

HOLY ONE

GOD'S HOLINESS REVEALED TO MOSES



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UNIT 9 - GOD'S HOLINESS REVEALED TO MOSES

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HOLY ONE

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

UNIT 9 - PRE-K

This month's unit is called *Holy One*, and our lessons focus on Moses' encounters with our holy God. By studying these stories, we learn what holiness is, how God is different (set apart) from us, and why He is worthy of our worship, love, and obedience.

WEEK 1

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (one per class), White Cardstock, *Sandals* Activity Page (1 per child printed on cardstock), 8" Piece of Brown Yarn (2 per child), Burning Bush Activity Page (1 per child printed on cardstock), Glue Stick, Scissors, Markers or Crayons

WEEK 2

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Blindfold (1 per class), *Stone Tablet* Activity Page, *Holy Mountain* Activity Page (1 per child), Cotton Balls, Glue, Pencils, Markers or Crayons

WEEK 3

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Small, Soft Ball (1 per class), Music, Paper Bags (optional), Newspaper (optional), *Door Hangers* Activity Page (1 per child), White Cardstock, Glue, Scissors, Watercolor Paints and Brushes

WEEK 4

LESSON MATERIALS: Tent (optional), Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Popsicle Sticks, Cotton Balls, Liquid Glue, Construction Paper (1 per child), Markers or Crayons

THE HOLY GROUND

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 3:1-6 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is holy.

FOCUS VERSE

“There is no one holy like the Lord. There is no God but you.” 1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | White Cardstock | *Sandals* Activity Page | 8” Piece of Brown Yarn | *Burning Bush* Activity Page | Glue Stick | Scissors | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- If you could play outside all day, what would you do?
- If you could take a trip, would you go to the mountains or the ocean? Why?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

This month’s unit is about the holiness of God. While it is great to worship with fun, energetic songs, it is also important to teach kids to worship God with reverence. This month, we recommend incorporating a few slower, reflective songs about God’s holiness. Here are some suggestions:

- “Holy, Holy, Holy” by *Hillsong United*
- “Yahweh” by *Elevation Worship*
- “What a Beautiful Name” by *Hillsong Kids*



LET’S BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT TEACHING KIDS HOW TO WORSHIP OUR HOLY GOD. SOME HELPFUL PRACTICES TO TALK ABOUT AND MODEL INCLUDE CLOSING YOUR EYES, RAISING YOUR HANDS, KNEELING, AND BOWING YOUR HEAD.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray that God would prepare the children’s hearts and minds to understand His Word.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, You alone help us understand Your Word. Would you please open our hearts and minds so we can learn all You have for us? In Jesus’ name, Amen!”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “This month, we are starting a brand new group of lessons called *Holy One*. Can you guess who the ‘Holy One’ is? Right! It’s God! Before we get into today’s lesson, let’s talk about what holiness is. We call God ‘holy’ because He is perfect, pure, and good. He is the only one who is perfectly holy, and His holiness can make people shake in fear and amazement. This is how holy God is! So, let’s talk about God as the ‘Holy One.’ Who wants to post this week’s puzzle piece?”

TRANSITION: Say, “Before starting our story, let’s play a game to prepare for God’s Word.”

ENGAGE – 10 MINUTES

Say, “Today’s game is *Burning Bush Relay*! Are you ready to see which team is the fastest? I am!”

GAME GOAL: To be the first relay team to retrieve all of their members’ shoes.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Divide the group into two teams (or more if you have a large group).
2. Have the children remove their shoes and place them against a wall on the opposite side of the room.
3. Next, have the teams form a line and race, one at a time, to the other side of the room, grab their shoes, and return to their team. Repeat the process until one team has completed the task.

MODIFICATION: If you have extra time, play again. However, this time have the children skip (or hop, or crabwalk, etc.) down to the wall, pick up their shoes, and run back.



BE PREPARED FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE SENSORY ISSUES AND MAY NOT WANT TO TAKE OFF THEIR SHOES. THIS CHILD CAN BECOME YOUR HELPER (TIMEKEEPER, ETC.).

TRANSITION: Say, “Did you like playing *Burning Bush Relay*? Good, because we are about to find out why we took our shoes off to play this game. Who is ready to hear from God’s Word?”

LEARN – 10 MINUTES

Say, “Today’s story is about a time when God gave someone a glimpse into how holy He is. Who can tell me what a ‘glimpse’ is? Right! If we get a glimpse of something, it means we get just a peek or a quick look. God is so holy that we couldn’t handle it if we saw His full holiness. However, every once in a while, God gives someone a glimpse into how perfect He is. That’s what happens in this week’s Bible story.

“Now, before we read this week’s Bible story, let me introduce you to a man named Moses. We learn about Moses in the book of Exodus. He lived after Abraham, and God chose him to lead the Israelites, God’s special people, out of slavery. When today’s story begins, Moses is living in the wilderness, and he has no idea how God will use him to help his people. In our story today, Moses gets a glimpse into God’s holiness. Let’s read about Moses’ encounter together.” Read Exodus 3:1-6 (ICB).



WHILE TELLING THE STORY, YOU COULD HAVE THE KIDS TAKE OFF THEIR SHOES WHEN MOSES TAKES OFF HIS.

¹ One day Moses was taking care of Jethro's sheep. Jethro was the priest of Midian and also Moses' Father-in-law. Moses led the sheep to the west side of the desert. He came to Sinai, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in flames of fire coming out of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire, but it was not burning up. ³ So Moses said, "I will go closer to this strange thing. How can a bush continue burning without burning up?"

⁴ The Lord saw Moses was coming to look at the bush. So God called to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."

⁵ Then God said, "Do not come any closer. Take off your sandals. You are standing on holy ground. ⁶ I am the God of your ancestors. I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." Moses covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Ask, "What strange thing happened to Moses while he was taking care of the sheep? [Wait for responses.] God came to Moses in a burning bush. The strange thing about this bush is that it was not burning up even though it was on fire. Have you ever seen what fire does to things? Right! Fire destroys things and turns them into ashes, but this time the bush wasn't getting damaged at all! This was not normal fire; this was God's fire—a holy fire—because **God is holy**. To help Moses understand what was going on, God told him to take off his shoes because the ground he was standing on was holy."

Ask, "Why do you think the ground was holy? Right! The ground was holy because God was present, and He is holy."

"This passage of Scripture teaches us that **God is holy**. He is so holy, that the ground around the bush was holy. He is so holy, that Moses could not even look at Him. Wow. What a truly amazing and humbling encounter this must have been for Moses."

JOINING TO JESUS

Say, "Similar to today's story, Jesus took His disciples [Peter, James, and John] high on another mountain where they were able to get a glimpse of the holiness of God as well [Matthew 17:1-8]."

TRANSITION: Say, "There is no one like the Lord because **God is holy**. What an amazing God we serve!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about our story together."

