

2004 CPR

Service Three

Objective: To teach children how, where, and when to worship the Lord.

Key Verse: "Speaking to yourselves is psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19).

Wherever I Am I'll Praise Him

Scripture Text: Acts 4:23-31

POWER line: Wherever I am I'll praise Him.

Schedule

I. Power of Worship (25-30 minutes)

A. Welcome (6-8 minutes)

- Worship
- "It's Amazing What Praising Can Do"

B. Offering (2-3 minutes)

- "I Feel Like Praising, Praising Him"

C. POWER Line (3-5 minutes)

C. Praise Generators (5-7 minutes)

- "I'm Gonna Praise the Lord Any Way That I Can"
- Praise March

E. Prayer (2-3 minutes)

- Truth Conductor "Tug-O-War"

II. Power of the Word (25-30 minutes)

A. Bible Memorization (8-10 minutes)

B. Spirit Generator (2 minutes)

- "We Have Come into This Place to Magnify the Lord and Worship Him"

C. Illustrated Sermon (10-12 minutes)

- Wherever I Am I'll Praise Him

D. Invitation and Prayer (5-? minutes)

Supplies

- Musical Instruments
- Several tissues or hankies
- kazoo, whistle, choir robe for CeeDee
- 4 colors of labels, or 4 colors of construction paper, tape
- chalk board or white board, chalk or markers
- rope
- toolbox full of tools

Before the Session

- The congregation will be divided into several groups: musical instruments, praisers, singers, clappers. Provide instruments and tissues (or hankies) according to the number of your (divided) congregation.
- Provide 4 different colors of labels (1-2") to designate groups. Or, cut 2" circles from 4 colors of construction paper to attach with tape. Each child receives one color label/circle upon arrival.
- CeeDee requires her choir robe, whistle, and a kazoo.
- Pack a toolbox with basic tools: hammer, level, tape measure, nails, etc.
-

POWER of Worship

Welcome (6-8 minutes)

Five minutes before service starts, the musicians begin playing a lively praise chorus.

As the children enter, attach a label to each child, equally dispersing the colors. Let them sit where they choose.

This is the last service of the children's prayer revival. Have your adults been enjoying the services as much as the children? Draw them into this service by giving them labels and encouraging them to sit with their designated groups. Parents and children will likely be divided if colors are distributed evenly upon arrival. This will allow everyone more freedom to worship, especially as the children see the adults worshipping with them instead of simply watching them.

CeeDee leads the congregation in worship this service. After several minutes of worship choruses, the pastor prays. CeeDee welcomes the visitors. She then gives instructions for the congregation to divide into groups according to their label color. Assistants should work quickly helping the children into their designated groups.

As CeeDee is encouraging everyone to move into their groups, the director enters and rushes over to CeeDee.

Director: **Breathlessly. Sister CeeDee, I am so sorry for being late. Traffic was simply terrible tonight, and all the lights were red, and people were driving so-o-o slow, and . . .**

CeeDee: **(Director), you need to slow down! It sounds like you're having one bad evening. And that is not a good way to come into God's presence, is it, children? I think I know exactly what you need.**

Director: **And what would that be, Sister CeeDee?**

CeeDee: **You need a good dose of praising the Lord! When everything is going wrong in your life, you need to praise the Lord! The Bible tells us to make a melody in our hearts to the Lord. Let's show (Director) how to worship. And since I'm a choir director, I should have a choir, right?** CeeDee selects 2-3 people from each group (children and adults) to form a choir. They stand in front of the congregation (or at the mikes), as she directs them in the song, "It's Amazing What Praising Can Do."

Director: Thank you, Sister CeeDee, that was exactly what I needed. My mind was so upset over the traffic that I forgot for a few minutes how important it was to give praise to my Lord.

CeeDee: Think nothing of it. After all the goofs I made during this revival and the lessons I learned, it's nice to be the teacher for a change instead of the student! I finally got to be a real choir director tonight, and I was so happy to do it! Every night during this revival I've been late, rushing in after service had started, interrupting things. The Lord used you to teach me what I needed to know about worship. First I had to learn why we worship God. Who can tell me why? Children respond, because of who He is. That's right. Then I had to learn who and what we worship, and that is? Response, the one true God.

We worship God because of who He is, and we know that He is the only God we worship.

I don't want any rocks praising God for me, and I sure don't want to worship any other gods.

