

Children's Prayer Revival 2005
Sunday School Division
United Pentecostal Church International

Service One: God Is Holy

Bible Verse: Psalm 145:17

Scripture Text: Psalm 99

Power Line: God is holy.

Objective: To identify what makes God holy and to define how His holiness impacts us.

Supply List

- Worship CD/player, instruments
- Remote microphone or recording for God's voice
- Inflated balloons
- Posterboard
- Shirt with big holes in it

Before the Session

- Recruit a teenaged boy to be Alonzo for all three services. Alonzo should come across as a cool kid, not too bright, but sincere in his search for God. Give him a copy of the scripts.
- Inflate fifteen balloons and write one word of the Bible verse on each balloon. Attach the balloons to a board or other stable background.
- On three big pieces of posterboard write the words *honest, just, pure*—one word per posterboard.
- Cut or tear big holes in an old shirt that is big enough for Alonzo to wear.
- Print the words to the worship songs on a flipchart, posterboard, or overhead.

Schedule

I. POWER of Worship

- A. Praise Generators: “Holy, Holy, Holy,” “Shout to the Lord”
- B. Offering
- C. Testimony: Look What the Lord Has Done
- D. POWER Line: God is holy
- E. Truth Conductor: Alonzo’s Prayer

II. POWER of the Word

- A. Energy Outlet: Bible Memorization
- B. Illustrated Sermon
- C. Game: Who Am I?
- D. Skit: Alonzo’s Predicament
- E. Invitation and Prayer
- F. Spirit Generator: “Holy is the Lord”

POWER of Worship

Praise Generators

Choose upbeat worship songs that speak of God’s holiness and sovereignty (e.g. “Holy, Holy, Holy,” “Shout to the Lord”). Allow time for children or leaders to testify about what God has done for them.

Ask children if anyone knows what you mean when you say, “God is holy.” Show children how to say, “God is holy” in sign language. *God*--hold fingers on one hand straight up, thumb on palm; move the hand down from forehead to chin in a smooth

motion (palm should be facing left). *Holy*--fold ring finger and pinkie of right hand to palm with thumb; lay hand across the palm of your other hand, then unfold fingers and flatten the palm of your right hand on top of the left hand and slide off (like an airplane take off). Use the sign language frequently throughout the service to reinforce that God is holy.

Alonzo comes to the front and kneels down to pray. Position someone behind the children with a cordless microphone or a recording of a voice saying, "I am holy." Voice should start off softly and increase in volume each time the words are spoken.

Alonzo: Lord, You know there sure are a lot of sinners around here.

Voice of God: *(softly)* **I am holy.**

Alonzo: Some of those sinners were lookin' at me kind of funny, Lord. You saw them! One of them whispered to another one, and then they both looked at me and laughed. I know they are sinners!

Voice of God: **I am holy.**

Alonzo: Looks up. Yeah . . . I bet they do a lot of other stuff, too.

Voice of God: **I am holy.**

Alonzo: Looks around, puts his finger in his ear and wiggles it. They probably never go to church or pray. . . .

Voice of God: **I am holy.**

Alonzo: Gets up. Pipe down, will ya! I'm tryin' to talk to the Lord here. It ain't right to interrupt people when they're prayin'!

Voice of God: **I am holy.**

Alonzo: **You are holy? Is that You, Lord?** (*Looks out at the audience.*) **It must be the Lord, 'cause I sure don't know anyone here who is holy. What's You being holy got to do with anything, Lord?**

Teacher enters. **Maybe we can help you out there, Alonzo. First, we'll look to the Bible to see if we can better understand what being holy is.**

POWer of the Word

Bible Memorization

“The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works” (Psalm 145:17).

Point out the Bible verse on the balloons. Repeat the verse a few times with the children, then select a child to come up and pop one of the balloons with a tack or straight pin. Ask for a volunteer who thinks he can say the verse and supply the missing word. If he can supply the missing word, he gets to pop a balloon. Continue allowing volunteers who can complete the verse until all of the words are used up.

So, the Lord is holy in everything He does. To find out what holiness is, we need to look at what it is that God does.

Illustrated Sermon

Truth Conductor: Holy or Hole-y?

Alonzo gets back in front again and makes a big deal of putting on a shirt (puts his arm in the wrong sleeve, buttons it up wrong, etc.).

