

Worship Date: June 27, 2010

Worship Theme: Proclaim the Kingdom of God

Scripture Reference: Luke 9:51-62

Materials: Bible or scriptures

Does anyone know what our theme is for today? It's "Proclaim the Kingdom of God." By proclaiming the kingdom of God it means that we don't just talk about the kingdom of God, we use our actions to **show** others about the kingdom of God. And to do that, we all have to be leaders in our community.

What do leaders do? They show others the way. Does anyone know what this book is? (yes, the bible or the scriptures). Well, Jesus shows us the way to live in this book. Jesus was a leader in his community. Satan was not a leader in the community. Satan didn't look at the good in people like Jesus did. (point to words in the bible like you were showing the story) Like the stories in the bible, Jesus healed and visited the sick. And here, (point to pages in open book), he also healed the people that had leprosy. Does anyone know what leprosy is? It's an infectious disease that attacks the skin, flesh, and nerves and shows up as white scaly scabs. A while after getting this disease, you lose the ability to feel things touching your skin. People at that time thought leprosy was so bad and so contagious that they would catch it just by being near the lepers. So, the people with leprosy were outcasts and nobody wanted to be close to them or touch them. But Jesus didn't turn the lepers away. He welcomed them and ministered to their needs. Can you imagine what it would be like to never be hugged? That's how lepers were.

Jesus spread God's love to all these people and that's what made him a leader. But he didn't spread that love to only **those** people. He spread it everywhere he went. In addition to showing the way, leaders make unusual things happen. (point again to open pages in book) Like when Jesus fed thousands of people with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes and they had food left over! (point to book again) And here, he also walked on water and (point again) over here, he calmed the storm when he was in the boat with his disciples. (point to other pages in book again) And here's the time when he was in the boat with his disciples. They were disappointed because they couldn't catch any fish. Jesus told them to put their nets in the water on the other side of the boat and guess what? The nets were so full of fish that they almost broke!

So we all need to be leaders in our world. You guys can be leaders at your school by simply standing up for a kid that's being picked on, or by talking to and being friends with kids no one else will talk to. Do you know anyone like that at

your school? (pause) Or you can help the teacher in some way. Y'all can even be leaders at the grocery store. Go to the store with your parents and help them with the grocery shopping. If you see a person struggling with their groceries, go out of your way to help them. Or you can buy some extra food and donate it to a local food pantry that helps families who don't have enough food. Or you can donate some of the clothes you've outgrown to a charity who can give them to someone who can't afford to buy clothes. Can you imagine what it would be like if your family didn't have enough food to eat or you didn't have enough clothes to wear?(pause)

What do you think would happen if everybody spread God's love to other people? (pause for responses)

Would you pray with me?: "Dear God, thank you for giving us the Bible so we can learn about Jesus and how we should live. Please help us to be leaders in our community and our world and to be more like your son, Jesus. Help us to proclaim your kingdom by spreading love everywhere we go. Amen."