

Our God Is Powerful

Psalm 29

MEMORY VERSE

PSALM 29:3,4

“The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is over many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

Chairs (one for each child), a tape/CD player and music tape/CD.

Two balloons (blow up before class).

A sheet of construction paper for each child in various colors, scissors, markers, tape or glue stick, and yarn.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Musical Thrones

Use this game to introduce and demonstrate how God is on His throne always. This is played just like a regular game of musical chairs. You will need chairs (one for each child), a tape/CD player, and music tape/CD. Line up two rows of chairs back to back. The number of chairs should be equal to the number of children. Play the music and have the children stand up and move in a clockwise direction. Take one chair out then stop the music. Everyone should scramble to a chair. The one left without a chair is out. Continue play until there is a winner.

Explain to the children that God is always on His throne. He never moves from it. He reigns in Heaven, yet He also reigns on earth. His presence and power can be seen in creation and in the way He touches our lives personally. In Psalm 29, David recognizes God’s power and presence. He is everywhere! **God reigns in heaven and on earth.**

LESSON TIME!

Has there ever been a time in your life when you wondered if God was really there with you? Maybe when you are sad or when something bad has happened! Perhaps, because you have never seen God face to face, it is hard to believe that He is right where you are all of the time!

Remember back when David was hiding from King Saul in the wilderness? There were probably a lot of times that he felt alone and afraid. There may have been times he questioned if God was really there for him. But, as we read the Psalms, we discover that David knew that God was powerful and *omnipresent* and learned to give thanks and praise to God in every situation. (*Omnipresent* is a word that means that God is everywhere all of the time--it is part of who He is.) We, too, can learn to trust God like David did when we understand that He is always with us. **God reigns in heaven and on earth.**

PSALM 29:1-2

Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

In these verses, David instructs us to “give unto the Lord.” When we worship, we are responding to His love, His grace, and His mercy in our lives. We can learn from David to praise God no matter where we are or what is going on in our life—for glory is always due His name.

What does it mean to give the Lord glory? The word glory means honor, greatness, or majesty. It means that we recognize who God really is. We recognize that He is worthy of all honor, He is great and full of majesty. Sometimes, people get confused and try to give glory to themselves or to others. David reminds us in this Psalm to give glory to God alone.

David exhorts: “...worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” Holiness can be defined as the condition of being set apart for His exclusive use or “uprightness.” Does the way you live your life reflect that you belong to God and desire to please Him. What we do shows the sincerity of what we say. To worship God in our actions—holiness—is indeed beautiful to Him.

PSALM 29:3-9

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is over many waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.

The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, and strips the forests bare; and in His temple everyone says, “Glory!”

David gives worship to the Lord, who spoke into existence the creation of the whole world and separated the waters from the dry land with His voice. David's expression of praise reveals the awe and wonder he had for the mighty power of God displayed in creation.

As we consider our universe, our world, God's voice is indeed powerful! Some would teach that God did not create the world, but that the world began by accident, a big explosion, and "evolved" into what we know today. In other words, life began from nothing and generated into more complex life. A simple cell became a fish, a fish became a monkey, and a monkey became a man. What a sad deception!

The Bible says that God "spoke" and the worlds came into existence. God who can part the Red Sea, make the sun stand still in the middle of the day, and raise His Son from the grave can also certainly speak and cause the heavens and the earth to come into existence. He is all-powerful!

Note: When David speaks of the voice of the Lord being over the waters, this includes all waters. Do you remember the story of how Jesus calmed the sea in Matthew? "Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm." The God who made the waters is able to calm them. Someday, you may feel you've hit troubled waters. At that time, remember God's awesome power! **God reigns in heaven and on earth.**

Feel the Power

There are times when we do not see God, but we can see His power. We looked at how God created the heavens and the earth with His powerful voice. We can look all around and see God's fingerprints. In this game, we will learn more about power in unseen things.

You will need two balloons (blow up before class). Divide the class into two teams. Have the teams stand on opposite sides of the room in lines. Explain that you will give a balloon to each team. They need to pass the balloon to each person and finally to the end of the line without using their hands or feet. They can only blow on the balloon to keep it floating. When you say, “go” have the first person in line begin blowing and pass it to the next person in line. They will then blow to keep the balloon up and pass to the next person. Continue until the balloon reaches the last person. They must also blow on it to keep it up at least once, and then they can catch the balloon.

Explain to the children that they cannot see the air keeping the balloon up, but they can see the effect (it remains in the air). That is how it is with the Lord. We cannot see Him with our physical eyes, but we can see demonstrations of His power all over.

PSALM 29:10-11

The LORD sat enthroned at the Flood, and the LORD sits as King forever.

The LORD will give strength to His people; the LORD will bless His people with peace.

As this Psalm ends, David again gives God glory for His “omnipresence” (presence everywhere at all times) and His “omnipotence”—another big word meaning God possesses complete, unlimited power and authority.

Our God who created the heavens and the earth with just His voice and is known by the complexity and grandeur of His creation, stoops to lend His mighty right hand to you in your frailty (weakness) and troubled times. For He will “give strength to His people; the LORD will bless His people with peace.” How much strength is God able to lend us? Can He calm the troubled waters (out of control situations) in our lives? Re-read and reflect on

Psalm 29 when ever you are tempted to doubt the significance of a relationship with the creator of the universe. **God reigns in heaven and on earth.**

Make a Megaphone

For this craft you will need a sheet of construction paper for each child in various colors, scissors, markers, tape or glue stick, and yarn. First of all have the children roll the construction paper to make a cone. Leave a smaller hole (about 1” in diameter at one end and a larger hole at the other end. Use the scissors and cut any pointed edges of the paper, making the openings at each end completely round.

Next, open back up and allow the children to decorate their megaphone. They can be encouraged to write a portion of today’s memory verse about the voice of the Lord on it. Or the children may just want to write, “The Voice of the Lord is Powerful! When they are done with their artwork, roll the megaphone and either tape the seam or glue with a glue stick. Using a hole punch, punch two small holes near the small opening. Punch them at opposite ends. Next string some yarn and tie it to one of the holes. Cut enough yarn for the megaphone to be placed around their necks. Tie onto the other side and have them take home with them.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving and praise to the Lord—giving glory to God who is powerful and present. Thank Him for His beauty and majesty in creation and for the ways He touches our lives. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.