

Lesson 84: Israelites Worship a Golden Calf

[Exodus 32:1-25](#)

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/9dmKczz5x0c>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/depu19k1yRE>

Worship Theme: We should only worship God.

Memory Verse: "You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:3)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. It's a Great Day <https://youtu.be/Z91SULEHfho>
2. O Be Careful Little Eyes <https://youtu.be/leoAGL9usF0>
3. I Am Not a Child who... <https://youtu.be/hkH6ev3SmjE>

Prayer

Song: Select songs from the list above

Icebreaker: "What Makes God Great?"



1. Divide the children into groups of 3-4.
2. Ask them to think about all the reasons that make God great.
3. In round 1, each group takes turns saying 1 thing.
4. After each group says an answer, go another round.

5. The group that stays till the last round wins the game.
6. (Answers: love, wise, powerful, perfect, answers our prayers, heals us, protects us, gives us good things, loves us even when we're bad)

Introduction:

God Almighty is the only one worthy of worship. He is powerful. He saves his people. He makes the waters of the sea obey his commands. God sees deep into our hearts and loves us anyway. God even sent down his one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. We are saved through Jesus, and this is why we should worship God. But the Israelites kept forgetting how God saved them from Egypt. Let's learn about how they turned away from God again.

Bible Story:

After God rescued the Israelites from Egypt, he invited their leader, Moses, to come to the top of a great, big mountain, Mt. Sinai. There, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments for his people to follow—rules that would help them do right. Moses was up on the mountain with God for a very long time. When Moses was gone for a very long time, the Israelites began to worry. They thought Moses was dead! They thought God had left them, too. They asked Moses' brother, Aaron, to make them a new god. So Aaron collected all of their jewelry to make this new god. Aaron built a big fire. The people all gave Aaron their gold jewelry. He put it into the fire, and it melted together. Then Aaron made the melted gold into the shape of a calf, a baby cow, for the people to worship like a god.

But the golden calf wasn't really God even though the Israelites were acting as if the cow was really God. Aaron was wrong to make a calf for people to worship. God is the only one we are to worship. He's the only one who is really God. When God saw that the Israelites had tried to replace him with a calf, he was very angry. Moses was angry, too. Moses came down from the mountain and got rid of the idol. He tore it apart and told the people to worship only God.

Our God can do anything. He's everywhere at once. He knows everything there is to know. He has the power to do anything he wants to do. Our God is very busy every day.

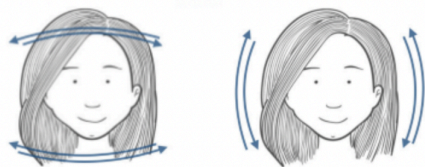
He's watching over every single person—(point to each child) you and you and you and you. God heals the sick and helps people who are sad. God answers prayers. God helps us every single day because he loves all people. God has created a big, beautiful world for us to enjoy. He watches over his people and gives them what they need. When we don't honor God for what he has done, or when we give the credit to someone else and leave God out, God feels bad. God alone is worthy of worship! When good things happen, let's remember to give God thanks and praise.

Questions to discuss:

1. What did the Israelites think when Moses was gone for a long time? (They thought Moses died and that God left them)
2. What did they do because of this? (They created an idol, a golden calf)
3. Was the golden calf a real god? (No!)
4. What are some gods (idols) that you have heard of? (Let the children answer)
5. How many god is there to worship for Christians? (Only 1 God!)
6. What can you do to worship God every day? (thank God, love people, come to church, pray to God)

Game: YES or NO (the head answer different from the mouth)

"បាទ/ពាស" ឬ "ទេ"



1. In this game, children will be asked "Yes" or "No" questions.
2. But when they answer "Yes" or "No," their head has to move in the opposite direction.
3. For example, as the children say, "Yes," they have to shake their head; as the children say, "No," they have to nod their head.
4. The teacher should prepare the questions before

class. Sample questions: Are you the fourth child? Do you love your dog?

5. Remind the students that when we answer to God, we need to obey completely instead of saying "Yes" and doing something else.

Memory Verse: "You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:3)

Craft:

1. Print the golden calf craft template (see below).
2. Color the calf parts before cutting out the pieces.
3. Cut out all the pieces, including the dashed lines of each piece.
4. Glue both neck pieces together to form a single piece. Do the same for the body and the legs.
5. Write the memory verse **"You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:3)** on the body of the calf.
6. Attach the pieces together to form the golden calf.