1. Who is perfectly holy?

Response: **God is holy.**

2. How are we different from God?

Response: Answers will vary. However, note that God is the only one who is perfectly holy, and Jesus is the only person to ever live without sinning.

3. What was different about this fire?

Response: This fire was from God, and it didn't harm the bush. This fire represented God's holy presence.

4. What did God tell Moses to do?

Response: He told Moses to stay back and take off his shoes.

5. Why do you think God gave Moses those instructions?

Response: Answers will vary, but explain that people would remove their shoes in Bible times to show honor or respect. Acknowledge that the children may have friends or family members who ask guests to take off their shoes before coming into their house. They want you to respect or take care of their home.

6. What do you think you would have done if you had been with Moses on that day?

Response: Answers will vary.

7. What do we learn about God from our story?

Response: **God is holy.** God is perfect. God is different from us. God is powerful, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Remember, this story helps us see that **God is holy.**"

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | White Cardstock | *Sandals* Activity Page (1 per child printed on cardstock) | 8" Piece of Brown Yarn (2 per child) | *Burning Bush* Activity Page (1 per child printed on cardstock) | Glue Stick | Scissors | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "The ground Moses was standing on was holy because God was there. When God came to Moses in the burning bush, He asked Moses to take off his shoes. This is because **God is holy**, and He was teaching Moses about how perfect and powerful He is! To help us remember what we've heard, we will make sandals and place them beside our own burning bush. Let's try it."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a *Sandals* Activity Page and *Burning Bush* Activity Page. You will also give the children two pieces of yarn, a glue stick, scissors, and markers or crayons.
2. First, the kids will color their sandals and cut them out.
3. Next, they should glue the yarn in a zig-zag pattern across each sandal to make it look like sandal straps.
4. Then, instruct the kids to color their *Burning Bush* Activity Page.
5. Finally, the kids will glue their sandals near the bottom of the *Burning Bush* Activity Page.



IF YOU NEED SOMETHING A LITTLE EASIER FOR SMALL HANDS, GIVE EACH CHILD A SMALL CLEAR CUP AND HAVE THEM DRAW A BUSH OR TREE ON THE OUTSIDE WITH A PERMANENT MARKER. THEN HAVE THE CHILDREN FILL THE INSIDE OF THE CUP WITH ORANGE, YELLOW AND RED TISSUE PAPER TO REPRESENT THE FLAMES.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job everyone! Now, turn to a neighbor and tell them something you learned today."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "**God is holy**, so this month we get to memorize a verse that teaches us about God's holiness. This verse tells us that God is the only holy one; no one even comes close to being holy like God." Read the verse to the kids, read the verse with the actions, then say it together.

"There is no one (crossing out motion) **holy** (kneel & bow head) **like the Lord** (point up). **There is no God** (crossing out motion) **but you** (point up)."
1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB) (hold your hands out like a book)

VARIATION: Use the sign language word for "Lord" instead of pointing upward. Search YouTube for instructions on how to demonstrate the action correctly.

CHALLENGE: To help with retention, repeat the words of the verse several times, emphasizing a different word each time.



KEEP A RUNNING LIST OF YOUR GROUP'S FAVORITE MEMORIZATION TECHNIQUES. BE SURE TO SHARE YOUR LIST WITH OTHER TEACHERS.

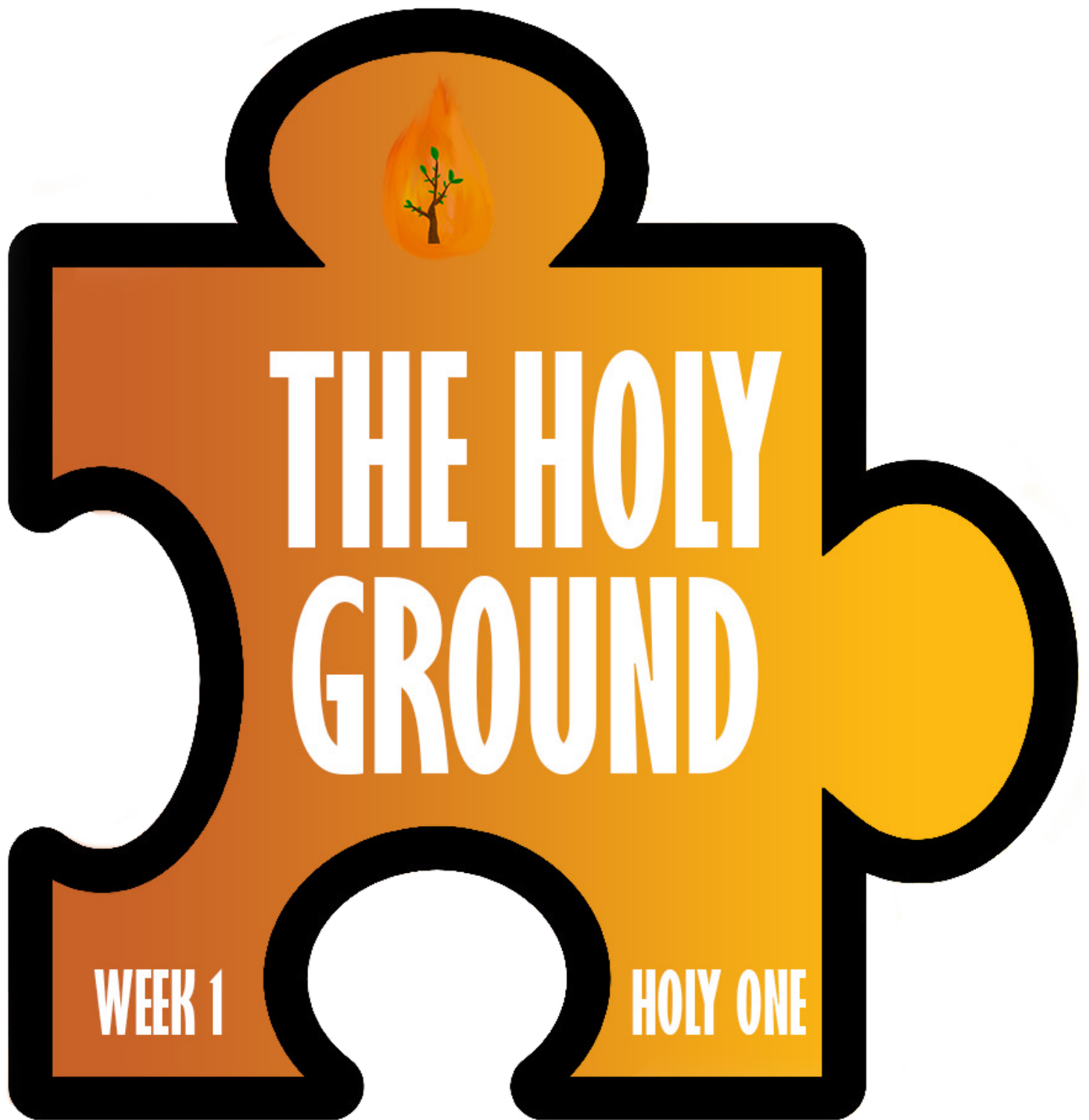
REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