Director: Sister CeeDee, it sounds like you and our children have learned what worship is! But we have one more lesson to learn about worship, and I think you will really like this lesson!

CeeDee: Oh, I'm so excited! I'm going to sit right over here and let you get on with the service. I can't wait to learn more about worship! CeeDee sits.

Offering (2-3 minutes)

Ask the ushers to come forward. Let's have one more offering march. It feels good to give to the Lord, doesn't it? While we march, let's sing "I Feel Like Praising, Praising Him."

Musicians/praise singers start the song as the congregation marches to give their offering.

Remind everyone to stay with their label color group when they return to their seats.

POWer Line (3-5 minutes)

Our POWER line for tonight is so easy to learn. Here is your first clue: it's the title of a song. Allow one or two guesses. **The second clue will need some help.** Select six children who are not afraid to praise the Lord, and send them to different spots in the sanctuary. Ask them to praise the Lord. **Can anyone guess our POWER line?** Response. **Okay, here is the last clue. Sister CeeDee, will you play your kazoo into the mike and let the children hear our final clue?** CeeDee begins to play the song, "Wherever I Am I'll Praise Him." The children will either begin to sing it or they will shout out the POWER line.

That's it! Wherever I am I'll praise Him. It's the title of a song, our volunteers were in different places in the sanctuary and could still praise Him, and we all know the song! Let's say it together: Wherever I am I'll praise Him.

Tonight when I was sitting in traffic, I forgot to praise Him. Instead, I was fretting over being late. I got mad at the red lights. I frowned at the slow drivers. If I had remembered our POWER line, I might have still been late, but I would have been much happier. Everyday you find yourself in places outside of church that may seem rough and hard to you. Perhaps your brother is picking on you. Or you forgot your homework. Maybe the neighbor's dog is chasing you! If you will remember our POWER line, you will find those rough hard places a lot easier. Let's say it again. Wherever I am I'll praise Him.

Praise Generators (8-10 minutes)

Ask the praise singers to sing the song, "I'm Gonna Praise the Lord Anyway That I Can."
(They sing it at least twice.)

In the Old Testament, we read several times where God instructed His people how to march. When they crossed the Jordan River into Canaan, the priests carrying the ark went first. When the Israelites marched around Jericho, the soldiers lead the line, followed by the priests and the trumpet players. Tonight, we are going to have a march. And we are going to praise the Lord as we march. As this song says, we're gonna praise the Lord any way that we can! We're going to tap our feet, lift our voice, clap our hands, and sing and rejoice!

Those wearing (*red*) labels will be our musicians. Distribute musical instruments. Please do not play them until we are ready to march. The (*blue*) labels will be our praisers. Distribute tissues/hankies. When we march, you are to wave your tissue in worship to the Lord. The (*green*) label folks will be our clappers. Can you clap together in time? Let's practice. Lead them in several clap beats until everyone claps together. And the (*yellow*) labels will be our singers.

Now let's all line up. Assistants should assist in speedily lining up everyone. First will be our praisers—those who are wearing (*blue*) labels. After them will be our singers—the (*yellow*) labels. Next are the clappers—the (*green*) labels. And the musicians—the (*blue*) labels—will finish the line. As our musicians and praise singers up here lead us, you will all march around the sanctuary. Let's make this a awesome time of praise and worship to the Lord! Allow several minutes for this victory praise march. Yes, the children will giggle and have fun, but what a time before the Lord! Bring it to a close by signaling your praise singers/pianist to stop, then take time to worship before directing everyone back to their seats.

Prayer (4-5 minutes)

Truth Conductor

Show the rope. Do you like to play tug-o-war? Have you ever been on the losing side, because the other team had more people? That's not much fun, is it? Ask a small child to come forward. Hand him one end of the rope. Tell him to play tug-o-war with you; naturally you will win. Ask another child to help the first child; the game should be a little tougher for you to win. Ask a third child to help, and they will win. Thank the volunteers as they are seated.

Sometimes we feel like we are playing tug-o-war in our prayers. We pray, but that old devil seems to be beating us. But if we will get two or three friends to pray with us, believing together for victory, that devil will fall right down and we will win! Let me read what Jesus promised in Matthew 18:19: "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them." Wow! What a promise! All we have to do is believe

together, and our prayers will be answered.

I want each color label group to get together in a huddle. Ask an adult in each group to be the prayer leader. If you have a prayer request, speak it to your prayer group. When all the requests have been given in your group, your leader will lead you in prayer. Remember what Jesus said—you must agree that these prayers will be answered!

