

MONTH #1 (September)

- **Theme:**
SINGING TO GOD

- **Bible Songs:**
“I Will Sing Unto the Lord”
(Psalm 104:33)

- **“Sing Unto Thee”**
(Psalm 66:4)

- **Hymn:**
“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”



NOTE: Activity Sheet 1, which corresponds with this month's lesson theme, is available under the "Reproducibles" tab of this notebook.

Teaching Tips!

Fun and practical ideas for the teacher to incorporate into the lessons each month, as time allows.

Vocal Warm-Up



Buzzing like a bee is a fun way to warm up. Children can use their index finger as a “bee” and buzz with their voices as their bee flies around. If the bee flies in circles, up high, or down low, children should buzz accordingly. They can also buzz to specific pitches on the piano. Buzzing up and down in intervals of a fifth sounds like the bee is flying in a circle. Watch out, don’t let the bee sting anybody!

Vocal Training



To be able to sing well, children must learn to open their mouths wide as they sing. A rubber band is an effective visual aid that the teacher can use to demonstrate the shape of the mouth for different vowel sounds. Use your fingers to shape the rubber band and show the children the importance of an open mouth when singing.

Bright Idea!



Take time to connect with the students on a personal level. Spend a few minutes in class allowing them to share with you. “*Who wants to tell me one thing they did today?*”

Platform Pointer



As we stand before the congregation and sing our songs for the Lord, let’s remember:
–**Don’t touch the microphones.** If a microphone is in reach just ignore it and pretend it is not there. A microphone is not a toy and should not be touched!

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- SONG REHEARSAL: (Use DVD to introduce songs to the children.)



- I Will Sing Unto the Lord
-Sing Unto Thee

- MUSIC LESSON: **Using Your Songbook**



-Supplies needed: Children's Songbooks

Have you ever seen a choir sing? Have you noticed that the choir members are usually holding something in their hands while they sing? What are they holding? You're right; they are holding the music that they are singing. We have something very special for you to use in our children's choir. It is a choir book, just for you! (Hold up the book for the children to see.) We will use this to help you learn the songs each week. Let's talk about how to use this special choir book.

- 1.) **Take good care of this book.** Don't toss it on the floor or bend the cover or the pages. Music like this does cost money!
- 2.) **Hold the book up so you can see it and see your director as well.**
- 3.) **Learn to follow the music and the words as you sing.** We will learn more about this in a future lesson. (Pass out the books to the children. Possibly re-sing the two Scripture songs with the book.)

- SONG REHEARSAL: (Use DVD and/or Songbook to introduce the song to the children.)



- Come, Christians, Join to Sing

- BIBLE LESSON: **Sing to God With Joy!** (Psalm 104:33; Psalm 5:11)



- 1.) **When we sing to God we should sing with a heart full of joy and happiness.**

If you are a child of God you have a real reason to sing! You have been forgiven of your sin, you have a purpose for your life, and you have a home in heaven! (Possibly give a brief Gospel presentation to the children here.)

- 2.) **What are some ways we can show joy when we sing to God?** (Encourage students to suggest some ways: smile, stand tall and straight, sing with excitement, etc.)

-Before you sing to the Lord, think about these things:

1. Reflect on the goodness of God to you. (Have a student read Ps. 68:19.)
 2. Review the words in the songs that you sing. Think about the song and what it means.
 3. Rejoice! Let the joy of the Lord be seen in you when you sing to Him.
- 3.) **A young person who is joyfully singing to the Lord is not only pleasing the Lord, but is also being a tremendous encouragement to others!** Sing with a smile on your face and with joy in your heart!

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- SONG REHEARSAL: (Use DVD and/or Songbook to practice the songs with the children.)



- I Will Sing Unto the Lord
-Sing Unto Thee

- OBJECT LESSON: **A Gift for You**



-Supplies needed: A mock gift, attractively wrapped

- 1.) (Call one of the older children up. In a half-hearted tone, with a yawn, give them the gift and say:) I have this gift for you. I wanted to give you this gift to show you how happy I am (yawn) that you are my friend. I hope you like it. (Ask the children: Did I sound like I meant that? Did you believe what I said?)
- 2.) **Let's try this again.** (Give the child the gift again, with great enthusiasm.) When we sing for the Lord, it is an offering, or a gift, to Him. Let's sing like we mean it!

- SONG REHEARSAL: (Use DVD and/or Songbook to practice the song with the children.)



- Come, Christians, Join to Sing

- BIBLE LESSON: **Sing to God With All Your Being!** (Psalm 104:33) (Explain "being" as "your whole self", all your heart and mind.) *REVIEW: Sing to God with Joy!



*This is an outline by the great hymnwriter John Wesley, paraphrased here for children. Teach the children to apply these wonderful principles when singing together as a group. Teach them to also apply this in church during the congregational singing.

- 1.) **Sing All!** Join with the children's choir or congregation as often as you can. If you are having a bad day, go ahead and sing out to the Lord! You will find that the Lord will help you, and you will be encouraged from your singing.
- 2.) **Sing Lustily!** This is an old word that means "powerfully!" Sing courageously. Maybe you have never thought of singing as being courageous. You should sing with strength and power in your voice. This is not screaming, but simply lifting your voice with strength, not singing "half-dead."
- 3.) **Sing Modestly.** Do not try to scream or sing loudly so that you may be heard above everybody else. Work to unite your voice with the others around you and make a beautiful singing sound!
- 4.) **Sing in Time.** Do not try to sing faster or slower than the others. Pay attention to your song leader and stay with the group.
- 5.) **Above All, Sing Spiritually.** (Ask children what they think this means.) John Wesley said, "Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself or any other creature." Think about the words and give your song to God as an offering. Always want your singing to please God most of all!