

LESSON 77

Worthy Is the Lamb

REVELATION 5:1-14



BIBLE TRUTH

JESUS, THE LAMB OF GOD, IS WORTHY

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. OPENING REVIEW **5 MIN**

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

2. BIBLE STORY **10 MIN**

Read Revelation 5 from the Scriptures or read story 155, "Worthy Is the Lamb," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

3. OBJECT LESSON 1 **10 MIN**

The Images of Revelation?

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ three cards with pictures (drawings are fine) on one side and a word on the other side: (1) a lamb on the front and the word "Jesus" on the back; (2) a lion on the front and the word "Jesus" on the back; (3) a root with a small green shoot growing out of it and the word "Jesus" on the back

4. TEACHING/DISCUSSION **10 MIN**

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

5. OBJECT LESSON 2 **10 MIN**

The Sacrifice and the Power?

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ a bright white flat sheet (Note: save this sheet for next week's lesson)
- ✓ a crown of thorns (Cut narrow branches from any thorny bush like a rose and weave them into a circle. Use leather gloves to protect fingers from the prickles.)
- ✓ a box to hold the crown

6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY **5 MIN**

7. ACTIVITY TIME **10 MIN**

Color a Picture

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ coloring page for NT Lesson 77—one for each child
- ✓ markers or crayons

8. CLOSING PRAYER **5 MIN**

9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON **20 MIN**

A Revelation Drama?

TOTAL 85 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

The Lion of the tribe of Judah is worthy—The literary style of the book of Revelation is apocalyptic literature. Apocalyptic literature reveals something previously hidden and usually does it through a vision. These visions often include strange images of things that do not normally exist. The apostle John receives the vision from God that is recorded in the book of Revelation (Revelation 1:1, 9–11).

The image of the lion of the tribe of Judah in Revelation 5:5 is a reference back to Genesis where Jacob, who was called Israel, gathered his twelve sons to tell them what would happen to them in the future. To Judah he said, “Judah is a lion’s cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.” (Genesis 49:9–10).

Jesus, “the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll” (Revelation 5:5). The scroll is symbolic for the final plan of God. God’s plan to dwell with his people in heaven forever is about to be opened!

The Lion is the Lamb—When the imagery of Revelation changes, it does not mean a new character or event is being introduced. Though John describes a lamb, he is actually giving us a different view of the Lion (Revelation 5:6). Imagine that one of the elders said, “Look, the Lion has triumphed!” but when John looked, he saw a Lamb who was slain. In reality, all these pictures are talking about the same person, Jesus Christ.

The Book of Revelation was written with the symbolic number seven, which is the number of completion. The Lamb did not have seven literal horns and eyes. Horns were used to designate power, so this passage is telling us that the Lamb seen here had supreme or complete authority and power. When the Lamb removed the scroll, without resistance from God, all heaven worshiped. The Lamb was worthy!

All of creation will worship the Lamb—Everyone in heaven joins in the worship of the Lamb (Revelation 5:9–14). Together they all proclaim, “Worthy is the Lamb!” (Revelation 5:9, 12). No one is sleepy or distracted. Everyone has one purpose: to worship the Lamb.

Each Sunday when we gather we come with the same purpose: to worship the Lamb of God who was slain. We worship the Lamb, the Father who sent the Lamb, and the Spirit of God who opened our eyes to know the Lamb.

Where Is the Gospel?

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

The gospel is found in the praises of heaven, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain" (Revelation 5:12). Jesus is that Lamb. The hundreds of thousands of lambs sacrificed in Old Testament times could not take away sin. But Jesus, the Lamb of God, was a worthy sacrifice for sin. His worth is sufficient to atone for all sin, and his worth commands our worship and praise. We join all of heaven when we sing "Worthy is the Lamb."

There is only one Lamb who sits on the throne: Christ who conquered death. Here in the book of Revelation we see the culmination of the gospel. The books are opened, and the heavens praise the Redeemer, who has brought salvation by his death. By his blood, he ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. The gospel promise given to Abraham is finally fulfilled by the Lamb.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Revelation 5 from the Scriptures or read story 155, "Worthy Is the Lamb," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 15 MIN

The Images of Revelation?

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ three cards with pictures (drawings are fine) on one side and a word on the other side: (1) a lamb on the front and the word "Jesus" on the back; (2) a

lion on the front and the word “Jesus” on the back; (3) a root with a small green shoot growing out of it and the word “Jesus” on the back

Read through the story and each time you come to one of the images for Jesus hold up the corresponding card and show the class the picture. Then turn it around and have them read what it says and shout it out. You can do this twice through and move quickly through the story at a normal reading pace. This will emphasize to the children that this story is all about Jesus.

TEACHING/DISCUSSION **10 MIN**

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 **10 MIN**

The Sacrifice and the Power?

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ a bright white flat sheet (Note: save this sheet for next week’s lesson)
- ✓ a crown of thorns (Cut narrow branches from any thorny bush like a rose and weave them into a circle. Use leather gloves to protect fingers from the prickles.)
- ✓ a box to hold the crown

Tell the class that this story pictures Jesus in weakness and in power. Show the class the sheet and the thorns (in the box) and ask the following questions:

- **Which object represents Jesus in his weakest moment?**
(the crown of thorns)
- **Who can tell me the story of the crown of thorns?**
(Use this as an opportunity for the children to tell you the story of the crucifixion.)
- **Which object represents Jesus in his most powerful moment?**
(the white sheet)
- **What story do you think this white sheet is from?**
(the story of Jesus’ resurrection where the grave clothes were left behind when Jesus rose from the dead)

- **Who can tell me the story of Jesus' resurrection?**
(Use this as an opportunity for the children to tell you the story of the resurrection.)
- **Which two pictures of Jesus in today's Bible story do the two objects connect with?**
(The crown of thorns connects with the Lamb that was slain [Revelation 5:6] and the white sheet connects with the Lion of the Tribe of Judah who has conquered [Revelation 5:5].)

ACTIVITY TIME **10 MIN**

Color a Picture

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ coloring page for NT Lesson 77—one for each child
- ✓ markers or crayons

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

- **Who is on the throne?**
(Jesus is on the throne.)
- **What is a throne?**
(A throne is a seat for a king.)
- **What did Jesus do that he should be exalted and placed on a throne?**
(Jesus, who is God, came down to earth as a baby and lived a sinless life. He died on the cross for our sins so that we could be forgiven and go to be with him in heaven. Philippians 2:9–10 tells us, “Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow.”)

CLOSING PRAYER **5 MIN**

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's Scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON **20 MIN**

A Revelation Drama?

The object of this exercise is to help the children visualize John's vision. Assign the following roles (no costumes are needed): John, the narrator; God, on the throne; Jesus, the Lamb and the Lion; the strong angel; four living creatures (lion, ox, man, and eagle); two elders; many angels.

Read through Revelation 5, blocking out the acting as you go. For instance, the child playing Jesus should pretend to be a lion. Then when you get to the part about the Lamb in the next verse the same child should pretend to be Jesus hung on the cross or a gentle lamb falling to the ground. Remember, your narration will provide the explanation.

Once you have gone through the drama slowly, read through it faster and watch the children do their parts. Finally, take your drama on the road to a younger class so they can benefit from your practice.