POWER of the Word

Bible Memorization (6-8 minutes)

Director: We've been doing a lot of praise singing tonight. Did you know that singing is good for the soul? God's Word tells us that we should talk to ourselves . . .

CeeDee: Jumps up. Talk to ourselves? If I did that in front of people, they'd be calling for the men in the white coats with the big butterfly nets to come after me!

Director: Ahem! Yes, well, as I was saying, we should talk to ourselves with psalms and hymns . . .

CeeDee: Solomons and him? I don't know any Solomons except for King David's son in the Bible, and all the hims have hers—I mean, all the boys have girls already.

Director: Faces CeeDee. Sister CeeDee, I can see that I need your help--(faces children) whether I want it or not--(faces CeeDee) to share what the Bible says about talking to ourselves.

CeeDee: If you're going to talk to yourself, you probably do need my help!

Director: Why don't you turn to Ephesians 5:19 and read it to the children?

CeeDee: Oops! Um, I kind of, sort of, forgot my Bible. That is, I thought *you* were the preacher tonight and *I* was the choir director!

Director: That's true, but you still need God's Word with you, no matter what your position in the church. Can someone loan Sister CeeDee a Bible? Let a child give her a Bible. She turns to the Scripture.

CeeDee: Reads. **"Speaking to yourselves in psalms (I thought you said Solomons!) and hymns (oh, you mean a song, not a boy-him!) and spiritual songs (those are the best kind), singing and making melody (I know a girl named Melody) in your heart to the Lord."** How'd I do?

Director: I'd say you make a better choir director than Bible memorization teacher!

Turn in your Bibles to Ephesians 5:19. When you find it, stand quietly to your feet. When all have found it, read it together.

The last five words of verse 18, right before our key verse, say, **"Be filled with the Spirit."**

When we are filled with God's Spirit, we can encourage ourselves – make ourselves feel good even when we don't feel good – by quoting the psalms from the Bible, singing spiritual songs, and making up our own tunes in our heart. All of this will give glory and praise to God. Remember, God is worthy of our praise, He is the only one we worship, and we can praise Him wherever we are. No matter what kind of trouble you are in, no matter how tough life gets, if you will repeat God's Word, sing His songs, and make a melody in your heart to the Lord, you will have the victory!

Instruct the color groups to read/quote the Scripture to each other (that is, red to green if they're sitting next to teach other, then green to red). **I think we need to say it one more time – this time to Sister CeeDee!**

Spirit Generator (2-3 minutes)

"We Have Come into This Place to Magnify the Lord and Worship Him"

Illustrated Sermon (10-12 minutes)

Wherever I Am I'll Praise Him

Tonight we are going to build a church. Do you think we can build it in one night? Let's see how far we can get with our building in the next ten minutes.

There are two kinds of churches. Who would like to tell me what they are? Responses will likely include denominational names of churches. Bring out the tool box and tools as you name them. **I have some clues that might help you. In my tool box is a hammer, level, tape measure, some nails, and several other tools. Does this clue help you?** Response might be, a building. If no one responds, CeeDee blows her whistle and answers. **That's right, these are used to build buildings. What are church buildings made of?** Brick, wood, glass, concrete, paint. **Building a church is expensive, tiring, and hard work. It requires lots of workers, people with special skills that know how to do things just right, such as measuring, cutting, pouring concrete, laying bricks. Then there are the painters, carpet layers, roofers, and the guys who finish the parking lot. Finally, the building will be complete and everyone can go into the church.**

That brings us to our second church. What do you think it is made of? If children do not respond "people," CeeDee blows her whistle and jumps up to answer. The director holds up his hand to stop just as she starts to speak. **Please, Sister CeeDee, I think I'll let the children guess from my clues, thank you.**

Ask the pastor to assist you. Sing "The Pastor Builds a Church," with the pastor starting the motions. The congregation will quickly catch on.

(Tune, "The Farmer in the Dell")

The pastor builds the church,

The pastor builds the church,

He's building it for Jesus,

The pastor builds the church,

(2) The pastor takes a wife (brings his wife to the front) . . .

(3) The wife takes her child(ren) (brings her child[ren] to the front) . . .

(4) The children bring their friends (child[ren] each bring a friend) . . .

(5) The friends bring their parents (friends bring their parents or other adults) . . .