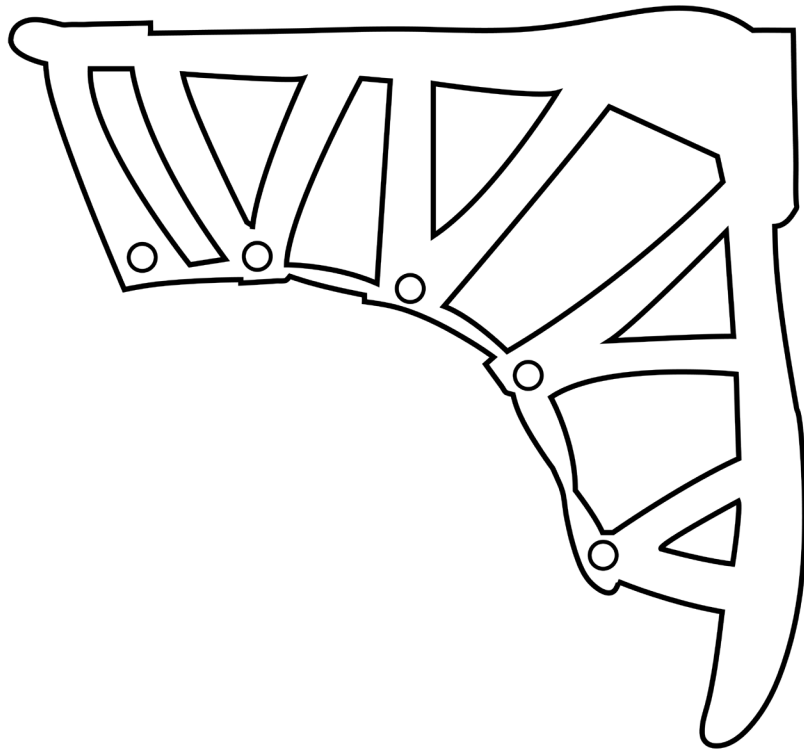
Say, "**God is holy**, which means God is perfect. One of the things I'm most grateful for is that God is perfect in His love for us. Isn't it amazing that the perfectly holy God of the universe loves you and me? Let's pray and thank God for His holiness."

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"God, we praise You because You are holy. You are also our perfect example! Help us become more and more like You, especially in how we love You and others. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

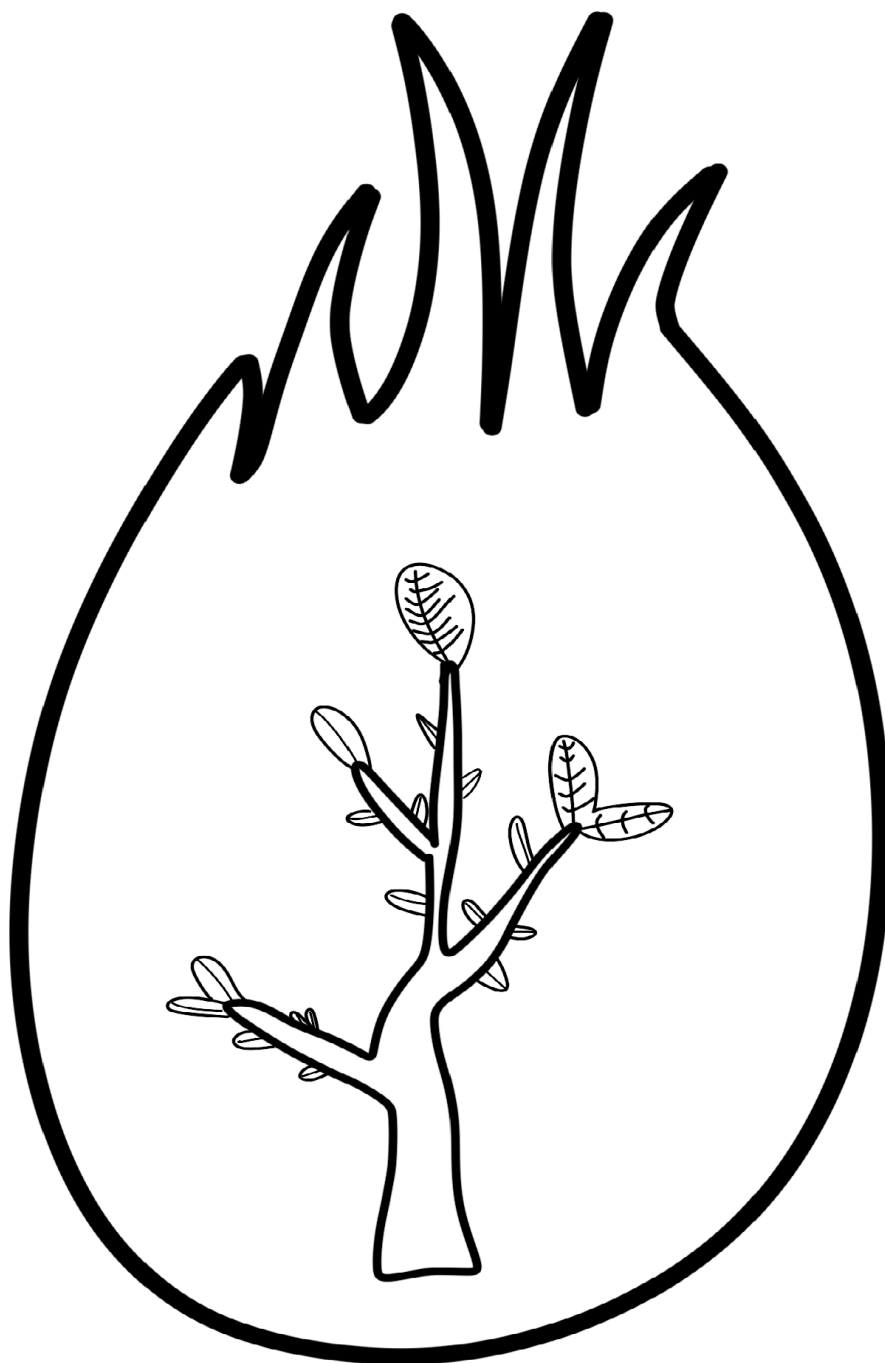
RELEASE —

There is a saying that goes, "They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Show the kids you care by looking them in the eye, listening to them, and asking them questions. Today, use any extra time you have to get to know your kids a little better. Finally, don't forget to give parents and guardians a copy of the monthly Parent Guide (downloadable) when they arrive to pick up their kids.





THE HOLY GROUND



HOLY ONE

GOD'S HOLINESS REVEALED TO MOSES



THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 19:11-13, 16-20; 30:18 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is holy.

