

## Children's Worship at NSCBC Outline for Storyteller

**Gathering** (*In Classroom B, Friendship Hall, have the large blue rug positioned so that you are sitting with your back against the wall under the cross and the children circle around facing you and the cross. Be in the room already seated and let the greeters welcome the children and direct them to enter quietly and find their place in the worship circle*).

**Greeting:** "God Bless you" and the children repeat back "God bless you"

**Welcome:** *The following paragraph can be done as you wish. It is a good idea to review this with children every now and then and also when you see visitors attending.*  
"The Worship Center is a very special place. It is a special place to be with God. In this place we have all the time we need. We don't have to hurry. We can walk more slowly and talk more softly, because someone might be talking to God and we don't want to disturb them. This is a special place to be with God, to talk with God, to listen to God and to hear the stories of God. You can get ready to be with God all by yourself...and we can get ready together by singing songs to Him."

**Singing** (*Different songs may be used, but include "Father I Adore You" or "Be Still and Know that I am God" each week before the story time*). SING and then say:

"When we sing these words, we know it is time to get ready to hear one of God's stories. So remain seated and watch closely where I go, so you will always know where today's story is kept."

**Hearing from God: The Story** (*The stories are written out in the book, along with directions for telling them*)

**Wondering Together** (*Give plenty of time for wondering questions...add your own to those in the book...keep the open-ended kind of wondering that helps the children to really think about the story and about God*)

"Watch closely how I put these materials away so they will be ready for the next person to use."

"Watch closely where I go, so you will always know where these materials are kept. You might want to use them for your work today."

**Response** (*Give the options – coloring, craft, playdough, books and bible, story, etc.. and ask each child what they would like to do. Make sure that children only retell today's story or one from a previous Sunday*)

"I wonder if you would like to make something today that shows how this story feels to you, or what it made you think about. You may use crayons or markers, or playdough or blocks, or you may want to tell a story we have heard before."

*Ask the children one at a time to choose their response and quietly begin...*

**Returning to the circle**

"Now it is time to put your work away. You don't need to hurry. If you were working with a story, make sure you put it back in just the right way."

## **Bible, Offering and Prayer** (*Light the Christ lamp*)

“We light the Christ lamp to remind us that Jesus is with us as we read the Word of God. This is the Bible and our story today is in the Bible. See how it is highlighted here and marked with a bookmark so that you can come and read it for yourself sometime if you would like to.” (*Read the passage from the Bible and replace the bookmark*).

“Another way we worship God is by giving Him offerings, this is a time of giving thanks to God by giving gifts to Him. The money that we are collecting is being sent to an orphanage in Turkey so they can buy gifts for the needy children. I am going to pass around our offering basket. God tells us to give generously to others.”

“Now it is time for prayer and to give thanks to God. You can say something you are thankful for or something about the story or your work today. You may talk to God out loud, or if you don’t want to talk to Him out loud, that’s all right, because God hears us even if we don’t speak out loud.” (*Pass a lamb around so that each child knows when it is his/her time to pray*).

## **Feast** (*on communion Sundays*)

“Today is the first Sunday of the month. In our church, this is our communion Sunday. Upstairs in the sanctuary, our family and friends are taking communion right about now. They are having a special remembrance of Jesus. By eating some bread and drinking some juice they are honoring and remembering how Jesus died on the cross for our sins. So today, we are going to have a feast. We are going to share some food together and thank Jesus for dying on the cross for our sins.”

“This is how to make a table for the feast – watch how I lay out my table” (*Unfold the napkin and smooth it out in front of you; greeters distribute the feast, and when all have theirs, have a prayer of thanksgiving*):

“Thank you, God, for this joyous feast we can share together. Thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to earth. And thank you Lord Jesus for dying on the cross for our sins. Amen.”

(*After eating*)

“Now I will show you how to put away your table – watch how I put my table away.”

(*Greeter collects the trash*)

## **Closing**

“When it is time to go home, we have a special song of blessing that we sing.”

Sing “*Go Now in Peace*”

“Remember to remain seated until your parents arrive and the greeters call you by name.”

(*When the greeters come to tell each child that their parent has come, give that child a special blessing as they leave*)

## Songs

Father, I adore You  
Lay my life before You,  
How I love You.

Jesus, I adore You,  
Lay my life before You,  
How I love You.

Spirit, I adore You,  
Lay my life before You,  
How I love You.

Be still and know  
that I am God.  
Be still and know  
that I am God.  
Be still and know  
that I am God.

### Closing Song:

Go now in peace, Go now in peace  
May the love of God go with you  
everywhere, everywhere  
you may go.

The “grey” section of the curriculum book outlines the basic structure of each session but it does differ slightly from this outline. The book uses a different “Greeting” and it does not have the time for “Offering”. The stories themselves are written out from page 85 on. Reading through those as you are able will help you to have a better understanding of the flow of the whole year’s stories.

Particularly the sections in the book from pages 24-33 and 36-40 are helpful in gaining a feel for the overall strength of this program. I encourage you to read these sections and pray about how the Lord might use these times of worship together with the children to bless both them and you!

There is a CD of worship music available – use it as you feel led and you are always welcome to “visit” one week and observe when you are not leading.

Thanks for your help! God Bless!