

Preschool Winter
Lesson 2:
Joseph and Mary Obey God

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) See two examples in the Bible of people who obeyed God- Joseph and Mary! **Luke 1:38 and Matthew 1:18-25**
- 2) Do activities to reinforce the idea that we need to obey God just like Joseph and Mary did

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for Ideas

Supplies: Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Charts -from previous class – one per student
- Joseph Obeys God Color Page – one per student
- Mary and Joseph Paper Towel People Sheet – one sheet per student cut before class
- Empty paper towel cardboard rolls – 5 inches approximately in height x 2 rolls per student
- Tape to share
- Scissors to cut out Mary and Joseph People – cut out figures before class for those too young to cut
- I Will Obey Feet Template - one template for class to share

Depending on time choose some optional activities to do and gather supplies

- Angel and Mary Stick Figure Template – cut out and printed on cardstock to use as Popsicle stick people – one for each student (Keep these in class as you will use them again if you did not already make them from last class)
- Joseph Stick Figure Template - cut out and printed on cardstock to use as Popsicle stick people – one for each student (Keep these in class as you will use them again)
- Popsicle sticks – three per student – one for Mary, Angel, and Joseph Figures
- Tape to share – to tape the stick to the cardstock Popsicle figures
- Bibles – one per child
- Snack – Bible Book shaped snack such as rectangle shaped cheese or crackers – enough so each child gets some along with a napkin and a glass of water

1) Introduction to lesson:

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance charts from previous class). Let each child color a star in their attendance chart for this week, if a new child arrives put their name on a chart for them and let them color in a star.

Have them sit on the floor (on mats if available) close together. Tell them, **“Today we are going to talk about God and how much He loves us and wants us to obey Him. We need to obey His Word – the Bible!** (Hold up a Bible.) **We will see two people in the Bible that obeyed God – Mary and Joseph!**

Let's sing some songs to get us started!

God is Great

Tune: London Bridge

God made all the stars above*, stars above*, stars
above*.
God made all the stars above*.
God is great.

(*lands and seas, fish and whales, dogs and cats)

The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me.
I stand alone on the Word of God,
The B-I-B-L-E.

Chorus

Oh the Bible will never fail, never fail, never fail.
The Bible will never fail – no, no, no!

The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me.
I read and pray, trust and obey,
The B-I-B-L-E.
(Chorus)

The B-I-B-L-E

Hand out one Bible to each child. Say to students. **Last time we will learned that the Bible is VERY special. Do you know why? Because it is God's! God made the Bible for us and the Bible has all of God's Words in it for us to obey. Isn't that wonderful? God made the Bible for each and every one of us! God loves us very much and wanted each one of us to have a Bible to read, to use and to study His wonderful words. God loves us and expects us to obey Him. Today we are going to talk about obeying God – just like Mary and Joseph did.**

Let's all say "Thank you God for our Bibles!" Have students say it together. **Good job!**

I am going to tell you about two wonderful people that obeyed and listened to God. Mary and Joseph. We will read from the Bible.

***Optional:** Print and cut out one Mary, Angel, and Joseph Popsicle stick figure each and tape them to sticks before class. Use these every time you mention Mary, the angel, or Joseph. You can also make one set for each student so that they can hold up each figure as you read the story about Mary and Joseph obeying as well, to help them stay focused. (Keep these for use in other lessons)

I will read from Luke 1:26-38 and Matthew 1:18-25 (Read the account below that is a simplified version from the Bible, but have your Bible open so they students know it is coming from the Word of God.) *If doing the optional activity remind the students to hold up their figures each time you say – Mary, angel, or Joseph.

