

## Lesson 13: Reward for Obedience and Punishment for Disobedience

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Study Leviticus 26 and see the rewards and punishments God decrees
- 2) Make a garden craft to remember ways to obey God and be blessed because of our obedience.
- 3) Make a poster to remember all the ways God would bless the Israelites for obedience.

### Supplies:

#### Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Garden Background Template – print one per student on white cardstock or construction paper
- Garden Vegetables Template – print one for every two students on white paper
- Scissors to share
- Glue sticks, tape, or white glue to share

#### Optional:

- Draw the Rewards for Obedience Poster – one per child

#### Snack:

- Fruit or Vegetables to represent an abundant harvest 4 pieces per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

### Lesson:

#### 1) Introduction to Lesson

2-5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming.

Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Once children are seated say:

**Does anyone remember what we studied last week?** We studied that Aaron's two sons – Nadab and Abihu disobeyed God and offered unauthorized fire before Him, causing their death.

**This week we are going to continue studying the life of Moses and the Israelites by looking at what God promised them as rewards for being obedient and punishments for being disobedient. This has come after God has given further rules and decrees for them to follow which we are not going to study at this time.**

**Do you have punishments when you do something wrong at home?** Yes.

**What are some punishments you have received for doing wrong things – share only if you want?**

Grounded, lost use of toys or allowance, lost privilege of TV. or games, etc.

**When we do something wrong, we won't learn that it is wrong unless someone corrects us or sometimes punishes us for doing that wrong thing. God, because He loves us, tells us what things are wrong so we know to avoid them. It is not a guess – if we do something wrong, it is because we know it is wrong and we choose to do it anyway. That will result in consequences and punishment.**

**Let's look at what God says are the rewards and punishments He would give to the Israelites.**

#### 2) Leviticus 26 – Rewards and Punishment for Israelites and Their Obedience 10-15 minutes

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to **Leviticus 26**. Ask for a volunteer to read from

**Leviticus 26:3-13** or read yourself. After you have finished the reading, say:

**What were the blessing God promised the Israelites for obedience?** He would send rain and the crops would produce, they would have all the food they wanted and live in safety, no one would make them afraid, they could conquer all their enemies easily, there would be no wild animals or war, they would have blessed large families and nation, and most importantly God would be with them and dwell among them!

**How does God bless us today?** Same way, plus the blessing of having the Holy Spirit when we are baptized so God dwells not just with us but **within** us! Also we have the blessing of the complete Bible to know Christ and how to live godly lives pleasing to the Lord; and we get to share this good news to our family and friends!

### Read Leviticus 26:14-22

**If the Israelites disobeyed what were some of the consequences for their sin?** Sudden terror, disease, fever, drought, famine, and enemies that would take over their food supply, fear, and paranoia even when no one is coming for them, wild animals will attack, and their numbers will diminish.

### Read Leviticus 26:23-39

**What are some other consequences for disobedience?** Plague, handed over to enemies, lack of food, death of children, destruction of false idols, cities will be ruined, the nation will be scattered and they will waste away.

**How does that sound?** Pretty terrifying!

### Read Leviticus 26:40-46

**Will God forgive them if they repent and turn back to Him?** Yes but they will still have the consequences of their sins.

**For example: If someone steals and asks God for forgiveness, He will forgive them but they still have to face the consequences of theft –they will still have to go to court and be punished by the law and they will have a permanent record for life for breaking the law. Even though God forgives us after we sin, we still have to deal with the consequences – God can't and won't remove them.**

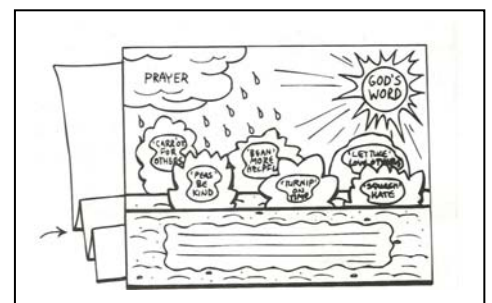
**So, is it better to obey God or disobey and ask for forgiveness afterwards? OBEY GOD FIRST!**

### 3) Grow in God's Word and Obey Garden Craft

Hand out one Garden Background template and one set of the vegetable templates to each child along with crayons. Read the words aloud on the vegetables and on the garden base and look up the passage in **2 Peter 3:18**. Allow students to color and cut out the vegetables and then the garden background.

Have children fold back and forth on the dashed lines as shown on the picture to create a fan shape at the bottom of the garden.

10-15 minutes



Apply glue using glue sticks, tape, or white glue where shown to make two pockets in the base of the garden to hold the vegetables – see arrow. Then have students insert the plants and see if they can figure out what each vegetable is supposed to represent. While students cut out and color ask:

**Questions:**

**What was the scariest punishment that you read today and why?**

**What was the nicest blessing that God promised and why?**

**What does “Squash hate” mean? What does “Peas be kind” mean?** Go through the list until they have all been discussed.

**What does the verse in 2 Peter 3:18 mean in relation to what we learned today about obedience to God?** We can grow in God by reading and following His Word in the Bible. And we need to remember that unlike Nadab and Abihu we need to bring glory to God in a way He wants, not the way we think. And, we will only know what ways please God by studying His Word.

**4) Optional – Draw the Rewards of Obedience Poster 10 -15 minutes**

Hand out one sheet to each student with a pencil and crayons. Read the blessings aloud and let each child draw a picture for each blessing God said He would give the Israelites for obedience. Help children come up with ideas and reading the words.

When done review the blessings and have students clean up before moving on to the next activity.

\*Remind children about why obedience is better than disobedience – because of the blessings and no bad consequences!

**5) Optional – Snack: Fruit and/or Vegetable Pieces 5 minutes**

Hand out a few pieces of fruit or vegetables to each child along with a glass of water. Say to the children: **today we learned that God would bless the Israelites with abundant food and crops if they obeyed Him. We are going to enjoy the food God blesses us today with while we eat from His bountiful harvest. Let’s remember that obeying God is better because we will be blessed when we do, including having good food to eat for our families and no bad consequences to deal with.**

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss any questions while snacking.

**6) Optional – Songs 5 minutes**

Have children sing songs with you; choose from songs from your Hymn book. Examples might be:

Holy, Holy, Holy  
Count Your Blessings  
Oh, How I Love Jesus  
Trust and Obey

**7) Close in prayer**

\*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

We pray that we will always want to follow Your Holy commands and treat You and Your wishes with respect and fear. Help us to know how to please You Lord, by studying Your Holy Word. Help us to remember to be kind and loving to others, to tell others about You and Your Son and we pray that You will help keep our lives free from sin and thank you that You do provide the opportunity to have our sins forgiven. In Jesus precious and holy name, Amen.