOUS OR THANKFUL?

This activity helps children understand that our jealousy is wrong but thankfulness is right.

by Leah Pittsinger

TOPICS:

Jealousy, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Bible

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Ask the children to sit in front of you on the floor.

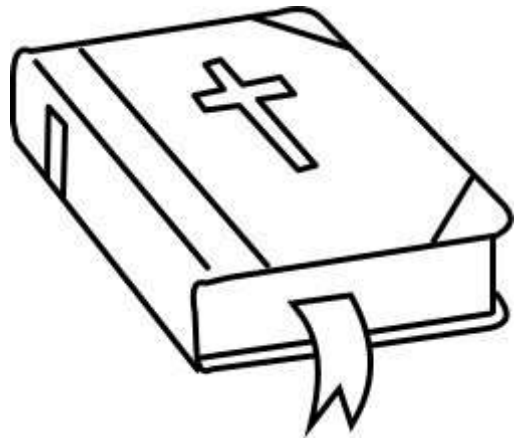
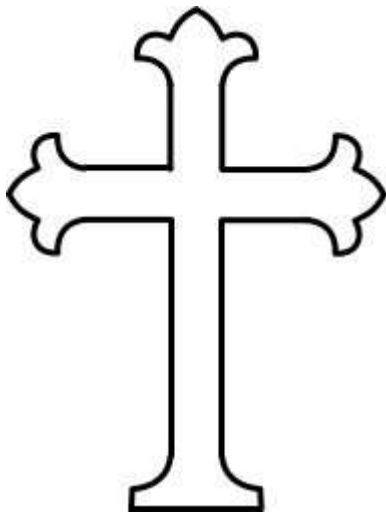
Explain to the class that being jealous means wanting what someone else has. Instead of being jealous, we should be thankful for what God has given us. Ask the children to listen to the following examples and quietly raise their hands to state whether the person is jealous or thankful.

1. Mary's friend received a brand new toy for her birthday, so Mary went home and cried because she didn't have a new toy.
2. Josh didn't have brand new clothes like his older brother, but he was glad to wear the nice clothes his brother had outgrown.
3. Ashley didn't have a juice box in her lunchbox like her friends, but she was happy her mom had remembered to pack her favorite chips.
4. Brandon had a special day with his dad but became upset when it was his little sister's turn to have a special day with their dad.

Help the children understand that human jealousy is bad and results from sin. We have the choice to choose thankfulness instead of jealousy. Complete the activity by reading **Philippians 4:11-12 & 19**. Explain to the class that being "content" means being thankful with what God has provided. Encourage the children to turn their love back to God and be thankful when they feel jealous.

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I AM THANKFUL

A free Bible craft which creates a book to remind children to be thankful to God instead of envious of others.

by Leah Pittsinger

TOPICS:

Knowing God, Thankfulness

MATERIALS:

Bible Activity Handout [PDF] [Click here](#)
Crayons or markers
Safety scissors
Hole-punch
Yarns



DURATION:

Approximately 15 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print a bible activity page for each child and disperse the craft supplies.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Tell the class that you are all going to color and create a book to remind them to be thankful to God instead of envious toward others. Give each child a coloring sheet, crayons, and / or markers. As they finish coloring, help them cut out each smaller page and then punch a hole in the top left hand corner of each piece. Finish by stacking the pages together and tying a piece of yarn through the punched holes to create the miniature books.

Conclude the activity by encouraging the children to look at their books whenever they feel envious, so they can be reminded to show God gratitude for what He has given them.

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ALL OUR LOVE

The children will play a memory game as a reminder that God deserves all our love, for He is jealous when we love other things more than Him.

by Leah Pittsinger

TOPICS:

Jealousy, Knowing God, Love

MATERIALS:

Card stock paper
Memory game cards [PDF] [Click here](#)
Small plastic bags



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print one set of cards for every two children and place each set in a plastic bag.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Tell the class that we should love God the most, so He is jealous when we love other things (*such as the objects on the cards*) more than Him. Also add that because God created us, loves us, and cares for us, He sent Jesus to die for our sins. He is right to expect our love for Him to come before everything and everyone else.

Split your class into small groups of two each. Tell them to work together to play the memory game. Show the children how to play the game by first spreading out and placing all of the cards facedown on the table. Then, they will take turns with their partner to find matches by picking up two cards at a time. If the cards don't match, then they will be returned facedown to their original places. If the cards match, then they will be set aside until all the matches have been found.

Conclude by talking about each object on the card and how God is jealous when we love other things more than Him. Because God sent Jesus to pay for our sins (*the bad things we do*), we should focus all our love on Him.

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