An angel (show angel) named Gabriel came to Mary (show Mary) and said, "The Lord is with you, you are blessed because you will have a Son, He is the Son of God and you are to name him Jesus." Mary (show Mary) replied: "I will obey, let it be as you say." So Mary (show Mary) obeyed God! (Put down Mary and angel)

Now Joseph (show Joseph) had a dream and an angel of the Lord (show angel) appeared to Joseph (show Joseph). The angel said (show angel) "Joseph, (show Joseph) do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife (show Mary, then put her down) for the child she is to have is the Son of God and you are to name him Jesus." When Joseph (show Joseph) woke up, he did as the angel (show angel) of the Lord commanded him and took Mary as his wife. (show Mary and Joseph)

Mary and Joseph obeyed God. When they were told to do something, they listened. When we listen to God and obey – that makes God happy! We need to obey God just like Mary and Joseph did by doing what God tells us to do. We know what he wants us to do by looking at the Bible – God's Word! We will spend more time talking about the Bible and how special it is, but for now, let's put our Bibles and Popsicle People down and go sit at the table.

2) Joseph and Mary Obey God with Color Page

10-15 minutes

Have the students now come to the table to sit, have the teacher assistant hand out one color page to each child along with crayons. Write their names on the back of each sheet. Let them scribble-color as you talk about what they see in the picture (Joseph and the angel)



Explain to the children, **“The Bible is very special. It is God’s Word. The Bible tells us we need to obey God because He loves us, watches over us and sees everything we do. The Bible tells us to listen and read the words inside. You are following the Bible when you read and obey what it says, just like Mary and Joseph obeyed God!”** Ask students to help clean up before moving on to the next activity. **How did Mary and Joseph obey God?** They did what God asked – they got married and took care of Jesus – God’s Son!

How do we obey God? Should we listen to our parents? Yes!

Should we go to church services on Sunday? Yes!

Should we read the Bible? Yes!

Should we pray? Yes!

Should we listen to our teachers? Yes!

Very good – we obey God when we read the Bible, pray, go to church services and obey our parents, teachers and God!

Now that we are done, let’s all help clean up by putting our Bibles and crayons away! Thank those students who choose to help and praise them for helping to encourage other students to want to help as well.

Clean Up Song

Clean up, clean up
Everybody everywhere!
Clean up, clean up
Everybody do your share!
Repeat

Happy News

Tune: London Bridge

An angel brought Mary happy news,
Happy news, happy news.
An angel brought Mary happy news,
The Bible tells me so.

Smile, Mary, Smile

Tune: Are You Listening

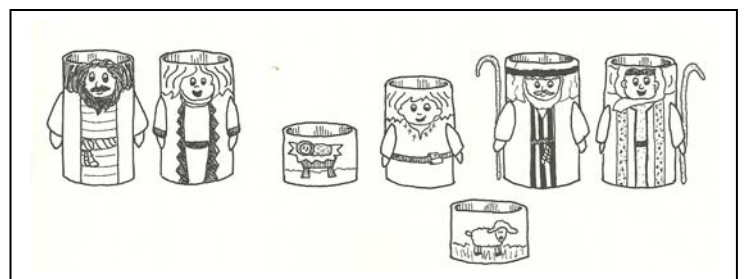
Smile, Mary smile
Smile, Mary smile
Happy news, happy news!
You will have a baby, He is God’s Son.
Smile, Mary smile – happy news!

Smile, Mary smile
Smile, Mary smile
Happy news, happy news!
God’s Son Jesus – will bring joy.
Smile, Mary smile – happy news!

3) Mary and Joseph Paper Towel People Craft

10-15 minutes

Hand out one Mary and Joseph paper towel people sheet to each student and let them scribble color Mary and Joseph. Point out who is Mary and who is Joseph. As they color talk about the fact that Mary and Joseph obeyed God and listened to



Him. We need to obey as well – just like Mary and Joseph. Write the student’s name somewhere where you can see it as you will keep these for play time each week.

After they color the sheets, cut them out (or you can cut them out before class) and show the students how to wrap the people around a paper towel roll that is cut to the same height as the people. Wrap each person around a roll and tape the person together at the back (see picture above). Next, tape the arms to the sides as shown. Let the students play with Mary and Joseph and tell them that each week we will add more people as we learn more about Jesus as a young child.

