

Celebrate Together



Description:

An object lesson, a video and a celebration

Aims:

- Recognize and appreciate God's Word as a precious gift
- Thank God for having a Bible that they can understand
- Pray for those who still wait for God's Word in their own languages

Audience:

Grades 1-6

Space Needed:

Classroom

Country/Area:

World

Minimum Time Requirements:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| • Object lesson | 3 minutes |
| • Celebration discussion | 4 minutes |
| • Video clip | 4 minutes |
| • Scripture discussion | variable |
| • Celebration planning | 18 minutes |
| • Celebrate and pray | 5 minutes |

Scripture to Study:

- Jeremiah 15:16
- Psalm 119:103
- Psalm 119:105
- Psalm 119:127
- Ephesians 6:17
- Nehemiah 8:12

Materials:

- *My Volcano Adventure* Resource CD available at: http://www.wycliffe.ca/store/book_kids.html
- Computer
- Digital projector
- Screen or blank wall
- Cookies or another treat for everyone
- One copy of activity page 15 for each child (p. 5 of this lesson)
- Bible
- Box (optional)
- Wrapping paper
- Five note cards or slips of paper
- Information about dedication celebrations from <http://www.discipleland.com/downloads/moreinfo/celebrate.pdf>
- Paper and pencil for each group

Pre-class Preparations:

- Wrap a Bible as a beautiful gift. You may want to place it in a box before wrapping it so that the shape and size of the package don't give away the identity of the contents. Include cards in the package with the verses listed on page 1 under "Scripture to Study" except Nehemiah 8:12, written on them. If time and student proficiency allows for students to look up the verses, you may want to only write the chapter and verse references.
- Make copies of activity page 15 (page 5 of this lesson).
- Download and print information about dedication celebrations from:
<http://www.discipleland.com/downloads/moreinfo/celebrate.pdf>
- Set up computer and projector pointed toward screen or blank wall
- Cue up "*Life Without the Bible*" and/or "*KC's Travels: Celebrate!*" from the resource CD

Class Time:

OBJECT LESSON

Hold up the package containing the Bible for the children to see. Tell them,

This package contains an incredible gift. It gives joy, light and protection. It is pure, sweeter than honey, and more valuable than gold. God wants *everyone* to have it. Can you guess the contents of this package?

After the children have taken a few guesses, invite one or two students to the front. Ask them to open the package and display its contents to the whole group. Say,

Did the Bible disappoint you? Maybe you wished for candy or the latest computer game. The Bible is more *wonderful* than either of those gifts! Let's read these verses so we can understand the Bible's value better.

Ask volunteers to read the verses listed on the cards. After they read them all, say,

Wow! God's Word, the Bible, truly is an amazing and powerful gift.

Materials:

- Bible
- Box (optional)
- Wrapping paper
- Five note cards or slips of paper with Bible verses written on them

CELEBRATION DISCUSSION

Tell the students,

Imagine what it would be like if you didn't have the wonderful gift of God's Word in the language you understand best. Now, imagine finally receiving one. How would you feel? Let's read about how some people celebrated receiving God's Word in their own language for the first time.

Read activity page 15 together. Use the explanations from <http://www.discipleland.com/downloads/moreinfo/celebrate.pdf> to help children understand some unusual ways that people have celebrated God's Word.

VIDEO CLIP

Tell the children,

Let's watch this video and find out how people from around the world felt when they received God's Word in their own languages.

Play "Life Without the Bible" from the resource CD or play a short clip (five minutes maximum) from a Bible dedication.

Ask,

How did these people feel about having God's Word in their own languages?

Allow a few children to respond.

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

Read Nehemiah 8:12. Tell the children,

We will end the class with our own celebration of God's Word.

CELEBRATION PLANNING

Divide the children into groups of two to four. Give them the following instructions.

Materials:

- One copy of activity page 15 for each child (page 5 of this lesson)
- Information about dedication celebrations from the DiscipleLand website

Materials:

- Resource CD
- Computer
- Digital projector

Materials:

- Bible

Materials:

Paper and pencil for each group

I want each group to create a way to celebrate having God's Word in your own language. You may want to write a poem, a song or a play; or you may want to draw a picture. Use your creative minds to express your thankfulness to God for His Word in your language.

Give the groups 10 minutes to work on their projects.

Ask each group to present their creations.

CELEBRATE AND PRAY

Tell the children,

Let's finish our celebration by enjoying a snack and watching a video. Then we will close with a prayer of thanks to God.

Distribute cookies or some other treat and watch the *KC's Travels: Celebrate* clip from the Resource CD as the children enjoy their treat.

Close by thanking God for His Word in our language and asking Him to send His Word to those who still don't have it.

Materials:

- Resource CD
- Computer
- Digital projector
- Cookies or another treat for everyone

Every leaf on this tree shows a language still waiting for a Bible.

It makes me want to help all people get Bibles.

Wow, we'll need a big team to finish all these!

The Bible is more important than I ever realized!

Celebrate Together!

People around the world celebrate the arrival of their new Bibles in many creative ways. Some people wear headdresses and dance around the Bibles. Others spit coffee at them. Others dig a hole in their church floor and remove a lamp from it. No matter how they celebrate, everyone is excited to have a Bible in his or her own language!

Do you have a Bible in your language? How can you celebrate that blessing?

