

Things to take:

- Question box with pens & paper.
- Door welcome sign, register & rules.
- Memory verse sign.
- Drawings for game.
- Pieces of card for response.

Session Aim:

To teach them that part of loving God is obeying Him, but for them to see that is a consequence of love, not a set of rules.

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

John 14:15

Game as they arrive and register: Simon* says

One person is Simon. Any order they give must be obeyed, as long as it is preceded by the words ‘Simon* says...’ If this introduction is not used, then the order must be ignored.

Rules & answer questions in the question box**Game: Drawing Instructions**

Put the children into pairs. Child A is given a drawing that they have to tell child B how to draw. A is not allowed to show B, just tells B as clearly as possible. The winning pair is the one that produces a drawing most like the original.

Pray for today’s session**Memory verse: “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” John 14:15**

Split the group in half. Get them to shout it to each other, and see who can do it the loudest. Then see who can say it the quietest.

Talk: The disobedient son

Tell and/or act out the parable of the prodigal son Luke 15:11-32 (or you could also use the YoYo video on You Tube - just type in ‘YoYo prodigal son’).

Use it to talk about obedience. Give a testimony about how we obey those we love because we love them, not because we’re meant to. We do not want the children to think Christianity is about a set of rules, but is about us doing what is best for us. Talk too about getting it wrong – that we all do, but God’s forgiveness and grace is always sufficient for us.

Group Prayer:

Father, it’s not always easy to do as we are told. Please help us, with your Holy Spirit, to obey you willingly and to be the person that you want us to be. Amen

Response:

Hand out pieces of card that have been folded down the middle. Get the children to write down an act of disobedience they’re sorry to God for on one side, and something they’d like him to help them become more obedient with in the weeks ahead on the other side. Then cut off the disobedience side, and get them to throw it in a bin (to show how God takes away the bad things we’ve done).

Song & Actions:

This term you could either do ‘God’s Love is Big’ from ‘Kids Wanna Praise Rock’ CD or ‘Deeper’ by ‘Delirious?’ which you can download from Amazon for 69p. Words for both of the songs are on the resources section of the CD.

Game: Pirate Ship

The group are members of a pirate ship. One side of the room is designated ‘starboard’ (right) and the other port (left). The leader calls out instructions which each person has to carry out as quickly as possible.

Captain's coming – Everyone has to jump to attention and salute saying 'Aye aye Cap'n'
Captain's lady on board – Everyone curtsies
Scrub the decks – Down on their knees doing a scrubbing action
Climb the rigging – Everyone pretends to climb
Man overboard – Do a swimming action
Walk the plank – Children have to walk in a perfect straight line, one foot in front of the other with arms outstretched to the sides
Shark attack – Use arms as a big snapping jaws of the shark
Hit the deck – Lie down on floor as quickly as possible
Port – run to left of the deck
Starboard – run to right of the deck
Amidships – run to the middle of the deck
Bombs overhead – crouch on floor with hands over head
Periscopes up – lie on back with leg in air
Man the lifeboats in groups of [number] – get into groups of [number] and start rowing

Pray: Kids Rock prayer before they leave.