Before cleaning up and putting things away remind students that: **“The Bible says that Jesus is God’s Son. Mary and Joseph obeyed God by having Jesus and raising him according to God’s will. We need to obey God too and we know how by following the Bible – God’s Word!”**

4) Action Rhyme and Songs 5 minutes

Let’s do some action rhymes about the Bible!

Action Rhyme – Here is the Bible

Here is the Bible (hold hands out with palms together like a book)
Let’s open it wide (hold hands like an open book)
God speaks to us (point upward)
On the pages inside (hold hands like an open book)

Action Play – The Bible Says

The Bible says, “Pray” I will obey.
(Fold hands and bow head)
The Bible says, “Listen” I will obey.
(Cup hand to ear)
The Bible says, “Give” I will obey.
(Pretend to drop money in basket)
The Bible says, “Go to church” I will obey.
(Walk fingers along arm or step feet up and down)
The Bible says, “Sing” I will obey.

Baby Jesus Action Rhyme

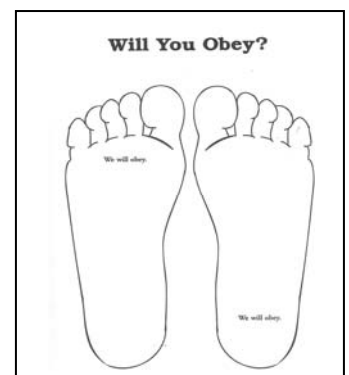
A stable, (Make house with hands)
A manger, (Make box with hands)
A baby, (Cradle a “baby”)
With animals all around. (Arms stretched out)
The baby is sleeping. (Fold hands against cheek)
Let’s tiptoe, (walk or use fingers to tip toe)
And not make even a sound. (Sh-h-h!)

Jesus Grows Up Action Rhyme

Jesus was a Little Baby
(Hold arms as if rocking a baby)
Just like me.
(Point to self)
First he was so very small.
(Squat on floor)
Then he grew to be so tall.
(Stand on tiptoes)
Very small, oh so tall
(Squat then stand)
Just like me.
(Point to self)

5) I Will Obey Feet Action Song Game 5 minutes

To help us remember today that God wants us to obey, we are all going to stand in a row (point to where you want students to stand so they can all see what you are doing and face you.) **Once we are lined up, I am going to put down this sheet of paper that has a pair of feet on it.** (Put paper down on floor where all students can see.) **I will call one of you at a time, whoever is standing nice and quiet can go first and next. When I call your name, I**



want you to come and stand on these feet. (Point to paper feet). Then we will all sing a song while one of you stands on the feet. We will take turns till everyone gets a chance to stand on the feet and have a song sung about them!

Sing the following song while each student takes a turn standing on the feet.

Tune: Skip to My Lou – insert students name where “Emmy” name is.

Emmy, Emmy, will you obey God?
Emmy, Emmy, will you obey God?
Emmy, Emmy, will you obey God?
Oh, will your feet obey?

Emmy says, “I will obey God!”
Emmy says, “I will obey God!”
Emmy says, “I will obey God!”
“Yes my feet will obey

At the end say; **Do you ever have trouble obeying? If so, remember this song and remember that we will obey what God says in the Bible and that makes God happy! Let’s all have happy obedient feet that obey God’s Word – the Bible!**

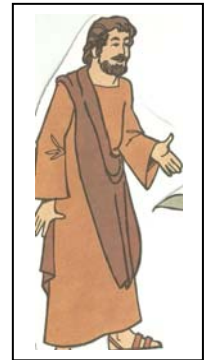
Say, **“God speaks to me through the Bible. He tells me to go to church services on Sunday. I want to do what God says. So, I obey! I do not go on Saturday, I do not go on Monday, because God tells me to go worship Him on Sunday. I obey God and that makes God happy and me happy too!**

Did you obey God by coming to church services on Sunday today? Yes you did! Good job – that makes God happy when we obey His Bible!

