



## DAY TWO TENT TIME ACTIVITY

### Praise The Lord!

List the following situations on newsprint ahead of time or as you present the lesson. Go down the list with your family and mark each situation easy or hard. Ask family members to explain why it is easy or hard to praise God in each situation. Feel free to think of more...

You just got an A on a test.

Your tired and don't want to go to church.

Your best friend hurt your feelings.

You feel sick.

You just picked up your new car!

You're going on a trip to Disney Land!

Your bike was stolen.

You can't loose weight.

No one asked you to Homecoming.

The answer to your prayer was, "no".

Your friend moved away.

Your dog ran away.

Sunday School is really boring!

You won a motorcycle!

Review each situation that was hard to praise God and discuss what we need in our lives to be able to praise God in difficult situations? (*God's strength*)

Explain that it is often easy to praise God in joyful happy times, but we don't . Why not? (*We forget, we don't have troubles that need His help or we think we don't need Him, etc. )*

What do we need in our lives to help us remember to praise God when all is going well in our lives?

(*Reminders of His presence: place a Bible where we can see and read it, hang a cross on our wall, look at His creation and let it remind us of how important it is to hold Him and all He has created sacred, etc.)*)

How can we gain strength from God to praise Him in joy and sorrow?

(*Church, Sunday School, Family Devotions, Personal and Family Bible Study and PRAYER, which we learned about in Day One*)

## DAY THREE: OPENING DEVOTIONS

### Forgiveness

YOU WILL NEED: one small piece of candy for each participant.

Microphone: *optional but great fun!*

**Object Lesson:** Pass out small pieces of candy to everyone. Move around into the gathering of participants to interview several participants. Ask how it feels to get something free. If you do not have a microphone and participants do not speak loudly enough repeat answers so everyone can hear. Ask if everyone who received a free piece of candy deserved it.? Lead participants to understand that not one of the people who received candy deserved it. They didn't pay for it. They didn't work for it. They received it freely and that's exactly how each of us receives forgiveness from our Father in Heaven. Freely and fully, though we don't deserve it. Interview participants again. Ask how it feels to be forgiven? Lead participants to understand forgiveness is sweet just like the candy.

## DAY FOUR: LITANY

RESPONSE: Give Thanks (*clap, clap*), To the Lord (*stomp, stomp*)  
For He (*clap, clap*); Is good (*stop, stomp*)  
His love (*clap, stomp*) endures (*clap, stomp*)  
(*SHOUT*) FOREVER! (*raise arms in thankfulness and praise!*)

*Adapted from Psalm 107*

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say," RESPONSE:

Leader: They were hungry and thirsty and their lives ebbed away. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble.

And He delivered them from their distress. "Let the redeemed of the Lord say," RESPONSE:

Leader: Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love, and His wonderful deeds,

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say," RESPONSE:

Leader: He brought us out of darkness and the deepest gloom, and broke away our chains,

He broke down the gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron."Let the redeemed of the Lord say,"

RESPONSE:

Leader: He sent forth His Word to heal us; He rescued us from the grave.

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say, " RESPONSE:

Leader: He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of th sea were hushed.

Exalt Him in the assembly of the people and praise Him in the council of the elders. "Let the redeemed of the Lord say," RESPONSE:

## Family Groups

This Intergenerational Vacation Bible School is designed for mixed ages to be brought together in family groups or tribes similar to the tribes of Israel

## Tents

It is great fun to do this VBS outdoors or indoors in tents. However, if you choose not to use tents this program will be equally effective and fun in church or school classrooms!

## Bible Times Costumes: *optional but great fun!*

## Craft Shops

Craft Shop Leaders can be called Shopkeepers. They may dress and act as if they are back in Bible Times. Their objective is to teach crafts that apply daily lessons and create an atmosphere of community similar to shopkeepers who plied their crafts on the streets of Jerusalem.