

Live Your Life for God
1st – 5th Grade
January 13 & 14, 2018

Main Point: If we want to follow God's will then we need to follow the example of Christ.

Bible Verse: "As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more." 1 Thessalonians 4:1 NIV

CRCC Bible Verse 2018: "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." Psalm 91:1 NIV

Supplies: Bible, white board

Play music while receiving children

-Begin Class on time 6:00pm/9:00am/10:30am/12:00pm

-Praise and Worship: 2 Songs

-Opening Prayer

-Read Daily Devotion

-Collect Offerings: General and Pennies for Missions-OCC

(15 minutes)

Introduction/Scripture Memorization: (5 minutes)

Review the CRCC Bible Verse 2018 Poster-Psalm 91:1 with the children.

Last week, we talked about the Wise Men living in obedience to God's commands.

4th & 5th Grade ONLY: You were also given an assignment to complete and be ready to discuss today. *(Review the assignment with the children and collect their papers.)*

Ask: *How do you think that God wants us to live our lives?* Allow children to respond and encourage them to live for God in any way that they can think of.

Say: *Today, we will learn how we can live our lives for God and become more like Him.*

Large Group Lesson: (20 minutes)

Begin by reading (or having a child read) **1 Thessalonians 4:1:** "As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more."

Say: *The Bible teaches us that we can live our lives fully devoted to God. Living for God is like always remembering that God has a plan and always trying to find that plan so that we can follow it. With our actions, we love God and treat others with love. We are always Christians, not just when we come to Church on Sundays. God has a plan for our lives that is better than anything we can imagine on our own.*

Say: *Now, How can we live for God? We know that we should live for God, but how can we live for God every day?* Read **1 Thessalonians 5:12-22.** [On a dry erase board, chalk board,

or poster, create a list of the ways that we can live for God. Encourage the children to recall as many of the ways they can live for God as possible while you list them on the board. Remind them that these are things that they should do if they want to live like God.]

The ideas that they can list are:

- have respect for those around you,
- Love workers who are above you,
- live in peace with others,
- warn those who are idle,
- encourage the timid,
- help the weak,
- be patient,
- do not seek retaliation,
- be joyful,
- pray continuously,
- give thanks always,
- be wary of evil and avoid it at all costs.

Another passage of scripture that reminds us how to live for God is called *The 10 Commandments*. Who knows where we can find *The Ten Commandments* in the Bible? (Exodus 20:1-17) **Read Exodus 20:1-17.**

When you have finished listing these ways, ask the children if they think that they can do all of these things on their own. Some may think that they can, but they are more likely to feel overwhelmed by this long list of rules.

Say: *It is hard to live fully for God and give up what we want. If we want to live for God, we can't do it alone. Let's read **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24** to see who can help us in this task. "May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and He will do it." Jesus is at the center of a life that is living for God. We are just humans and we cannot live for God if we do not accept Jesus as our Savior and allow Him to guide us through life.*

Lastly, **Ask:** *How do you think that our lives will be different if we live for God? Allow students to respond. If we are living for God, God will receive glory through our lives. The reason for our existence is that through us God would be glorified. This can only happen if we are living for God.*

Say: *Next let's read **John 3:21**: "But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God." When we live for God we will start to see our lives differently. We will see life through the eyes of Jesus who saved us. It's like the more we try to live for Christ the more we will want to live for Christ and not ourselves.*

Review the ABC's of Salvation

Say: Everybody was created to have a relationship with God through Jesus. The best choice anyone can ever make is to Admit, Believe, and Confess that Jesus is their personal Lord and Savior. Have you made the decision to make Jesus Lord of your life?

Discuss, in detail, the ABC's (Admit-Believe-Confess) of Salvation and what they are Admitting, Believing, and Confessing. Give children an opportunity to accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

Have the children who accept Jesus speak to a teacher about their decision...ASK each child to explain, in their own words, why they chose to make Jesus their Lord and Savior.

Write down names of children on first time Salvation Sheet who accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior, and add the number of children who made a salvation decision on the classroom checklist.

Lesson Activity/Discussion: Live for God Game (15 minutes)

The point of this game is to teach children that if they want to live for God, then they need to be like Christ. Their lives should mirror Jesus' life.

- Pair the children up and have them sit face to face with their partner.
- One child will be the leader and the other is the "mirror".
- The "mirror" must try to mimic any movement that the leader makes.
- Challenge the children be a "mirror" as long as they are possibly able.

Say: *Right now we are just mirroring our friends, but in life we should try to be like a mirror of Jesus' life. We should try to do what He did.* Have the children switch places and play again.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who should we be living our lives for? *God.*
2. Why should we live our lives for God? *Because He is our Creator and Savior. Because He will make all things work out for the good of everyone.*
3. Why is living for God so hard? *Living for God is hard because we are selfish and just want to live for ourselves.*
4. What things does a person do when they are trying to live for God? *have respect for those around you, love workers who are above you, live in peace with others, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient, do not seek retaliation, be joyful, pray continuously, give thanks always, be wary of evil and avoid it at all costs.*
5. Who is always in control of our lives? *God.*

Don't forget our challenge for 2018: I challenge you to read your Bible for at least 15 minutes and pray every day. You can start a prayer circle with your family and/or friends.