

THEME FOR UNIT 11: We Love God
UNIT BIBLE MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 22:37

5

MOSES TELLS ABOUT GOD

BIBLE BASIS

The people listen as Moses tells them about God (Deuteronomy 5:1-3; 7:12-13; 10:12-14).

BIBLE TRUTH

We can listen to God's Word.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37

LESSON AIM

That your students will listen to God's Word.


1 LIFE NEED (3-5 MINUTES)

- Play a listening game

Materials: None

2 BIBLE LEARNING (10-15 MINUTES)

- Teach with pictures what Moses taught about listening to God's Word
- Review with questions

 **Materials:** Bible; "Moses and the People" Teaching Aids 5-7, flannel board

3 BIBLE APPLICATION (10 MINUTES)

- Practice the Bible memory verse with a rhyme
- Color a picture of a listening child

Materials: *Preschool Make-It/Take-It* for Lesson 5, crayons, sticker

4 LIFE RESPONSE (10 MINUTES)

- Read a story about children listening to God's Word
- Name a way to listen to God's Word and play a listening game

Materials: *My Sunday Pictures* Family Card B and Lesson 5



This symbol means extra preparation or supplies are needed.



Understanding the Bible

Moses needed to remind the Israelites about God’s laws—the Ten Commandments—and His covenant, or agreement, with His people.

The word *covenant* in Deuteronomy 5:2-3 is a very important term. God’s people are in a covenant arrangement with Him. Even today we are under a new covenant (Heb. 8:6-13).

Marriage is a covenant. In many marriage covenants, the two people promise to love and be committed to each other. Many marriage covenants pledge that the couple will hang in there “in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, till death do us part.” Faithfulness, commitment, loyalty, responsibility—these are the glue of a marriage covenant that keeps married people together. If one person is out the door every time there is an argument, there is no sign that they have made a covenant to work together in this marriage contract or arrangement. The same kind of commitment applies to our relationship with God.

Deuteronomy 1–4 contains reminders from Moses of God’s faithfulness. He led the Israelites out of Egypt and stayed with them all the way to the promised land.

Deuteronomy 5–26 has reminders from Moses about God’s laws. He warned the people not to make God angry by disobeying Him. In Deuteronomy 5:1, Moses gave the Israelites three things to do: “Hear, Israel, the decrees and laws I declare in your hearing today. Learn them and be sure to follow them.”

“To fear the LORD” (Deut. 10:12) doesn’t mean to be scared to death of Him, but to show reverence for God. If the people obeyed God, He promised to bless them with family, food, and animals, just as He had promised to bless their forefathers. Note that Genesis 12:2-3 states, “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you. . . . I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Then Moses reminded the people of the agreement between them and God (Deut. 27–33). He also assured them of God’s continuing protection.

The last chapter of Deuteronomy tells of Moses’ death. God allowed Moses to see the promised land—Canaan—from Mount Nebo, but did not allow him to enter it. The reason for this was Moses’ disobedience and lack of trust in God when the people needed water one day in the desert (Num. 20:6-12).

Moses reminded the Israelites to live the best possible way.

Understanding Your Students

Preschoolers listen best when they can keep their muscles moving. That’s why the lessons have action rhymes, stories with actions to imitate, and activities that involve movement. If your children are allowed to be active listeners, they will be much more cooperative than if directed to sit still.

Listening to God’s Word can be especially hard for preschoolers because Bible-time culture and words are often strange to them. Help your preschoolers with further explanation if it appears they are not understanding a Bible term.

CLASSROOM TIPS

Here are some ways to help your children be good listeners as you share God’s message with them each week.

- Let your class notice your good example. Show that you think what they have to say is important. The children will begin to notice that you always look at someone who is speaking and listen quietly until that person has finished speaking.
- Your voice will keep your children’s interest if you speak loud enough to be heard, but soft enough to require listening. Be sure that the listening sessions are short.
- Use words your children can understand, and have them respond with actions that show they heard and understood you.
- Call a child by name when you need his or her attention and have something for the child to see or do.

WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

- Introduce “Love the Lord Your God” from the DisKit CD. The song makes the children aware of some ways they can love God.
- Ask a child helper to collect offerings. Pause for a few moments to thank God for the children’s offerings.
- Compliment children as they bow their heads and get ready to listen to the prayer. **Dear God, the Bible tells us how You want us to live. We like to listen to Your words from the Bible. In Jesus’ name. Amen.**



BEFORE CLASS

Greet each child by name. As your students arrive this morning, you can gain their attention with your happy greeting. **I am so happy to see you. Today at Sunday school we will learn about listening to God's Word, the Bible.**

Encourage your children to give their offerings. Direct them to one of the first activities of the day after they have marked their attendance.

GETTING STARTED

The following activities will prepare the children for the story of Moses teaching the Israelites to listen to God's Word.