FOCUS VERSE

“There is no one holy like the Lord. There is no God but you.” 1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Blindfold | *Stone Tablet* Activity Page | *Holy Mountain* Activity Page | Cotton Balls | Glue | Pencils | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Have you ever visited a mountain? Would you like to climb a mountain?
- Do you have a favorite Bible story? If so, what is it?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Genuine worship comes from the heart. Psalm 86:12 says, “I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And will glorify Your name forever.” We need the Holy Spirit’s help to love God in this way, so ask Him to give you hearts of worship.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray that the kids in your class (and you) will grow in understanding God’s holiness.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, You are holy. There is no one like You in all the earth. Would you please help us be amazed by Your holiness and learn more about who You are? Teach us today. Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Who remembers what we are talking about this month? [Wait for responses.] Right! We are learning about God, the *Holy One*. Remember, ‘holy’ means pure, perfect, and good. Last week, we talked about the time God met Moses in a burning bush. Why did Moses have to take off his sandals? Because **God is holy**, and so the ground near God’s presence was holy too. What an amazing story. Are you ready to hear more about how **God is holy**? Awesome! Let’s start by posting this week’s puzzle piece!”

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's play a game to get us started."



IF YOU HAVE LOTS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE EAGER TO PUT UP THE PUZZLE PIECES, WRITE THEIR NAMES ON POPSICLE STICKS AND THEN DRAW TO CHOOSE WHO POSTS THE PIECE. (ONLY PUT THE NAMES OF THE CHILDREN WHO LIKE TO PARTICIPATE ON THE POPSICLE STICKS.)

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Blindfold (1 per class) |

Say, "Today's activity is called *Marco Polo*! Some of you may know how to play, but for those who don't, in this game, your job is to keep from getting tagged by 'Marco.' Let's get set up, and I'll explain more!"

GAME GOAL: To stay away from "Marco."

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Choose one person to be "Marco." Everyone else will move around to avoid being tagged by "Marco."
2. Blindfold "Marco" in the middle of the room. When the game starts, "Marco" will attempt to find people in the room by yelling "Marco." Each time the blindfolded player shouts "Marco," everyone else must respond with "Polo."
3. The round continues until "Marco" tags someone. That person then becomes "Marco," and a new round begins.

MODIFICATION: If you have a large classroom, make the game easier on "Marco" by assigning areas for each kid to remain during the game. You could also choose more than one person to be "Marco." If the weather is nice, this game is a great one to play outdoors.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job, everyone. Did you stay away from 'Marco'? We played *Marco Polo* to prepare us for what we will be learning today, which also involves staying away from something. The question is, 'What did God's people have to stay away from?' Let's find out together."

LEARN — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Stone Tablet Activity Page* |

Say, "We are about to read a story about God's holiness. When God gives someone a glimpse of His holiness, we understand that we are not holy like God. Let's read about God's holiness and remember how **God is holy** [perfect and pure]." Read Exodus 19:11-13, 16-20 (ICB).

11 ...On that day I, the Lord, will come down on Mount Sinai. And all the people will see me. 12 But you must set a limit around the mountain. The people are not to cross it. Tell the people not to go up on the mountain. Tell them not to touch the foot of it. Anyone who touches the mountain must be put to death. 13 ...Whether it is a person or an animal, he will not live.

¹⁶ It was the morning of the third day. There was thunder and lightning with a thick cloud on the mountain. And there was a very loud blast from a trumpet. All the people in the camp were frightened. ¹⁷ Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God. They stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Mount Sinai was covered with smoke. This happened because the Lord came down on it in fire. The smoke rose from the mountain like smoke from a furnace. And the whole mountain shook wildly. ¹⁹ The sound from the trumpet became louder. Then Moses spoke, and the voice of God answered him.

²⁰ So the Lord came down on the top of Mount Sinai. Then he called Moses to come up to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up.

Read Exodus 31:19.

¹⁸ So the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai. Then the Lord gave him the two stone tablets with the agreement written on them [also called the ten commandments]. The finger of God wrote the commands on the stones.

Say, "We could talk about a lot of things in this story, but the main thing we want to learn today is that **God is holy**. God is so holy that even the mountain where He came down was holy."

Ask, "What made Mount Sinai a holy mountain? [Wait for responses.] It was God! Does this remind you of last week's lesson and how God's presence in the burning bush made the nearby ground holy too? God met Moses on Mount Sinai, and He gave Moses the Ten Commandments. [Show the children *the Stone Table* Activity Page to help them envision what the Ten Commandments looked like.] If anyone or anything besides Moses and Joshua touched the mountain, it would have died. Do you see how God's presence is so powerful and overwhelming? **God is holy!**

"God also called His people to be holy, and He gave them directions [laws, rules, or commandments] to help them. These directions included the Ten Commandments that we read about in today's Bible passage.

JOINING TO JESUS

Say, "Today, God calls us as His people to be holy as well. But like the Israelites in the Old Testament, we cannot be holy on our own. In the New Testament Jesus, God's perfectly holy Son, taught God's people how to live holy lives in the 'Sermon on the Mount.' [See Matthew 5-7.] This took place on, you guessed it, a mountain as well. However, when Jesus taught, everyone was allowed to come up the mountain to hear Him tell about God's law. Because of Jesus, we can come near to God.

TRANSITION: Say, "**God is holy**. There is no one like Him!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about our story from today—'The Holy Mountain.'"

1. Who is holy?

Response: **God is holy.**

2. How is God different than us?

Response: We will never be as holy as God, but He loves us anyway!

3. What did God give His people on the mountain to help them know how to live holy lives?

Response: God gave the Israelites His rules (the Ten Commandments).

4. What signs did God give Moses and the Israelites to show them how powerful and holy He is?

Response: God came in a cloud with lightning and thunder. Also, only Moses could be with Him on the mountain. Everyone else had to keep their distance.

5. Do we still have to stay far from God?

Response: No, because of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross, we can be friends with God.

6. How do you think you would have felt if you had been Moses in today's story?

Response: Answers will vary.

7. What do we learn about God from our story?

Response: **God is holy.** God loves us. God is powerful. God teaches us to live holy lives. God loves us.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Remember, **God is holy.** No one is as perfect and pure as Him."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Holy Mountain* Activity Page (1 per child) | Cotton Balls | Glue | Pencils | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "**God is holy!** He came to the mountain came in a cloud with thunder and lightning. Wow. God really is holy. Today's craft will remind us of God's holy presence on the top of the mountain. Let's get started."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a *Holy Mountain* Activity Page, a pencil, markers or crayons, glue, and several cotton balls.
2. Next, have the children use the cotton balls to make a cloud covering the top of the mountains.
3. Finally, the kids will color the rest of their page and draw in Moses and the Israelites.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job creating your pictures! Now, whenever you see clouds, let them remind you of our perfect and holy God!"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Now it is time to practice this month's verse. Who would like to lead us?" Read and repeat the Scripture aloud and then have the children partner up to practice reciting the verse a few more times. Be prepared to take a partner yourself if there is an odd number of children or assign groups of three instead of two.