(6) The parents bring their neighbors (parents/adults bring other adults)

By this time the group should be quite large. Now who can tell me what the other church is made of? People! That's right! God's church is made of people. You, me, our friends and neighbors. We come into the building we have built to build a congregation for God. Thank everyone as they return to their seats.

In the Book of Acts chapter 4 we find where the very first church began. This first church was not a building, so it must have been a church made of what? People! That's right, people started the first church. Peter and John, two of Jesus' disciples who had received the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost, shared their faith with a crippled man who then was healed! What a wonderful feeling to watch a man who had never walked in his life, suddenly jump up and down! But some people didn't like what they did. They arrested Peter and John! But that turned out okay, because Peter got to preach about Jesus to the very people who arrested him!

Sounds like the first church got off to a strange start, huh? But it all worked out, because the people had to let Peter and John go. And where do you think they went as soon as they were set free? To church. Sister CeeDee, these kids are just too smart for us! The Bible tells us that Peter and John went to their own people and told them everything that had happened. Who can tell me what happens when we have testimony service here? If no one responds, CeeDee blows her whistle and says, "Everyone praises the Lord for the wonderful things they've heard!"

That first church group started praising God. First, they magnified Him for being the Creator. Then they told how kings and rulers stood against Jesus, and now these same people were standing against His church. The church voices cried aloud to God, asking for His boldness to tell others about Him, giving them power to stretch out their hands and heal, to see miracles in the name of Jesus. What an awesome prayer of praise they offered up to God!

Do you know what happened next? God's Word said that when they had prayed, the place where they were having church started shaking! And then . . . they were all filled with the Holy Ghost! After that, they had power and boldness to speak about Jesus everywhere they went.

Our church today is like that first church. Because they were bold enough and thankful

enough to tell others about Jesus, we have not just a building, but a congregation full of people that know and love Jesus. We can come together to praise and worship Him, just as we have during this revival. Our singers can sing in harmony, making beautiful songs of praise to the Lord. The musicians share their talent by playing together and giving us a lovely tune to sing. Sister CeeDee directs us and helps us to bring our thoughts and words together to lift our voices in worship. The pastor brings us the Word of God to show us why we worship God. Together, we make up the church!

Invitation and Prayer (5-7 minutes)

Our church is blessed because we worship the Lord together. Some church buildings, though, have congregations of people that do not know how to have church. They do not understand that coming to church only on Christmas or Easter or for weddings is not the way to worship God. God gives us a place to worship Him and He expects us to be there every time there is church. He gives us voices to sing together, not voices to fight and argue with each other. He wants us to be united in love, worshipping Him. Jesus fills us with His Spirit so that we can worship Him with our whole heart. We learn to do that in church.

What can you do to worship God when you are not in church? What if you are at school, and you become afraid or worried? Think back to our memory verse. Can you quote it with me? "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." What can you do when you are afraid or worried? You can make a song in your heart. That is because you are the temple of the Holy Ghost, the place where Jesus lives. That is why we can sing, (musicians and praise singers help) "Wherever I am I'll praise Him . . ." Sing song. As CeeDee and praise singers sing, invite everyone to the front for worship.

We have learned in this revival that we are here to worship God. He is worthy of our worship. He is the only God, and we will serve no other. He should always be first in our lives. And no matter where we are, we can praise Him. Our lives—the words we speak and the

things we do—should always be a type of worship to Him. When we say bad words or do things that are wrong, we have stopped worshiping Him. We hurt the Spirit that lives in us, and our praise drops. But, if we live right, say the right words, show kindness and love, and do what God's Word tells us to do, then one day we will live in heaven. Do you know what we will do in heaven? We will worship God forever and ever! It will never stop. Our praise will go on and on. Our arms won't get tired. Our knees and feet won't ache. Our voices won't quit. We will stand, run, jump, dance, and leap in joyful praise to our Jesus! Won't it be wonderful?

If you would like the Spirit of God to live in you as it did in those people in the first church, just begin to praise God. If you want to have that feeling of praise and worship to stay with you when you leave this building, during the night when you are cold and alone, just begin to speak God's Word. Let a song build up in your heart and make a melody to the Lord. When that melody feels like it just has to come out or you will burst, let it come! The Holy Ghost will fill you, just like the first church! Just like our church today! Signal to the praise singers to begin singing. Finish the revival with praise and worship as the Lord fills your young congregation with His Spirit.