

Lesson 15: God is Righteous!

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Define the word righteous and determine that God is righteous by looking at bible verses
- 2) Do a game, color page, and fill in the blanks activity to help reinforce the idea
- 3) Create a "God is righteous" banner to help remember all the ways God is righteous

Supplies: Coordinator will ensure these supplies are already in your room.

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons/Crayons
- Pencils
- Attendance Chart
- Stickers for Attendance
- God is Righteous Fill in the Blank – one per child
- Target for Dart Game Template – Print on White Cardstock and laminate if possible
- Plastic Page Protector Sheet – if unable to laminate dart template
- Rubber Darts (from Dollar store/toy store) darts were in lesson 2.
- Banner Paper (11 x 17 computer copy paper or large construction paper) - one per child
- Banner Template – one per child
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Chalkboard or Easel to write down ideas for all to see

Optional

Scripture Verse Cut Out Activity:

- Paper Bag
- Template of Verses on God's Righteousness – print one copy and cut out each verse so kids can pick one from the bag.

Dictionary: to define words that are discussed in commandments, bible verses etc.

Snack:

- Organic Carrots one per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- 100% pure Juice or water and cup one per child

1) Introduction to Lesson

10-15 minutes

As students enter welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Have children put a sticker beside their name for this week on their attendance chart. Once children are seated say;

What have we learned about God so far? (God is Love, God is worthy of praise, God is faithful, God is fair and just, God is our provider, God is merciful, God is holy) **Today we are going to learn that God is also Righteous.**

Let's turn to Psalm 119:137-138 and read it aloud together.

Psalm 119:137-138

O Lord, You are righteous, and Your regulations are fair. Your laws are perfect and completely trustworthy.

Because God is always right, what does this verse say about His regulations (His regulations are His law and His words and they are always right!)

WHAT IS RIGHTEOUS?

Can anyone tell me what righteous is? Raise your hand if you know. (Encourage children to raise hands and tell you what they think it is. Examples may be – being right or holy.)

The word righteous means that God does everything right in both the physical and spiritual world; He will not do anything that is unjust or wrong.

God is 100% Right, so we can rely on his justice 100%.

God is 100% Right, so we can trust completely in His Faithfulness, Love and Mercy.

God is 100% Right, so we know for certain that God's Words are totally true.

When we talk about God's Righteousness, we're talking about God being right ALL the time! The most important thing to know about God's Righteousness is that it means He is always right. Everything He does, everything He says, and everything He thinks is right. He's never wrong... not even a little bit.

God's Law's are righteous because God is righteous.

Here's the problem: Some people don't want to change their behavior, so they try to change God.

Here are the facts: God is either Right 100% of the time or He's not. If He's not, then He's not God.

If a person tries to tell you that something isn't sin and you know the Bible clearly says that it is, you can be sure they aren't talking about a Righteous God, and therefore, they aren't talking about God.

Because God is Always Right, you can trust that everything He does and says is right.

Because God is Always Right, you can trust that His Laws are right and that if you follow them you won't be wrong.

Do you know how fish breathe? (As they swim, the water moves through their gills and their body takes in the oxygen it needs.) **Do you know what happens when a fish stops swimming?** (The water does not move through its gills and so it dies.) **Swimming isn't just a fun activity for fish; it is a part of who they are. Swimming is what a fish does because it's a fish. If a fish stops swimming, that fish will die.**

Now let's talk about God's righteousness. Remember when we talked about the fact that God is Holy? Do you remember what that means? (He's totally clean and pure -- no sin.)

Because of God's holy nature, it is impossible for Him to be anything less than perfect. If He were ever wrong, then He wouldn't be perfect. Some people try to act perfect. God and His Son are the only Ones who actually are!

Just like the fish must swim, God must be righteous, or He isn't Holy and He isn't God.

Let's read Revelation 15:4:

Revelation 15:4:

Who will not fear You, Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before You, for Your righteous deeds have been revealed.

2) God is Righteous Scripture Fill in the Blank

5-10 minutes

Hand out one Scripture Fill in the Blank page to each child along with a pencil. Ask them to write their name on the page. For younger children they can listen as you read through it and help pick out what each picture means. Tell the children, **"We are going to fill in the blanks with the correct words from the bible and discover the meaning of the pictures in this Bible verse by looking them up in your Bible. First let's turn to Isaiah 33:5-6 it is in the middle of your bible. Now let's go through the page, whenever we come to a blank or a picture, let's raise our hand if you know what should go in that space based on the bible verse in Isaiah.** (Go through the verse asking children to say what each picture or blank should be. At each big word, show them the meaning of it by looking at the definitions at the bottom of the page. Ask after each section of the verse say, **"What is the Bible saying here?"** For help see ideas below.)

Isaiah 33:5-6

The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high;

(God is worthy of high honor and praise because he lives in heaven and is God.)

he will fill Zion with his justice and righteousness.

(God will fill His Kingdom with justice and righteousness – doing what is right and fair and being right and fair.)