INCLUDE NEW CHILDREN BY EITHER PAIRING THEM WITH SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE VERSE WELL, OR STAY TOGETHER AND CONTINUE PRACTICING THE VERSE AS A GROUP.

“There is no one (crossing out motion) holy (kneel & bow head) like the Lord (point up). There is no God (crossing out motion) but you (point up).”
1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB) (hold your hands out like a book)

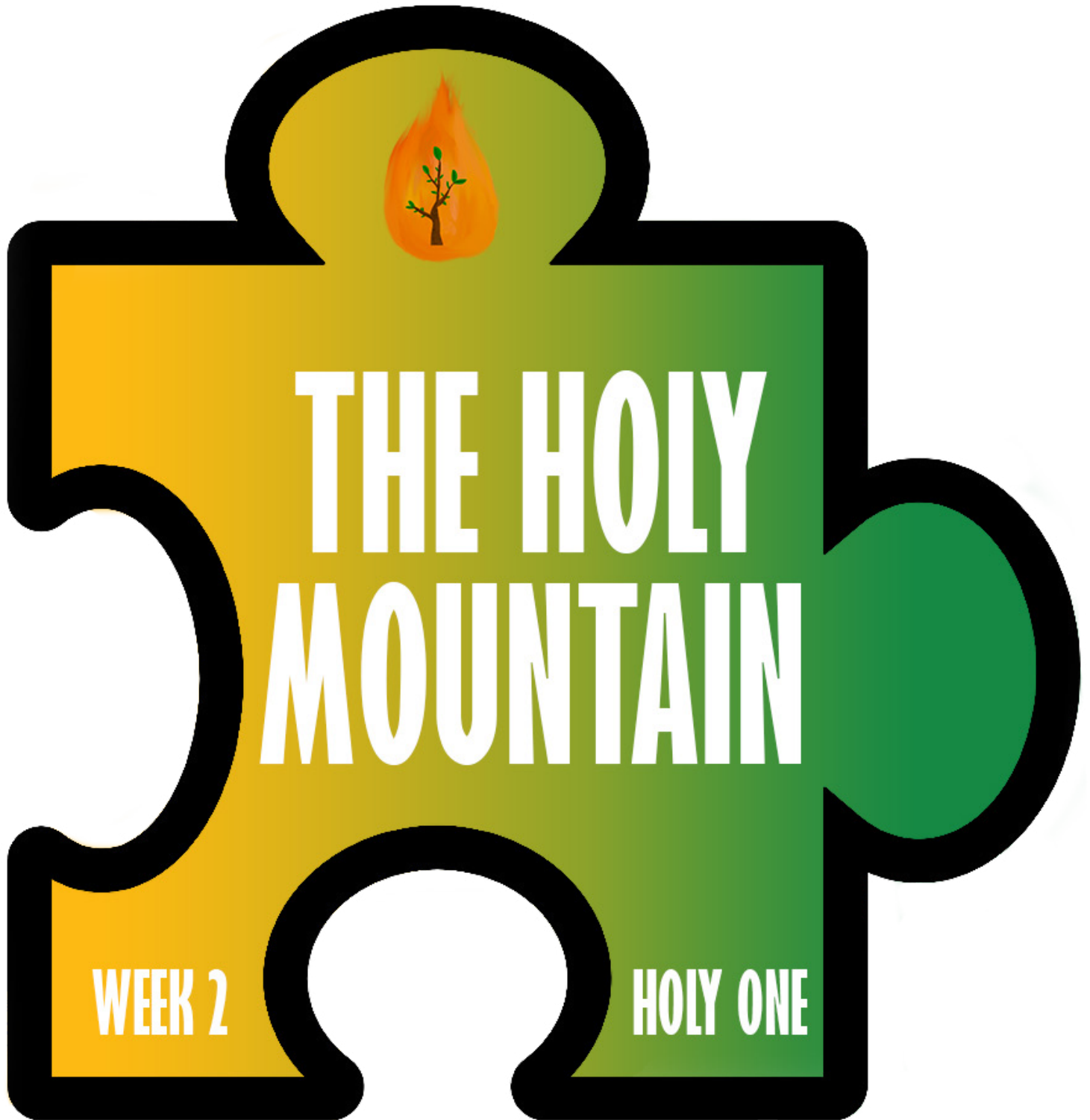
REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, **“God is holy.** His presence is holy! God came to Moses first in the burning bush; then He revealed a glimpse of His holiness on Mount Sinai. Because **God is holy**, the ground at the burning bush and the whole mountain at Sinai was holy too. How amazing is our God? Let’s pray to our holy God now.”

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Lord, we love You. You are so amazing. We are in awe of Your holiness and purity. You are perfect in all of Your ways. We are so grateful You call us friends. We love You. Amen.”*

RELEASE —

Use the remainder of the time to get to know the kids better. (We have free downloadable Conversation Cards at [https://iphc.org/discipleship/printable-resources/.](https://iphc.org/discipleship/printable-resources/)) You can also replay *Marco Polo*.



HOLY MOUNTAIN



STONE TABLET



HOLY ONE

GOD'S HOLINESS REVEALED TO MOSES



THE HOLY ALTAR

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 29:42-46 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is holy.

FOCUS VERSE

“There is no one holy like the Lord. There is no God but you.” 1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Small, Soft Ball | Music | Paper Bags (optional) | Newspaper (optional) | *Door Hangers* Activity Page | White Cardstock | Scissors | Glue | Watercolor Paints and Brushes |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Tell me about your favorite book.
- If you were going to give your mom (or dad, grandmother, etc.) a gift, what would you give them?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

When we sing about God’s holiness, we join the song of Heaven. Revelation 4:8 says that the angels never stop proclaiming, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.” Before you worship, ask the kids if they have a favorite song they’d like to sing. You can also revisit the music suggestions we gave in week one:

- “Holy, Holy, Holy” by *Hillsong United*
- “Yahweh” by *Elevation Worship*
- “What a Beautiful Name” by *Hillsong Kids*

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray over your kids before beginning class.



A GREAT WAY TO GET YOUR KIDS INVOLVED IN THE LESSON IS BY ASKING THEM TO PRAY. SOME CHILDREN WILL JUMP AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY—ALL THEY NEED IS THE FREEDOM TO DO SO.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “There is no one like You, God. You hold the whole world in Your hands, and You know each of us completely. Thank You for creating us and bringing us here today. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “This is the third week of our unit called *Holy One*. Is there any person on the earth who is perfectly holy like God? No! The only holy one is God! Remember, ‘holy’ means pure, sinless, and perfect.