Table Play: Set up a table with different objects in plastic containers such as rice, popcorn kernels, or buttons. Have your children rattle the containers. **If you listen closely, you can hear different sounds in each container.**



Moving and Doing: Play the game "Listen and Freeze" to help children think about listening. Choose a leader to play a song from the DisKit CD. The rest of the children move to the music. When the leader stops the music, the children freeze. **Let's see how well you listen.**



Arts and Crafts: In advance, cut out paper strips, two by six inches, to make bookmarks. Print "The Bible Is God's Word" on each strip. Children may decorate the bookmarks. Show them how to place the bookmarks in a Bible. **We will learn today that we can listen to God's Word.**

1

Life Need

5 minutes

Objective: That your students will prepare for the Bible story by playing a listening game.

This activity will prepare your students for the Bible story about how Moses taught the Israelites to listen to God's Word.

Once the children are seated in a circle and ready to listen, introduce the listening game to begin talking about listening.

Good morning! Everyone touch your ears. (*Cup your ears while the children touch their ears.*) **Your ears let you hear me say good morning. You listen with your ears. Today we are going to use our ears to play a listening game. You will need to listen very carefully as you play the game. I will say and do some actions. Then you do the actions.**

Have everyone stand. **Remember to listen and watch the actions I do. Then do the same actions back to me. Give the children time to repeat the rhythm back to you.** You may need to go slowly at the beginning of the game until the children understand what to do. Here are a few suggestions to begin:

- **Clap, clap, clap**
- **Clap, pat knees, clap**
- **Clap, pat knees, stomp, stomp**

Gradually make the rhythms harder by doing them faster or adding more rhythms to a sequence of actions. After a few rhythms, go around the circle and give each child a chance to make up a rhythm.

Gather the children back into a circle and ask them to sit down. **You needed to listen to play our game. What happened when you did listen? (We were able to play the game.) What happened when you didn't listen? (We couldn't do the actions, we forgot what to do.)**

You listen many times. Let's talk about other times you listen. What things do you listen to? (Children may mention the television, a video or CD, or a computer. They may say sounds they hear such as animal noises, different machines, and so forth.)

Who do you listen to? (Most children will talk about listening to parents and teachers. Some children may say brothers and sisters, neighbors, friends, grandparents, babysitters, etc.)

We can listen to many things. We also listen to people telling us different things. Today we're going to learn that we can listen to God's Word. Our Bible story tells us more about Moses and the Israelites. As you hear the story, you can discover what Moses told the people to listen to.

2

Bible Learning

10 minutes

Objective: Students will discover what Moses taught about listening to God's Word.

You will use Figures 6-10 from Teaching Aids 5-7 this week. Attach velcro, found in your Creative Teaching Aids, to Figures 9 and 10. Figure 7 will be placed in Moses' hands. Place the figures in the order you will use them. Show the figures as indicated in the Bible story. Have your Bible open to Deuteronomy 6.

Bible Story

Today's story comes from a book of the Bible called Deuteronomy. (Show the children where Deuteronomy 6 is. Keep your Bible open.)

(Put Figure 8, Moses, in the center of the board.) **This is Moses.** (Place Figure 6, the group of Israelites, to the right of Figure 8.)



Figure 8

These people are the Israelites. God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to a new land. God led them through the Red Sea. (Put Figure 7, the tablets, into the slits by the hands of Moses, Figure 8.) **God gave Moses and the Israelites some rules.**



Figure 6

The first rule said to love God more than anything else. Children had a special rule just for them. God told them to love and obey their mothers and fathers. Another rule was about hands. God's rule said the people should not take things that didn't belong to them.



Figure 7

(Take the tablets, Figure 7, off of Moses, Figure 8.) **One day Moses called the Israelites together. He said, "Come and listen. (Cup hands behind ears.) There is more God wants me to tell you. God wants you to listen to His Word.**

(Make a book with your hands.) **Love the Lord your God with all your heart. (Put your hands on your heart.) Love Him**



Figure 9

with all your strength. (Flex your arms.) God wants you to serve Him and obey Him." (Take down Figure 6, the Israelites. Put the family, Figure 9, to the left of Moses.) **Then Moses talked just to the mothers and fathers. "Go and teach your children all that I have taught you. Teach them about God's rules, to love God with all their hearts, and to listen to God's Word."** (Cup hands behind ears.)

(Remove Moses, Figure 8.) **The Israelite mothers and fathers gathered their children together. They taught the children to love God with all their hearts. (Put your hands on your heart.) They taught the children to love God with all their strength. (Flex your arms.) The parents taught the children to serve and obey God. And the parents taught the children to listen to God's Word. (Cup hands behind ears.)**

(Take down Figure 9. Place Figure 10, the Bible, on the board.) **We can listen to God's Word too. (Cup hands behind ears.) God's Word is given to us in the Bible. The Bible tells us that God loves us very much. It tells us that we should love God with all our hearts. We should love Him more than anyone or anything. We can listen to God's Word.**



Figure 10

Bible Story Review

1. What did Moses tell the people about God's Word? (He told them to listen to and obey God's Word.)

2. What did Moses tell the mothers and fathers to teach their children? (He told them to teach God's rules.)

3. Why do you think it's important to listen to God's Word? (This may be a difficult question for some children to answer. They may say "God tells us to," or "We're supposed to," or don't know why.)