Teacher: **Alonzo, what are you doing?**

Alonzo: **I'm puttin' on my shirt.**

Teacher: **I see that, but you already have a shirt. Why are you putting on another one?**

Alonzo: **Because this is my holy shirt. See—it's got a big hole here** (*points out hole*) **and here and here. I want to be holy—like the Lord.**

Teacher: **Alonzo, I think you've got the wrong idea about holy. You better pay attention while we find out what being holy means.**

Show the three posterboards and explain what the words mean.

- **Honest** is telling the truth.
- **Just** is being fair.
- **Purity** is always wanting what is good.

Divide audience into three sections (the honest section, the just section, and the pure section). Ask a helper to hold the corresponding sign in front of its section. Instruct each section in what they will say and do according to the description below. Proceed with the chant, going in order through all the 1s, then 2s, ending with the 3s. Lead in the chant.

Honest section says: "I cannot tell a lie," and points to self.

1. When you could avoid trouble if your mom never found out . . . (section responds).
2. When you could blame your friend and never get caught . . . (section responds).
3. When Jesus could have made people like Him by saying what they wanted Him to say, He said . . . (section responds).

Just section says: "*You* deserve it!" and points to others.

1. When you've had the most pizza and there's only one piece left . . . (section responds).
2. When you've played the game all afternoon and someone else wants a turn . . . (section responds).
3. When Jesus beat the devil and threw him into hell, He said . . . (section responds).

Pure section says: "I wouldn't think of it!" and shakes head back and forth.

1. When you could steal something and no one would ever know . . . (section responds).
2. When you could get back at somebody for what they did to you . . . (Section responds)
3. When Jesus could have used His power to avoid the pain of dying for us, He said . . . (section responds).

Do you know anyone who is honest, merciful, and pure all the time? The Bible tells us that only God can be holy all the time in every situation because He is the only One who has no sin. This makes Him different than anyone else. When we say God is holy, we recognize who He is apart from all others.

Game: *Who am I?*

Divide into teams or call individual contestants. When making clues, avoid physical descriptions and try to speak to what a person is.

1. "I love fruity cereal and I'm always trying to play tricks so I can get some from kids. The kids call me silly." (Trix rabbit)

2. Give clues for a popular sports star.
3. Give clues for your pastor or Sunday school teacher.
4. Give clues for another central figure for your children.
5. Last clue: "I am honest, just and pure all the time. I am holy." (God)

Invitation and Prayer

Ask Alonzo to come to the front.

Teacher: **Alonzo, what were you praying at the beginning of class?**

Alonzo: **Hmmm . . . let me think. Oh yeah, I know. I was tellin' the Lord about all the sinners around here (*looks out at the children*), people who tell lies and are mean and make fun of me.**

Teacher: **What did the Lord say to you?**

Alonzo: **He said, "I am holy." Well, He didn't say *I* am holy; He said that *He* was holy. Everybody knows I'm not very holy, but (*snickers*) my shirt sure is hole-y!**

Teacher: **Alonzo! Why do you think the Lord wanted you to know that He is holy?**

Alonzo: **You got me!**

Teacher: **God reminded you that He is holy because He wants you to know that we have hope!**

Whatever is going on and however bad things are, we know God is holy and He is in charge. When things look ugly, we can cry holy! When bad things happen, we can cry holy! It doesn't mean we'll never *feel* sad, or angry, or frustrated, but even when we are, we can remember that the things causing those yucky feelings are never from God. We know who He is. He is honest, just, and pure and so He wants

the best for us. We also cry holy when things are good because we know all good things come from Him. He cares about us even though we do things that don't always please Him. The Bible tells us that even when we were the worst we could ever be, Jesus came to die for us.

Alonzo, can you say the Bible verse from the balloons? *(Let Alonzo try and make a mess of it. Allow children to say the verse.)* **Jesus had the power to do whatever He wanted, but He thought of you and decided you were worth dying for. He looked out and saw you** *(insert specific children's names)* **and thought, "That's My precious child that I love and I am willing to die for his sins."**

When Jesus forgives you of your sins, you can live forever in heaven, the most beautiful and amazing place you can imagine. Do you know what the Bible says those in heaven do when they see Jesus? They bow before His throne and say, "Holy, Holy, Holy." Let's do that right now.

If you want to get rid of the sin and ugly things in your life, you can pray right now and ask the Lord to help you be holy.

Lead children in prayer. Encourage repentance and promote worship. Sing "Holy is the Lord."