

LESSON PLAN

JESUS, THE OBEDIENT SON OF GOD

John 7:1 – 8:11

Lesson Memory Verse: Matthew 6:10 - “Your Kingdom come. Your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”

Lesson Aim: To help each child do God’s will in his life like Jesus did.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention):

Have you ever seen a magician do some tricks for you? (Let them discuss this experience briefly.) Maybe you wondered, “How did he do it?” Maybe you even asked him to tell you how he did it, but he probably did not tell you. They do not like to tell their secrets. However, once in a while a magician will tell a special friend his secret. He will probably say to his friend, “If you do exactly as I say, you will know my secret.”

That is how it is with God. He has amazing secret truths to share with those who love Him and do His will, but He will not reveal them to those who refuse to do His will. In today’s lesson many people refused to do God’s will when they refused to believe His Son. They had to receive His Son as their Savior to do His will. Jesus was the only one who always did His Father’s will, so He was the only one who could save them from their sins. When the people rejected Jesus, they also were rejecting God and His will for their lives. So He would not reveal His secret truths to them. If they would do God’s will, they would know that Jesus was revealing to them the secret truths that God wanted them to know (Jn 7:17). Only a few people wanted to do God’s will, so most people did not receive the secret truths about God and His plans for this world.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse tells us that we should pray for God’s will to be done in earth as it is in Heaven. We know that the angels do the will of God in Heaven. They obey whatever He tells them to do. So we are to pray that people will act like angels and do the will of God in earth. Then they will do whatever He tells them. However, that will not begin to happen until people ask Jesus to save us from sinning against God. Jesus can do this by making them into new persons that want to obey God (2 Cor 5:17). However, believers will not be perfect in obeying God until His Kingdom comes to earth and Jesus is King of all nations. That is why we pray for His Kingdom to come. That is when the will of God will be done in earth as it is in Heaven. When we begin to do God’s will, we will begin to learn many secret truths from Him that will bring true joyfulness in our lives.

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. This lesson will show us that those who oppose God’s will are the ones that did not believe Jesus was God’s Son.

A. Jesus’ Brothers - John 7:2-9

The brothers of Jesus insulted and mocked Him for not going with them to Jerusalem where He had been threatened with death by the Pharisees for healing a man on the Sabbath (Jn 5:1-18). His brothers did not believe Jesus was God’s Son at that time (7:5), so they probably thought it would be good for Jesus to be killed. Their words against Jesus showed that they did not do the will of God. If they did the will of God, they would know that Jesus was His obedient Son.

WE: We need to believe that Jesus is the Son of God and honor Him as such before we can do the will of God. This means that you must receive Jesus as your Savior and not be ashamed of Him before your friends. He is the most important person in God’s plans for the world.

B. People at Jerusalem - John 7:10-30

LESSON PLAN

Many people in Jerusalem did not believe Jesus was God, so they were:

1. Confused about His works – they thought He was a deceiver when really He was the only one that told the absolute truth (7:12; 14:6).
2. Unwilling to admit there was a plot to kill Him – they thought they could hide their sin from Him (7:19-25).
3. Confused as to where He was from – they did not know He was from Heaven (7:26-29).
4. Anxious to imprison Him – they did not know that they could not lay hands on Him until He would allow them to do so (7:30).

WE: We will be confused about Jesus and caught up in sin against Him, if we do not trust Him to be our Savior. If we do not trust Him as our Savior, we will never be able to do the will of God.

C. Other People at Jerusalem - John 7:31

A few people did believe Jesus was the Christ (Messiah) because of His miracles. This does not mean that they all believed on Him enough to be saved, but they did believe on Him enough to keep on listening to what He was saying about Himself and His power to save them from their sins. Whenever people believed in Him, it pleased God so that He kept on showing them more and more truth. Nicodemus was one of these people. He wanted to give Jesus a trial before the Pharisees condemned Him (Jn 7:50). Nicodemus had come to talk to Jesus after he saw His miracles. As a result, he knew Jesus was a man sent from God. He was not a saved believer when he came to Jesus, but he was willing to listen, so he received truth about salvation from Jesus (Jn 2:23-3:21). We do not when he became a saved believer, but we know he was not ashamed of Jesus when He died on the cross (Jn 19:39). (If you have time, it might be well for you to review the story of Nicodemus at this point in your lesson.)

WE: We need to believe Jesus is God's obedient Son before we can expect Him to save us from our sins. Then we can begin to do the will of God. Is Jesus your Savior?

D. Pharisees - John 7:32, 45-52

The Pharisees did not believe Jesus was God's Son, so they:

1. Sent officers to imprison Him – they did not know that it was impossible to take Jesus without His permission (7:32, 45-46).
2. Belittled the officers and people for their ignorance about Jesus– they did not know that they were the ignorant ones (7:47-49).
3. Spoke against Nicodemus, who asked for them to be just in their judgment. They scoffed at him and said no prophet ever came out of Galilee, but they forgot that Jonah came out of Galilee near the very place where Nazareth was later built (7:50-52; 2 Kg 14:25).

WE: If we do not receive Jesus as our Savior, we will not know the will of God and we will become very wicked people. We will disobey God and hate Jesus, His Son.

(You can follow the same pattern of thought in 8:1-11 with the Pharisees and the adulterous woman if you wish to include this story in your lesson.)

BE (for Action): Joy and happiness is doing the will of God. Sorrow and unhappiness is not doing the will of God. The first way to obey God and do His will is to receive Jesus Christ as Savior. Then seek to obey the other commands of God in the Bible.

Now ask them how many really want to do the will of God. You cannot do the will of God until you ask Jesus to be your Savior. Do any of you need to do that? (Have them stay after class, if they want to be saved.) Close with prayer for those who are saved to do God's will.