

WANTED: CHILDREN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Creating Meaningful Worship Moments in Your Lesson Plans

*"Born to Worship" from the children's musical Born to Worship by Annette Oden
Ev'ry human heart is set in motion with a deep desire to give something devotion.
It's the way we all were wired to know a love greater and higher, and to adore it
with ev'rything we are.*

*So many voices call for my attention, but there never seems to be a single mention
of the King who left His throne to die for me, and who alone deserves ev'ry passion
of my heart.*

Chorus:

*I was born to worship, I was born to worship; this is what my heart was made to do.
I was born to worship, I was born to worship; but I know it's up to me to choose.
So I've decided I will give my praise to the only One to whom all praise is due.
I was born to worship; Lord, I choose to worship You. Jesus, I choose You.*

(v-2 Soloist and Choir)

*So, let me hear the call and feel the hunger; to live before You overwhelmed with wonder.
For the greatness of my King, I make my life my offering. Lord Jesus, I bow to You alone.
(chorus)*

What is worship?

"Think of it this way: Worship is simply about value. The simplest definition I can give is this:
Worship is our response to what we value most," Louie Giglio, The Air I Breathe

"The word *worship* translates 'God's worth.' The act of worship is focusing on Almighty God and
Him alone. It's the act of assigning to God His true worth," Kathleen Chapman, Teaching Kids
Authentic Worship.

How can we teach children to worship?

"Children are so perceptive. They will sense if we know Him. They sense our adoration and awe
when we speak of God or His creation. Are we astonished as we learn His attributes? Do our
faces light up when we speak of Him? Children study our response to the very mention of His
name," Kathleen Chapman, Teaching Kids Authentic Worship.

Why was David a man after God's own heart?

The following words describe the heart of David as seen in his own writings:

Humble – Lowborn men are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie; if weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath. Psalm 62:9

Reverent – I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. Psalm 18:3

Respectful – Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief. Psalm 31:9

Trusting – The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Loving – I love you, O Lord, my strength. Psalm 18:1

Devoted – You have filled my heart with greater joy than when their grain and new wine abound. Psalm 4:7

Recognition – I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. Psalm 9:1

Faithful – Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:6

Obedient – Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Psalm 119:34

Repentant – For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great. Psalm 25:11

David's example is a great road map for how we are to live our life.

David loved God with his whole heart and he worshiped the Lord in Spirit and in Truth!

"Jesus, We Worship You" – 'Specially Special Songs from Church Street Music with simple sign language

*Jesus, we worship You, Jesus, we worship You, Jesus, we worship you. We worship You.
(v. 2: thank; v. 3: love)*

FALL – ALL ABOUT ME

“Lord I Lift Your Name on High,” by Petra on *The Power of Praise* album

Craft Suggestion: Name Meaning Cards - God knows your name. You mean so much to Him.

“He Knows My Name” from *SPK 52 Kids Worship for All Year Round*

I have a Maker, He formed my heart. Before even time began, my life was in his hands.

Chorus:

*He knows my name. He knows my every thought. He sees each tear that falls.
And He hears me when I call.*

*I have a Father, He calls me His own. He'll never leave me, no matter where I go.
(repeat chorus)*

Psalm 147:1, 4

Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.”

“Consider the Stars” – Keith & Kristyn Getty on *Facing the Task Unfinished* – with stars and star lights

WINTER – GOD IS ALWAYS NEAR

The Snow Bear, by Miriam Moss

“The eternal God is your protector, and His everlasting arms are under you.” Deuteronomy 33:27(a)

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” from Hip Hop Hymns

Rap:

*Lean to the left, lean to the right, lean on Jesus day and night. Lean up high. Lean down low.
Lean on God wherever you go!*

What a fellowship, what a joy divine. Leaning on the everlasting arms
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine. Leaning on the everlasting arms

Cborus:

Leaning, leaning. Safe and secure from all alarms.
Leaning, leaning. Leaning on the everlasting arms. (repeat rap)

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way. Leaning on the Everlasting Arms!
O how bright the path grows from day to day. Leaning on the Everlasting Arms! (chorus & free-style rap)

What have I to dread, what have I to fear. Leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near. Leaning on the everlasting arms. (chorus)

"Mighty to Save" – Shout Praises Kids I Am Free

Everyone needs compassion. A love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me
Everyone needs forgiveness. The kindness of a Savior; the hope of nations.

Chorus:

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is Mighty to save. He is Mighty to save.
Forever. Author of salvation. He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me. All my fears and failures and fill my life again.
I give my life to follow; everything I believe in. Now I surrender (I surrender). (chorus)

Bridge:

Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing for the glory of the risen King
Jesus, shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing for the glory of the risen King

SPRING – JESUS IS THE KING!

Make crowns - what is your favorite thing to do? what is your favorite thing you own?

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak

Psalm 47:6-7

"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise."

Crown Him with Many Crowns – Hip Hop Hymns for Kids

Who da king? Jesus! Who da king? Jesus! Who? Jesus! Who? Jesus! He's the King!
Who da king? Jesus! Who da king? Jesus! Who? Jesus! Who? Jesus! He's the King!

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne:
How the heav'nly anthem drowns all Music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Who da king? Jesus! Who da king? Jesus! Who? Jesus! Who? Jesus! He's the King!

Crown Him the Lord of life, behold His hands and side,
Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou has died for me:
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Who da king? Jesus! Who da king? Jesus! Who? Jesus! Who? Jesus! He's the King!
Who da king? Jesus! Who da king? Jesus! Who? Jesus! Who? Jesus! He's the King!

Make a cross out of blocks and have children lay crowns on the cross while the “*We Fall Down*” plays.

“*We Fall Down*” (not sure where I got this particular recording)

We fall down. We lay our crowns. At the feet of Jesus.

The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus.

Chorus:

And we cry holy, holy, holy. We cry holy, holy, holy. We cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

END OF THE YEAR – SHINE! WITH BLACKLIGHTS

“*Walking in the Light of God*” – *Crazy Praize 1*, by Brentwood Kids

READ: *The Very Lonely Firefly* by Eric Carle

Forgotten Dreams, by Leroy Anderson from *The Typewriter* – play while reading story

“*Firefly, Firefly*” – folk song from *Songs and Stories Together, Music Activities for the Early Childhood Classroom*, by Sally Guerrero

Firefly, firefly in the night (rest)

With a yellow, with a yellow, with a yellow light (rest)

How I like to watch you shine tonight (rest)

- ask children if they are ready to turn on their fireflies – sing the song again.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you,” Isaiah 60:1-2.

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven,” Matthew 5:16.

“*This Little Light of Mine*” – Go Fish, *Splash* with lightbulb puppets

“*Shine*” – Newsboys, *Shine, the Hits* with slinkies

Other Resources: *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, by Sally Lloyd-Jones