

The Spork

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: We have to choose between serving God or the world. We can't do both.

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-24

Memory Verse: No one can serve two masters. - Matthew 6:24

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids! Today we're going to talk about something really important. It's about choosing to do what God wants us to do instead of just doing things to make people happy or to get lots of stuff. This is called "Serving God vs. Mammon." Mammon is a fancy word that means money or things we might want a lot, like toys or video games.

You know, sometimes it's easy to get caught up in wanting lots of toys, games, or even trying to be the most popular. But, guess what? Those things don't make us truly happy in the end. What makes us really happy is knowing we're doing what God wants us to do.

Serving God means we listen to what He tells us in the Bible and try our best to do it. It's like if God had a big, wonderful plan for a super fun day, and all we have to do is follow His plan to have the best day ever. But sometimes, we get distracted by other things, like maybe a shiny toy we see in the store, and we forget about God's plan.

Now, let's talk more about Serving God vs. Mammon. Imagine you have two paths in front of you. One path is shiny and full of toys, candy, and everything you could ever

want. But this path doesn't lead to God. The other path might not look as exciting at first, but it leads to God and to doing what He wants, which is the best thing ever.

Choosing to serve God might mean sharing your toys with someone who doesn't have any, being kind to someone even when you don't feel like it, or helping your mom and dad around the house without them asking. It's not always easy, but it's so worth it because it makes God happy, and it makes us happy too.

Serving Mammon, or chasing after things and trying to be popular, might seem fun at first. But in the end, it's like eating too much candy. It seems great at the time, but then you end up with a tummy ache. Serving Mammon doesn't fill up our hearts the way serving God does.

Now, I want to tell you about a friend of mine named Amber. Amber is a super talented artist who loves to paint. Instead of selling her paintings for lots of money to buy toys, she does something really cool. She sells her art to raise money to feed people who are hungry. Amber is choosing to serve God by helping others, and that makes her really happy.

You see, when we choose to serve God, we get to be part of something bigger than ourselves. We get to help people, spread kindness, and make the world a better place. And the best part is, God sees everything we do, and He's so proud of us when we choose to serve Him.

So, kids, let's remember to focus on what really matters. Let's choose to serve God by being kind, helping others, and following what He teaches us. It's way better than

chasing after things that don't last. Serving God fills our hearts with joy and makes our lives super special.

Let's pray together and ask God to help us choose to serve Him every day. We can ask Him to show us how to share, how to be kind, and how to make the world a better place by following His plan.

Bible Memory Verse

No one can serve two masters. - Matthew 6:24

You Will Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or stamps

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- Write 'God' on one side of the heart and 'World' on the other side in big letters before class.

Do This:

1. Explain the memory verse to the children, emphasizing that we have to choose to serve God because He loves us and wants the best for us.
2. Give each child a heart and ask them to decorate the 'God' side with markers, crayons, and stickers or stamps to show things they think please God (like helping others, praying, loving their family).

3. Flip the heart over and discuss briefly what it might mean to serve the 'world' (choosing not to listen, being unkind, etc.), but emphasize that God's way is the best way and that's why we decorate and choose His side.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Two large boxes or bins
- A variety of small toys or objects (some that represent worldly things like money, toys, and some that represent godly things like a Bible, cross, or heart)
- Simple pictures or symbols for God and the world (like a heart for God and a toy for the world)
- A large mat or area on the floor

Get Ready:

- Label one box/bin with a picture of a heart (for God) and the other with a toy (for the world).
- Spread the toys or objects and the pictures/symbols randomly on the large mat or floor area.

Do this:

1. Gather the children around the mat and explain that each object represents something we can choose to serve or love. Show them the two boxes and explain one is for things that help us serve God (heart box) and the other is for things that are more about serving ourselves or the world (toy box).
2. One at a time, let each child pick an object or picture from the floor. Ask them to decide if it is something that helps us serve God or if it's more about serving the world. Depending on their answer, they will place it in the corresponding box.