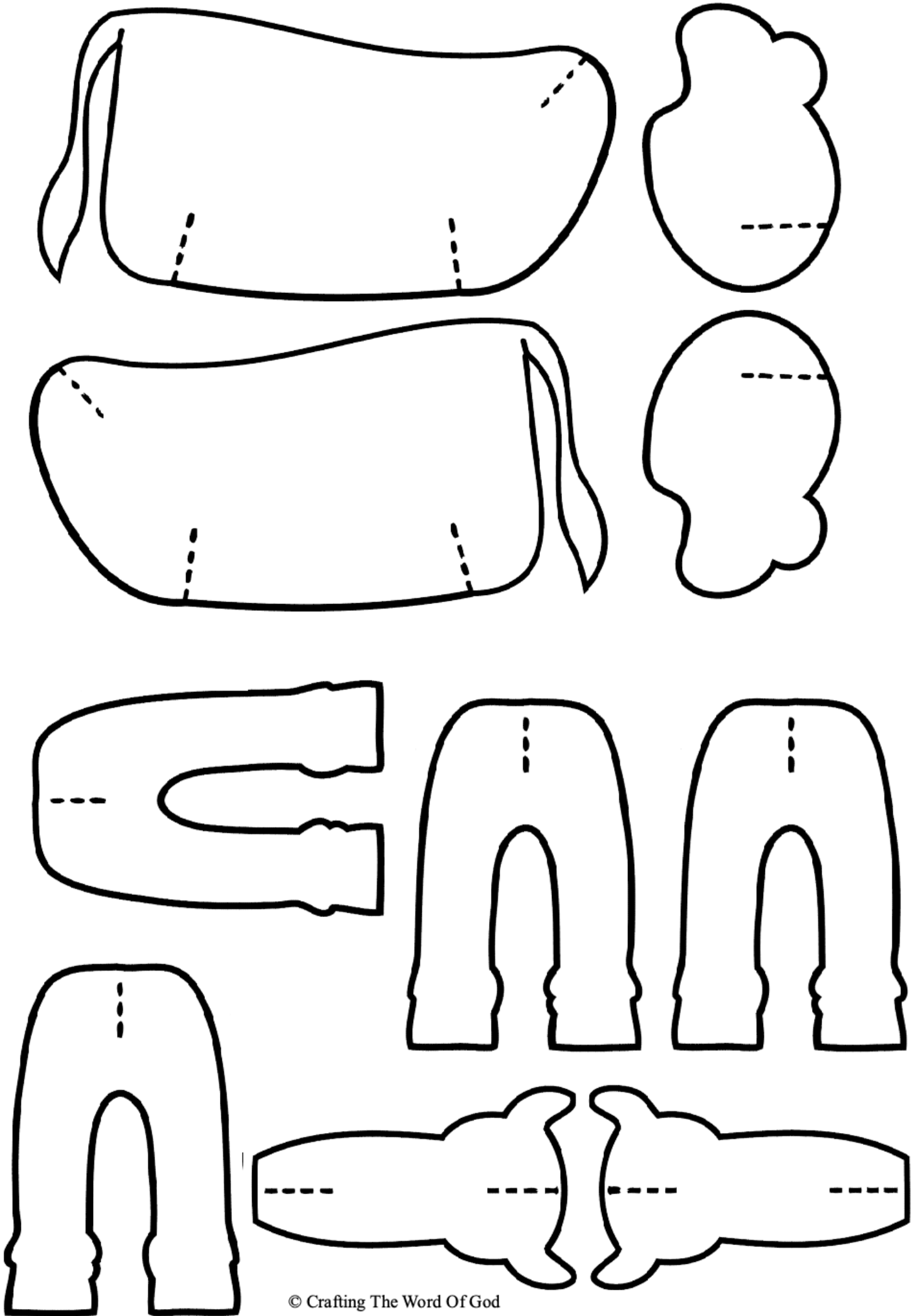
Song: Select songs from the list above

Prayer

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Our salvation through faith in Jesus makes us want to worship and obey him. What blessings in your life have you taken for granted? Our families, our homes, our material possessions, and other blessings should drive us to acknowledge and worship God. Concentrate this week on finding God's hand in the blessings in your life, and worship him by giving praise for those blessings.

Israelites Worship a Golden Calf



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