6) Optional: Mary, Joseph and Angel – We Can Pretend Play Time

5-10 minutes

Before class: If you made the Mary and Angel Popsicle People from last class gather them now. If not print them and cut them out. Then, cut out one Joseph Stick person per student printed out on cardstock or heavy construction paper. Tape a Popsicle stick to the back of each so that the children can hold the bottom of the stick and move each figure around.



During class: Pass around one of each Popsicle Stick person to each child and let them pretend as they go through the account of Mary hearing the happy news from the angel and Joseph obeying God.

Say, **“The Bible is from God. The Bible says He sent His Son Jesus. We need to remember to always thank God for Jesus – His Son. While we play with Mary, the angel, and Joseph, let’s remember that God loves us very much and sent His son.**

While they play say: **Do you listen to your parents? We should – because obeying our parents makes God happy.**

Show Joseph figure, say: **Pretend this is your dad. Dad says, ‘Come in and take your nap.’ If we come right in and obey and take our nap – we are obeying our father. That is what God tells us to do in His book the Bible. God wants us to obey fathers.**

Show the picture of Mary as the mother. Say: **Pretend this is your mom. If mommy says, ‘Please pick up all your toys.’ What will you do? Yes, you will do what she says. God tells us to obey our moms.** Show the Bible and say:

This is the Bible. The Bible tells us things to do like mom and dad do. We listen to our moms and dads and teachers, we also need to obey what the Bible says. It is God’s book. That makes God

happy when we obey and listen to Him and His words in the Bible. It makes our moms and dads happy too!

Then while they play, open your Bible and say: **God sent His Son Jesus! (1 John 4:10)**

Do the following rhyme with your Bible:

Best Book of All – Rhyme
Books, books, big and small;
What’s the very best book of all?
THE BIBLE!

(Repeat several times and hold up the Bible each time)

Let students play with the Popsicle Stick People and then clean up. Thank students for playing and listening and then go on to the next activity.

*Remember to keep these people to use for the weeks to come.

9) Optional: I Will Obey Game

5 minutes

Tell the students, **“We are going to play the “Obey Game”. Whatever I tell you to do and show you, you must obey. Let’s start!**

Lead the following action rhyme:

Roll, Roll, roll your hands as slowly as can be.
Roll, roll, roll your hands; do it now with me!
Roll, roll, roll your hands, do it now with me.

Repeat substituting these phrases:

Clap, clap, clap your hands;
Shake, shake, shake your hands;
Tap, tap, tap your feet;
Blink, blink, blink your eyes.

Then ask them to sit quietly while you get ready for the next activity.

10) Optional: Snack – Bible shaped snack

5-10 minutes

“You’ve all done a great job this morning learning about God’s Word – the Bible. To help us remember, we are going to have a snack in the shape of the Bible.” Hand out a book-shaped snack to each child, like a piece of cheese in a rectangle shape, a piece of bread or crackers and glass of milk or water to each child. Explain, **“The snack today looks like a book – today we learned that the Bible is God’s special book that He made for each and every one of us. And, we are to obey the Bible. Let’s think about how wonderful God is for giving us the Bible as we enjoy our book/Bible snacks! Enjoy!”** Talk about where we have Bibles today – in our homes, at the church building, when we go to Bible studies, etc. Talk about how we obey the Bible – by going to church services on Sunday, listening to our moms and dads, praying, giving, singing, listening, reading the Bible. Talk about who we learned about today – Mary and Joseph and how they too obeyed God. After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

11) Sing

5-10 minutes

Have children sing songs with you, you can sing from the Song Sheet provided.

12) Close in prayer

Tell students that **we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this** (show students). **This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God’s Word the Bible and we need to obey God.**

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then: Thank God that He created the world and gave us the Bible. Thank you God that we can know what God wants us to do by reading His special Words – the Bible. Help us to remember to make God happy by coming to worship Him every Sunday. Thank you God for sending Your Son Jesus. Thank God for everyone here today and for those that couldn’t be. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

13) Remind students

To take home their sheets. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

14) Greet Parents at door

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain have teacher assistant help you take them to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!