“Two weeks ago, we learned about Moses at the burning bush and how he needed to remove his shoes because of God’s presence. Then, we read about the mountain where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Do you remember how no one was even allowed to touch the mountain because of God’s holiness? Well, this week, we get to talk about another encounter Moses had with God. First, though, let’s hang up this week’s puzzle piece. Who would like to help us do that? Great!”

TRANSITION: Say, “Now, let’s play a game to get us started.”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Small, Soft Ball (1 per class) | Music |

Say, “Today’s game is *Hot Potato*. As some of you know, in *Hot Potato*, you have to give away the ‘potato’ as fast as you can, so you are not the person caught with it at the end. Who is ready to try it?”

GAME GOAL: To quickly pass the ball (“potato”) to the next person in the circle, so you’re not the person left holding it at the end of the round.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Have everyone sit in a circle. Then, choose one person to start with the ball.
2. When the music starts, the kids will quickly pass the ball around the circle until the music stops. Whoever has the “potato” when the music stops will slide out of the circle and wait until the game is over.
3. The last person remaining is the winner.



SOME CHILDREN HAVE A HARD TIME WHEN THEY DON'T WIN. HEAD THIS OFF BY PREPARING THE KIDS FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN SAY, “SOMETIMES WE WIN AND SOMETIMES OUR FRIENDS WIN, BUT IN THIS CLASS OUR GAMES ARE ALWAYS FOR FUN! REMEMBER, IT'S GREAT WHEN WE WIN, AND IT'S AWESOME WHEN OUR FRIENDS WIN!”

TRANSITION: Say, “How did you like the game? It is a good thing we played *Hot Potato*. It’s going to help us think about our lesson, which is also about giving something away. Are you ready to find out what I mean? Great!”

LEARN — 10 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Paper Bags (optional) | Newspaper (optional) |

Say, "We are going to read about something called an altar. Altar is a fancy word for a place, that looks kind of like a table, in the Old Testament where people gave things, offerings, to God. The things given to God on the altars were not presents. They were sacrifices. Sacrifices are something that is not easily given. [Have kids offer examples of things they don't like to give up easily.] God required His people to give these offerings or sacrifices so that their sins could be covered or hidden. [Take a moment and remind the children what 'sin' means.] But why did God's people need to cover their sins? Because **God is Holy**. Let's read about altars and sacrifices and see what they have to do with God's holiness." Read Exodus 29:42-46 (ICB).



BEFORE CLASS BEGINS, MAKE "ROCKS" BY STUFFING PAPER BAGS WITH NEWSPAPER. THEN, AS YOU TELL THIS WEEK'S BIBLE STORY, SLOWLY BUILD AN ALTAR WITH YOUR "ROCKS."

⁴² "You must burn these things [on the altar] as an offering to the Lord every day. Do this at the entrance of the Meeting Tent before the Lord from now on. When you [Moses] make the offering, I, the Lord, will meet you there and speak to you. ⁴³ I will meet with the people of Israel there. And that place will be holy because of my greatness.

⁴⁴ "So I will make the Meeting Tent and the altar holy. And I will make Aaron and his sons holy so they may serve me as priests. ⁴⁵ I will live with the people of Israel. I will be their God. ⁴⁶ And they will know that I am the Lord their God. They will know that I am the one who led them out of Egypt. I did this so I could live with them. I am the Lord their God."

Say, "The main thing we want to learn today is that **God is holy**. That means that He is perfect; He is awesome, without sin and even without a single flaw. And yet, He still wanted to know and live with His people."

Ask, "What did the people have to do so God could live with them? [Wait for responses.] God asked His people to do something very special. He told them to build an altar where they would offer sacrifices to Him. Because **God is holy** and without sin, He could only live with them if their sins were covered or hidden. Their sacrifices made the Temple a place where God could come and be with them."

JOINING TO JESUS

Say, "Hebrews 9:22 says, 'Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin.' Most of the time, the sacrifices the Israelites gave were animals. The animal's blood 'covered' the sins of God's people and offered forgiveness for their sins at that time. But years later, God sent Jesus Christ, His perfect and holy Son, to be the ultimate and final sacrifice. Jesus' blood didn't just cover our sins, it took them completely away. Now, it is only because of Jesus that we can be made holy [Hebrew 10:10-11]."

TRANSITION: Say, "The most important truth to remember is **God is holy.**"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about the story we just read."

1. Who is holy?

Response: **God is holy.**

2. How is God different from us?

Response: God is Holy, and we are not. Without Jesus, we cannot be holy or pure. Only **God is holy.**

3. How often did God ask His people to make sacrifices on an altar?

Response: God asked that they offer sacrifices on the altar every day.

4. What do you think it would be like to have to offer sacrifices every day?

Response: Answers will vary.

5. Why did the people have to offer sacrifices to God?

Response: The sacrifices hid their sins.

6. What do we learn about God from our story?

Response: **God is holy.** God loves us very much. Jesus forgives our sins, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Remember, **God is holy.** No one is perfect, pure, and righteous but Him."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Door Hangers* Activity Page (1 per child) | White Cardstock | Glue | Scissors | Watercolor Paints and Brushes |



BEFORE CLASS, PRINT 1 DOOR HANGERS ACTIVITY PAGE PER CHILD ON CARDSTOCK PAPER. CUT THE DOOR HANGER OUT, FOLD AND GLUE.

Say, "Now, we're going to make a craft that reminds us that **God is holy.** There was a time when God's people had to give God daily sacrifices on an altar. However, all of that changed when Jesus came and died for us. Christ became God's perfect and holy sacrifice. Now, if we believe in Him, we can come to God anytime! I can't wait to see what you create!"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. First, give each child a *Door Hanger* and watercolor paints and brushes.
2. Then, have the kids paint the altar on the bottom of the "God's Holy Altar" side of the door hanger. Ask them to talk about what the word sacrifice means.
3. On the opposite side of the door hanger, have the children use paint to decorate the cross. Encourage the children to color the cross in a way that makes them celebrate Christ as our sacrifice.
3. If the children finish early, have extra cardstock available for them to continue painting.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job with your door hangers! You can take these home and hang them on your doorknobs to remember today's lesson."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "There is no one like the Lord. Only **God is holy!** Let's take a few minutes to practice this month's memory verse so that we can keep God's Word in our hearts."

"There is no one (*crossing out motion*) **holy** (*kneel & bow head*) **like the Lord** (*point up*). **There is no God** (*crossing out motion*) **but you** (*point up*)."
1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB) (*hold your hands out like a book*)

CHALLENGE: The more movement that you can incorporate into memorization, the better! Try clapping the syllables of each word of 1 Samuel 2:2.