3. After all objects have been sorted, sit in a circle and discuss how choosing to serve God makes our hearts happy, and how sometimes it can be hard to not choose the things of the world, but God helps us make the right choices. Reinforce the idea that we can't serve both God and the world, but choosing God is always the best choice.

Snack Activity: Two Paths Snack Time

You'll Need:

- Plain round cookies (representing the world)
- Heart-shaped candies (representing love for God)
- Frosting (to stick candies on cookies)

Get Ready: Lay out a cookie for each child on a clean plate and place heart-shaped candies in a bowl.

Do this:

1. Talk to the children about how we sometimes have to make choices, like choosing to follow what God wants or following what the world wants. Explain that we can't choose both, just like we can't walk in two different directions at the same time.
2. Show them the cookie and explain that it represents the world, and the heart candies represent choosing to love and serve God.
3. Let each child spread frosting on their cookie and then choose to place a heart candy on it, symbolizing making the choice to love and serve God instead of following the world. As they do, reinforce the idea that when we choose God, we fill our lives with His love.

Game Activity: Pathway to Treasure

You'll Need:

- Large sheets of paper or cardboard
- Markers or crayons
- Tape

Get Ready: Before the activity, draw two distinct paths on the large sheets of paper or cardboard. One path is labeled 'Serving God' and the other 'Serving the World'. Along each path, draw simple symbols or pictures representing actions or choices related to serving God (like praying, helping others) and the world (being selfish, lying). Tape these pathways on the floor, side by side, leading to a 'Treasure Chest' at the end, which could just be a box decorated with gold or treasure-like drawings.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that in life, we have two paths we can choose: serving God or serving the world, but we can only choose one. Tell them that serving God leads to the greatest treasure.
2. Let the children take turns hopping or walking along the 'Serving God' path, stopping at each symbol to briefly discuss the action (e.g., 'Helping others shows God's love'). Guide them to avoid the 'Serving the World' path, explaining gently why those choices don't lead to the true treasure.
3. Once they reach the 'Treasure Chest' at the end of the God-serving path, celebrate their choice and discuss the real treasure of serving God, like feeling peace, love, and happiness in our hearts.

Craft Activity: Two Paths: Serving God or the World

You'll Need:

- A large sheet of paper

- Crayons or markers
- Stickers or stamps with symbols representing God (like hearts, crosses) and the world (like money, toys)

Get Ready: Draw a large path on the paper, splitting it into two smaller paths halfway. Label one path 'Serving God' and the other 'Serving the World'. Place the crayons or markers and the stickers or stamps within reach of the children.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that Jesus teaches us we have to choose to serve God or the world, but we can't do both. Show them the two paths you've drawn.
2. Ask the children to think about things that show serving God (like praying, helping others) and things that show serving the world (like being selfish, only wanting lots of toys). Discuss briefly.
3. Let the children decorate each path with the stickers or stamps that represent serving God and the world. Encourage them to draw or write simple words or symbols on the paths with crayons or markers.

Prayer Activity: Choosing God's Path: A Prayer

Journey

You'll Need:

- A large piece of paper or poster board
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or stamps with hearts and worldly items (like toys, money, etc.)

Get Ready: Draw two paths on the large paper - one leading to a church or a cross, and the other leading to a house filled with toys. Label one path 'God's Path' and the other 'World's Path.' Place the paper on the floor or a large table where children can easily reach.

Do this:

1. Gather the children and explain that we can choose to follow God's path or the world's path, but we can't do both. Show them the paths you've drawn.
2. Give each child a sticker or stamp and let them decide which path they want to place it on. Encourage them to think about choosing to love and serve God.
3. After placing their sticker or stamp, lead the children in a simple prayer, asking God to help us choose His path every day. You can say, 'Dear God, help us to love You and choose Your path. Amen.'