4. What can we listen to? (We can listen to God's Word.)

Bible Application

10 minutes

Objective: That your students will learn that they can listen to God's Word.

Bible Memory Verse

We have a new Bible verse to learn today. Listen carefully to the words so you can say them: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart" **Matthew 22:37**. Say the verse together and have the children listen for the Bible memory verse in this poem.

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart.

(Clap, clap.)

Listen and obey.

(Cup hands around ears.)

Thank Him every day.

(Fold hands in prayer.)

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart.

(Clap, clap.)

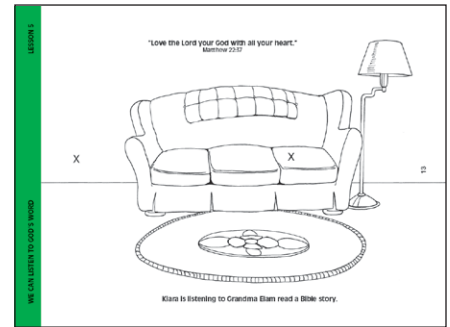
Let's say our verse one more time: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart" **Matthew 22:37**.

When we say our verse, we are listening to God's Word, the Bible.

Handcraft

Remove Lesson 5 and the two stickers for this lesson from each child's Make-It/Take-It book.

Have the children color their pictures. Then help them attach the sticker of Grandma Elam and Kiara to the X on the couch, and the radio and table sticker to the X at the left of the picture. You may wish to provide the children with paper strips to frame their pictures.



Make-It/Take-It for Lesson 5

What is Kiara doing in the picture? (Kiara is listening to Grandma Elam read a Bible story.)

(Point to the radio.) **Where else could Kiara hear a Bible story?** (Kiara can hear someone telling a Bible story on the radio.)

We can listen to God's Word, too, when someone reads to us or when someone is telling a Bible story on the radio or on a CD.



4

Life Response

10 minutes

Objective: That your students will name a way to listen to God's Word and play a listening game.

Read aloud to your students "Good Listeners" from *My Sunday Pictures* Lesson 5, back.

Present-Day Story

The children in the Sunday school class were having a special treat today.

They were going to have their Sunday school lesson outside.

They took the Bible, a blanket, and crackers for a snack outside.

The children colored pictures about the Bible story. They sang "Jesus Loves Me. They played a game.

"Come, sit here by me," Uncle Walter told the children. They sat in a circle to listen to God's Word from the Bible.

"One of my favorite things about Sunday school is telling you Bible stories from God's Word, the Bible," Uncle Walter said.

The children listened as Uncle Walter told the Bible story about Moses telling the Israelites God's rules and promises.

"You have all been very good listeners today," said Uncle Walter. "We show our love to God when we listen to His Word."

"I like to show love to God," said Tiana.

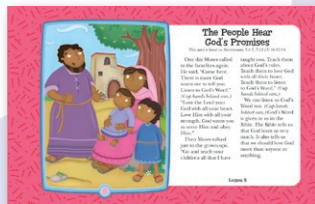
"Me, too," said the rest of the class.

Closing Activities

Show children the Bible picture story on *My Sunday Pictures*. In today's Bible story, Moses talked to the Israelites. Moses told the people to love God by listening to His Word. The mothers and fathers were told to teach God's Word to their children. Today God's Word is in the Bible. We can show love to God when we listen to God's Word.



My Sunday Pictures
Lesson 5 (back)



My Sunday Pictures
Lesson 5 (front)

What are some ways we can listen to God's Word? (Some answers may be coming to Sunday school, listening to your parents read Bible stories at home, listening to music that tells about God, asking parents to read *My Sunday Pictures*, saying our memory verse.)

Play a listening game. Assemble your children in a circle. **What special thing can we do to show that we love God? I'll whisper the answer to** (name student). Whisper "listen to God's Word." Have this child whisper "listen to God's Word" to the next child in the circle. The last child in the circle can say the sentence for everyone to hear. If everyone listened well, the last child will say the sentence correctly. If the sentence is not correct, talk about how it is important to listen well.

I'll ask the question again. What special thing can we do to show that we love God? (We can listen to God's Word.) **Let's pray and thank God for giving us ears so we can listen to His Word, the Bible.**

Dear God, thank You for our ears that we use to listen to your Word. Help us to be good listeners at church and at home. We love You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Make sure your children have their Make-It/ Take-It handcraft pictures of a listening child, and *My Sunday Pictures* for

Lesson 5 and Family Card B. Explain to parents that the Family Card gives them information on what their child will be studying in Sunday school, the action rhyme they are learning in class to help them memorize the verse, as well as ideas for activities to do with their child.

Give each of your little ones a personal goodbye. **Remember to listen to God's Word this week.**



My Sunday Pictures
Family Card B