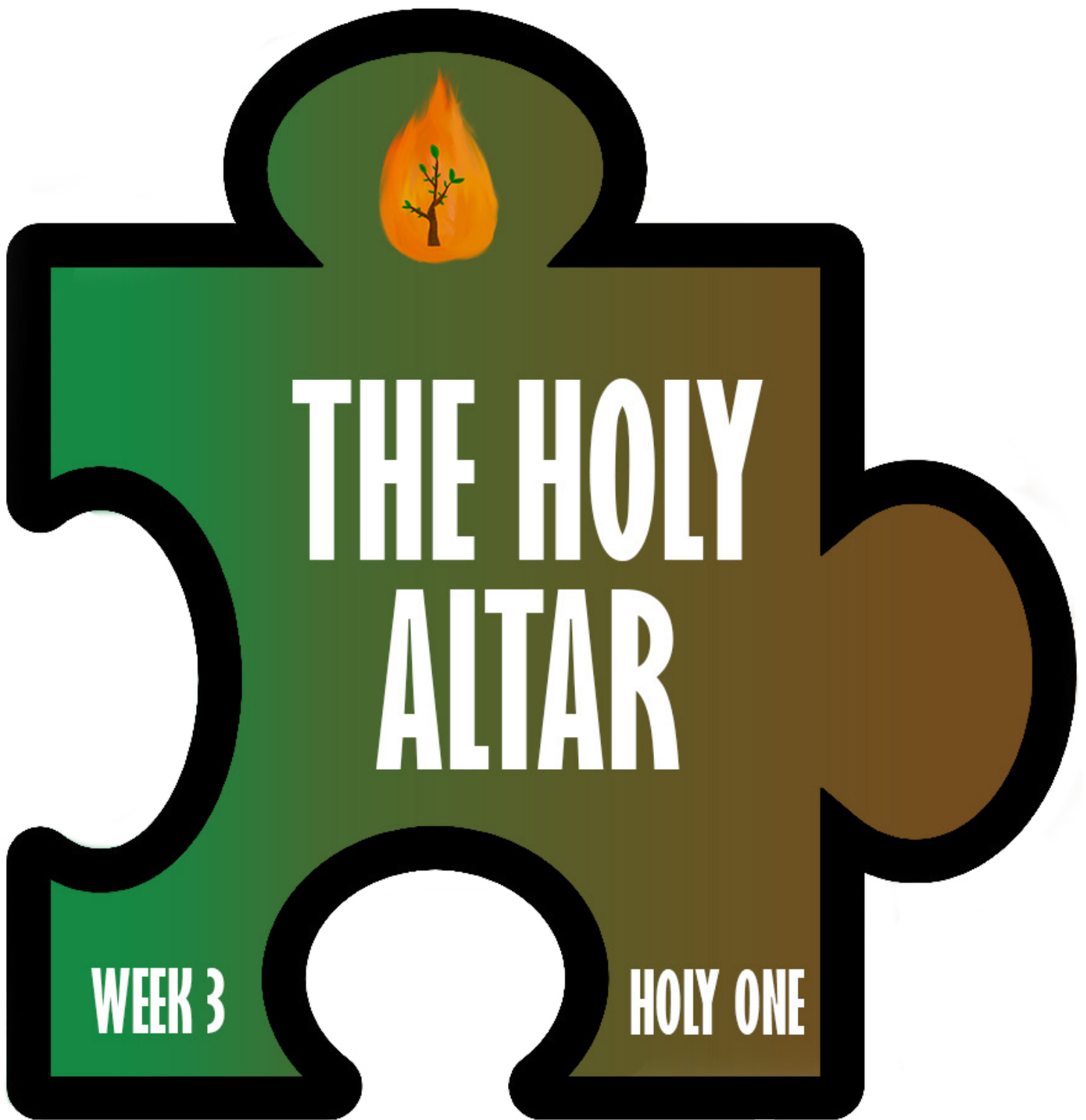
REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

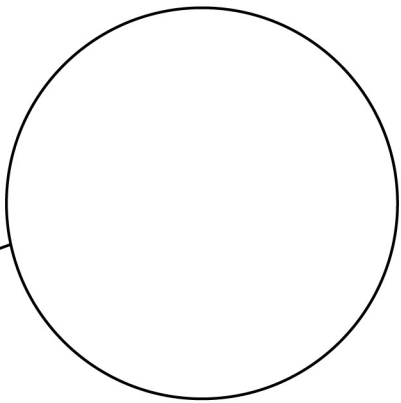
Say, "I am thankful that **God is holy** and He has given us His Son, Jesus. Let's pray to our loving and wonderful God right now!"

SAMPLE PRAYER: *God, we are amazed at Your holiness! Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior. We love You so much! Amen."*

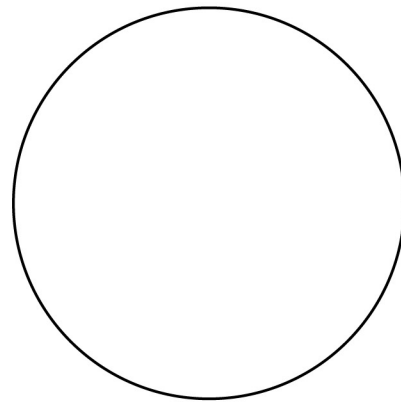
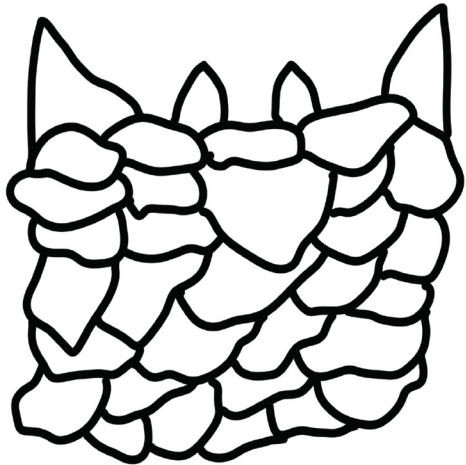
RELEASE —

Sometimes, the best way to end your class time is by exalting God in worship. Spend these last few moments together singing praises to our God!

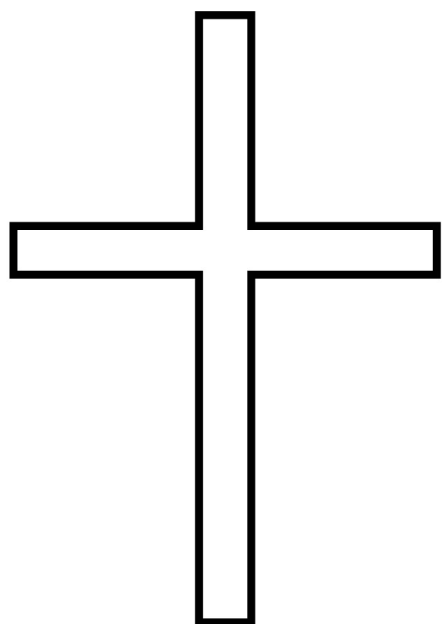




**GOD'S
HOLY
ALTAR**



**GOD'S
GREATEST
SACRIFICE**



HOLY ONE

GOD'S HOLINESS REVEALED TO MOSES



THE HOLY TENT

BIBLE PASSAGE

Exodus 40:34-38 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

God is holy.