He will be the sure foundation for your times,

(God is the basis or starting point for your life)

a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge;

(God is a rich storage house of how to be saved and full of wisdom. And, because God is wise he can give us salvation and wisdom as well because of His characteristic of always being right.)

the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure.

(Being in awe and being aware of God and his desires for our life and doing them is like receiving the key to a treasure. It is the way to get to heaven – respecting God and his authority!)

3) God is Righteous Dart Game

10 minutes

Have students turn to their Bibles to Exodus 20:1-17, have each child (if comfortable) take a turn reading a command. Explain what each one means and say to them, **"We can see 10 ways that God's ways are right by looking at the common sense we find in the 10 commandments. These are the commandments God gave to the Israelites. Today because of the New Testament we don't keep the Sabbath but now we go to church on the first day of the week (Sunday!)"**

Print the Target from the template on white construction paper in color. Laminate and cut out. Or, if you cannot laminate, place sheet inside plastic page protector Hang somewhere on a wall with tape (be careful not to place near something breakable.) Purchase rubber darts with gun from a dollar store or toy store.

What are different ways we see God's righteousness?

What is Exodus 20 saying? We are going to play a game to find out more about this. To play the game we are going to throw rubber darts one at a time at a target. When you hit the target, you will be asked some questions based on the command you land on or land closest too. This will help us learn some of the righteous commands God has given.

While children are still seated, number them off one, two, three, etc. The first child gets up goes to the target and takes a turn throwing a dart at the target, whatever command they land closest to read out that command from Exodus 20 and then ask the child to describe what they think it means- ex: 1st Command - Definition: Thou shall have no other gods before me. Meaning: I should not worship anyone but God! Continue until every child has at least two turns. If time you can continue until every child has had five turns or even more! For younger children, you may need to describe a meaning that relates to the command they landed on for them

These commands show us the characteristic of God. Because God is righteous! He gives righteous commands to follow and because he is always right we know these are good and right things to do! Any Questions? At the end ensure all darts are returned and things are cleaned up.

4) Optional: God is Righteous Scripture Verse Read Out 10 minutes

Gather a paper bag and print copy of scripture verses from CD template. Cut out verses in advance before class. Fold each verse and place in paper bag. Tell the kids, **"To learn about the righteousness of God we are going to pass around the paper bag and pick out a verse. Once you have a verse read it aloud or you can pass it to me to read. We'll then go to the next person and let them choose a verse from the bag to read.** Once a verse is picked, have the child read it out loud (if they are comfortable) and then ask the class, **"What is this verse saying about God? What does it mean?"** Go around until all verses are picked out and discussed.

5) God is Righteous Banner Craft 15-20 minutes

Hand out one piece of construction paper or large copy paper to each child for their banner. Tell kids to write their name on the back of the paper. Then hand out markers, crayons or pencil crayons along with a piece of template paper for each child. The template paper has the words "God is Righteous" written with various numbers printed out as well.

"Each week that we study a characteristic about God we will make a banner. This will help us remember that God is many things and all of them amazing! This week we will add to our banner and make a God is Righteous page! I am handing out some numbers you can color and cut out along with the phrase "God is righteous." Today we studied a number of ways God is righteous, you can use the numbers to make a list of all the ways God is righteous or you can use the numbers to talk about the different numbers we

talked about today – the Ten Commandments, God being 100% right, etc. You can go through your activity sheets for words or ideas of things that remind you of how God is righteous. You can also draw pictures of things that remind you. Remember to fill up the whole banner with things and ways that show God is always right! Hand out scissors and glue for students who want to use the template. **You can also decorate each number with a different design – flowers, stars, dots, stripes, etc.**

Go ahead and start and if you need help or have any questions feel free to ask!

Make sure students have access to their bibles and activity pages for ideas and if necessary help them with cutting, gluing, verse look ups, or other things. Ensure kids clean up before leaving. If banners are dry kids can take them home or you can collect them and then hand them out to each child at the end with all banners the child will make stapled together to make one huge rolled up banner!

6) Optional – Snack : Organic Carrots and Juice

5 minutes

Hand out carrots along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Show the kids that **the snacks you are eating are 100% Organic or pure. They are right for you because they are 100% free from mistakes or chemicals.** Remind the children that **God is 100% right too. He is always good for you and perfect for you to learn from and to talk to. His ways are always the best and right ways so you can enjoy learning about his ways and know it is good for you, just like these carrots!** Have a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions and examples of how God is righteous while snacking!

7) Close in prayer

Thank you God for being able to be 100% right, always, all the time. Thank you that we can rely on you to do the right thing and be the right answer all the time so we know we can always trust in your word and commandments. We pray that we will tell others about your righteousness so that they too can find peace and comfort knowing that you are a perfect and righteous loving God! Help us to learn how to be righteous too because You God are righteous and through You and Your Son we can be right too by following Your ways. We ask all of this in Your Son's precious, holy and righteous name, Amen.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!