



Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for November 7, 2010
Released on Wednesday, November 3, 2010

"God Is Awesome"

Lesson Text: Psalm 66:1-12

Background Scripture: Psalm 66:1-20

Memory Verse: "Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men" (Psalm 66:5).

Psalm 66:1-12

- 1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:
- 2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious.
- 3 Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.
- 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name. Selah.
- 5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.
- 6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.
- 7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.
- 8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:
- 9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.
- 10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.
- 11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.
- 12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God wants to be praised in all the nations of the earth.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God wants all nations to give Him praise.
2. His people must therefore tell others of His glory and His goodness.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Helping to Remember, bring magazines showing pictures of people from many places all over the world.

Bring paper, glue or glue sticks, and crayons.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: unknown

Place: Judah

God is worthy to be praised in all nations and by all people groups. How can the nations make His praise glorious? Each has its own way of praising God. Some are exuberant, noisy, and showy. Others are quiet and thoughtful. When He is fully praised in all the cultures of earth, His praise will be glorious indeed.

Three times in Psalm 66:1-12 the nations are mentioned. "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands" (v. 1). "All the earth shall worship thee" (v. 4). "His eyes behold the nations" (v. 7). One might also think of verse 3: "Through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee."

God loves to be exalted by His people. It was appropriate that God's people sang to Him after He brought them through the Red Sea. However, God wants to be exalted by *all* the nations. It is therefore the responsibility and the privilege of His people to share with them the wonderful news of salvation.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Hony was a Native American. He invited his friend Fred to a Native American dance. Honny told his friend that long ago, his people used to worship spirits of the land—things God had made, like rivers and mountains or spirits of animals. Now they worshiped God and loved Jesus, His Son. This dance would be to honor Him.

Fred had never heard of such a thing. He asked his parents about it. "Does God want praise from a Native American dance?" he asked.

"God wants praise from all nations and all people groups," Dad answered. "He wants everyone everywhere to praise Him."

"Yes, and different cultures have different ways of doing that," Mom added. "Maybe dancing is the way Honny's people praise God. I know that some people praise Him quietly, and others make lots of noise. I think God sees the praise in the heart and is pleased no matter how we do it."

TELLING THE LESSON:

Today's psalm talks about something God likes very much. It talks about all the nations of the earth praising Him. Psalm 66 begins, "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands."

All the lands on earth are to sing forth the honor of God's name. God made all people. He made the land on which they live, the air they all breathe, the sun and rain that brings them food. It is right that they honor Him.

All the lands on earth are to make God's praise glorious. We might think of something as being glorious when it has many beautiful colors or many different patterns. Every group of people has a different way of praising God - some with singing, some with drums, some with dancing, and some with musical instruments of many different kinds. Some wave flags and brightly colored banners. Some put banners on the church walls. Some hum quietly; others sing at the top of their lungs. Some sit or kneel reverently with head bowed and hands folded. Others jump and shout.

God sees our hearts; so He loves all the ways that we give genuine praise to Him. His praise is glorious when it comes from our hearts in so many different ways.

It is right that all the nations of earth remember God and His power. He has done many wonders in the earth. All nations of the world should - and one day will - praise God, but praise must begin with His own people praising Him. It is God who gives us life every day. We should praise Him even in times of trial and trouble and pain.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

How can all the people groups of earth praise God? How can they praise Him if no one tells them about His love for them? We who have trusted Jesus must pray for them and tell them that God loves them too.

Do you know someone from another land or another culture? Are you praying for your friend and looking for ways to share God's love with him? As you learn about other cultures in school or hear about other lands in the news, do you pray that the people will come to love God? (Discussion idea: name several examples of other countries in the news currently.)

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let the children choose pictures of people from many lands and cultures. They can cut them out and glue them on paper. Let them write "God loves (name of people)" if they desire.

Pray for the people groups represented in the pictures. Then use the pictures to decorate your room.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men" (Psalm 66:5).

The works of God are there for everyone to see. His creation shows how great and powerful, how wise and wonderful He is. The word "terrible" here does not mean "bad." God is not bad in His ways with us. The word "terrible" here means "awesome, wonderful." When we think of all that God has done, we must be filled with awe. He has done wonderful things for us. He gives us good gifts on the earth He made, and He gives us life every day. He is an awesome God!

CONCLUSION:

We live in uncertain times, open to attacks by foreign nations. Financial situations change overnight because of things beyond our control. And yet through all kinds of disasters, our God proclaims that He is going to take care of His people and protect them. When we read the book of Psalm in particular, we are reminded that God is a

God who is active in history. He will show us His wonderful and awesome works to help us in times of crisis.

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for all Your wonderful works! You have done great and marvelous things, and we are filled with awe. Help us to praise You and tell others of Your goodness, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "**God Is Forever**" and teaches that God lives forever. Our lives are short and should be lived in ways that please the eternal God. Study Psalm 90:1-17.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books.

Holman Bible Dictionary, Holman Bible Publishers

WORD SEARCH

"God Is Awesome" (Psalm 66:1-12)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

FLOOD	SILVER	NATIONS	REJOICE
FIRE	SING	AWESOME	HEART
PRAISE	NOISE	WORSHIP	JOYFUL
POWER	GLORIOUS	PSALM	GREATNESS

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SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

"God Is Awesome" (Psalm 66:1-12)

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