FOCUS VERSE

“There is no one holy like the Lord. There is no God but you.” 1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Tent (Optional) | Meeting Tent Activity Page | Large Parachute | Popsicle Sticks | Cotton Balls | Liquid Glue | Construction Paper | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Have you ever slept in a tent? Did you enjoy it?
- If you could go camping, what would you bring?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Tent (optional) |

Revelation 4:8 says, “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty. Who was and is and is to come!” Before you sing, remind the children of the kind of God we worship. He is holy and perfect and powerful. He is the Lord Almighty. Continue to worship with songs of God’s holiness:

- “Holy, Holy, Holy” by *Hillsong United*
- “Yahweh” by *Elevation Worship*
- “What a Beautiful Name” by *Hillsong Kids*



IF AVAILABLE, SET UP A TENT IN THE CLASSROOM AND WORSHIP INSIDE OF IT (OR LEAD FROM INSIDE OF IT, IF YOU HAVE A LARGER CLASS). THIS BACKDROP WILL SET THE TONE FOR TODAY’S LESSON.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray before moving on to the teaching portion of the lesson.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Lord, help me as I am teaching these amazing children. I pray they will understand the lesson and learn more about You. Amen”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “We only have one more week in our *Holy One* lessons. When we say, ‘Holy One,’ who are we talking about? Right! We mean that **God is holy**. And what does ‘holy’ mean? [Wait for responses.] When we say **God is holy**, we mean that He is perfectly pure – there is absolutely nothing wrong with Him. [In kid terms, this means that God is so special and perfect that we can’t help but love, serve and worship Him.] Now, who can tell me about one of the stories we have learned this month?”

- Week 1: *The Holy Ground (Moses and the Burning Bush)*
- Week 2: *The Holy Mountain (God Meets Moses on Mount Sinai)*
- Week 3: *The Holy Altar (God’s People Offer Sacrifices to the Lord)*

“**God is holy!** Today, we will read another story about how God taught Moses and His people about His holiness. Let’s place the puzzle piece on the wall.”

TRANSITION: Say, “You know what time it is! It is game time!”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Large Parachute (1 per class) |

Say, “The game we’re about to play is called, *In the Tent!* Before we play, let me explain how it works.”

GAME GOAL: To avoid being the last person “in the tent.”

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Lay the opened parachute flat in the middle of the room. Then, tell everyone to stand around the perimeter of the room with their backs against the wall.
2. When you say, “in the tent,” everyone must run and grab an edge of the tent, lift it, and sneak under it.
3. The last person to get “in the tent” must sit out until only one person remains.
4. The game continues until only two children are remaining. The one to make it “in the tent” first on the last round wins the game.



A LARGE PARACHUTE IS A FANTASTIC ACTIVITY TOOL TO KEEP IN THE CLASSROOM AND WORTH THE INITIAL INVESTMENT. THEY CAN TYPICALLY BE PURCHASED FOR AROUND \$30.00.

TRANSITION: Say, “Did you like playing, *In the Tent?* Were you able to make it into the tent quickly? Well, now we’re going to talk about God’s special tent and what happened when He would go ‘in the tent.’”

LEARN — 10 MINUTES**MATERIALS:** | Tent (optional) |



BUILD A TENT AND TELL THE BIBLE STORY FROM INSIDE.

Say, "All month, we have talked about how **God is holy**. We will see that truth again in today's story about a very important tent. This tent had a special name called the "Meeting Tent" or the "Holy Tent." This was the tent where God visited His people. Let's read about this Holy Tent." Read Exodus 40:34-38 (ICB).

³⁴ Then the cloud covered the Meeting Tent. The greatness of the Lord filled the Holy Tent. ³⁵ Moses could not enter the Meeting Tent. This was because the cloud had settled on it. And this was because the greatness of the Lord filled the Holy Tent.

³⁶ When the cloud rose from the Holy Tent, the Israelites would begin to travel. ³⁷ But as long as the cloud stayed on the Holy Tent, the people did not travel. They stayed in that place until the cloud rose. ³⁸ So the cloud of the Lord was over the Holy Tent during the day. And there was a fire in the cloud at night. So all the

Say, "**God is holy**. Do you agree? Me too!"

Ask, "*Why was the Meeting Tent so special?* Normally, a tent isn't that special, but if God is in it, then it's holy. Why do you think there was a cloud over the tent? [Wait for responses.] The tent was where God came when He visited His people. Isn't that amazing?"

JOINING TO JESUS

"God's people had to stay far away from Him, but Jesus changed all of that. Now, we can be friends with God. When we believe in Jesus, we can always come into God's holy presence."

TRANSITION: Say, "We should be amazed by the Lord's holiness! Even though God does not come in clouds anymore, He is still just as holy and mighty as He was when He traveled with the Israelites [God's special people]!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Who is ready to talk about the story? Let's see what you remember."

1. Who is holy?

Response: **God is holy.**

2. What covered the Meeting Tent?

Response: God covered the tent in a cloud.

3. Why was Moses not able to go into the Meeting Tent?

Response: God's holiness was so powerful in the tent that people couldn't enter it.

4. What do you think it would have been like to see that cloud over the Meeting Tent?

Response: Answers will vary.

5. How was God's presence different at night than during the day?

Response: At night, God's presence was a cloud of fire, and during the day, the presence of God was a cloud.

6. What do we learn about God from our story?

Response: **God is holy.** God wants to be with His people. Jesus made a way for us to be with him, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great answers! Never forget that **God is holy**. He is not like us. No one is as perfect and pure as Him."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Popsicle Sticks | Cotton Balls | Liquid Glue | Construction Paper (1 per child) | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "Today, we are going to create our own version of a Meeting Tent. Don't forget to add a cloud to remind us that **God is holy!**"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child several popsicle sticks and cotton balls, glue, a piece of construction paper (any color), and markers or crayons.
2. First, have the children use popsicle sticks and construction paper to make a tent.
3. Next, the children should glue cotton balls around the top of their tent to resemble God's holiness over the Meeting Tent.

TRANSITION: Say, "You did a great job making your Meeting Tents! You can take them home and put them somewhere to remind you that **God is holy**. Where could you put your tent at home?"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "It is verse memorization time. Does anyone think they can remember the words to this month's verse? Great! Let's say it together."

"There is no one (crossing out motion) holy (kneel & bow head) like the Lord (point up). There is no God (crossing out motion) but you (point up)."
1 Samuel 2:2 (ICB) (hold your hands out like a book)

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "**God is holy**. No one is like Him in all the earth! Let's pray and thank God for being so wonderful!"

SAMPLE PRAYER: "God, You are holy. There is no one like You. Thank you for reminding us of how amazing You are and how much You love us. Amen."

RELEASE —

Extend the learning time by getting inside the parachute or tent to discuss the story further, practice the memory verse, sing, or just get to know the kids.

