

# Obey Happily

### Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Jonah as a man who did not happily obey God.
- The children will see the difference between obeying happily and not obeying happily.
- The children will share ways that they can obey happily.

### Lesson Text

Jonah 1-4

### Scripture Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever.

*Psalm 106:1*

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Fish Chart

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: A Visit from Jonah

Life Application: A Day in the Life of Amy

Craft: Happy Face

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.





# Obey Happily

## Fish Chart

The children will come up with ways to obey happily at home this week and share their decisions with a family member.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 piece of construction paper
- crayons

*For the teacher:*

- black marker
- scissors
- masking tape
- 1 large piece of poster board
- ruler

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Make a chart from poster board as follows: See Figure A.
  - A. Across the top of the poster board write "Ways I Will Obey Happily At Home."
  - B. Draw a line across the chart under the title.
  - C. Make a vertical column for each child underneath the title.
  - D. Label each column with a child's name. NOTE: You may need more than one piece of poster board if you have a large class.
2. Hang the chart at the children's eye level.
3. Cut out the fish stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
4. Trace and cut out three fish for each child from construction paper.

### Instructions

1. Explain to the children that they are going to learn about Jonah. Ask them if they know anything about the story of Jonah. Explain that Jonah didn't want to obey God and that today they are going to think of ways that they can obey God. One great way to obey God is to obey our families at home.
2. Give each child three fish to color. Explain that each fish will represent one way that they can obey at home.
3. As the children color talk with them about ways that they can obey at home.
4. As the children finish coloring have them bring the fish to you. Ask each child to tell you three ways that they are going to obey this week. Write one response on each fish.
5. Place a rolled piece of tape on the back of each fish.
6. Help the child to find their name on the chart and put the fish in the column under their name.

NOTE: Save the fish chart for the Unit 20 Lesson 6, Preclass Activity.

### Conclusion

Review what you have written with the child and inspire them that you believe in them and God does too!

### Teacher Tips

- At the end of class, hang the chart at the entrance of the classroom. As children leave the class have them show their parents the chart and explain the ways that they will obey.

Figure A

Ways I Will Obey Happily at Home										
Vickie	Amby	Teri	Janet	Katie	Edgar	Carl	Thais	Christine	Chad	Sheila

# Obey Happily

## A Visit From Jonah

The children will describe Jonah as a man who obeyed God yet did not care about (or love) people.

### Lesson Text

Jonah 1-4

### Materials

For the teacher:

- robe
- Bible

### Preparation

1. Familiarize yourself with the story.
2. Dress up as Jonah before the children arrive.

### Jonah

*Hello! My name is Jonah! Have you ever heard of me? Yes? What have you heard? Allow the children to respond. Yes, I did get swallowed by a big fish. Do you know why? Let me tell you what happened to me. This is a true story that's in the Bible.*

*A long time ago, when I was younger, God talked to me and said that he wanted me to go to a town called Nineveh. The people who lived in Nineveh didn't believe in God. As a matter of fact, they were doing lots of things that hurt him. God wanted me to go there and tell the people to change (Jonah 1:1-2). I really didn't want to go to Nineveh. I didn't like the people there. They did mean things and I didn't want them to know God. I wanted them to get in trouble with God.*

*Do you know what I did instead of obeying God? I got on a boat and tried to sail far away. But God didn't want me to run away, he wanted me to obey him and go to Nineveh. So he sent a big storm and I was thrown into the ocean. Do you know what happened to me when I was in the water? Yes, a big fish swallowed me! I spent three days inside of the fish and it was disgusting! (Jonah 1:3-17). It was so hard to breathe, really hot and it smelled very yucky! I spent the whole time praying to God. I wanted to change and I wanted to be obedient. So after three days the fish spit me out and I ended up on the land (Jonah 2:1-10).*

*Do you know what I did then? Yes, I obeyed God, but not happily. (emphasize that Jonah did not obey happily) I went right to Nineveh and I preached to them. I stood in the streets and yelled at them. I told them that they'd better change because God was really mad at them! I didn't think that they would change but they did! They repented and started to love God and God forgave them (Jonah 3:3-10).*

*I was so surprised! I ran away again and sat on a hill looking at the town. I didn't know what to do. I was still mad at the people for not loving God and I thought that God should be mad at them too. I thought that he should punish them, not forgive them (Jonah 4:1-5).*

*While I was on the hill the sun came out and I got really hot! So God made a vine grow and it made shade for me to sit in. I was so thankful that God cared for me. But then the vine died and I was hot again. And I got mad at God (Jonah 4:6-8). I didn't understand why he let the vine die.*

*But God said that he let the vine die to teach me something very important. He helped me to see that I was very concerned about the vine but I wasn't concerned about the people who lived in Nineveh. He loved them and he helped me to see that I needed to love them too (Jonah 4:9-11). He helped me to see that he loves everyone and wants everyone to obey him. So, no matter how bad they've been, God is very happy when people change and love him.*

### Conclusion

Ask the children the following questions as a review:

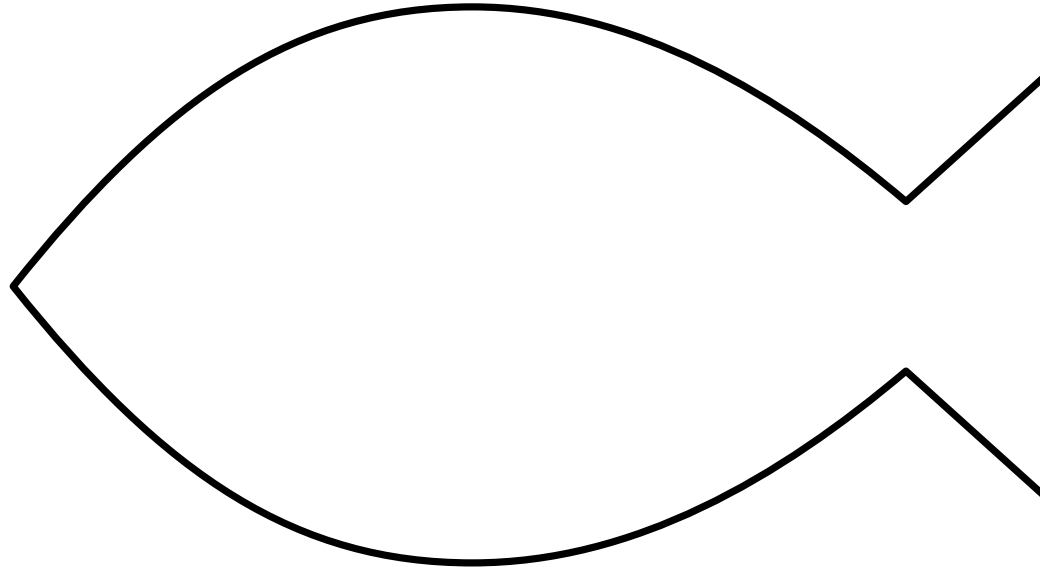
- How did God feel when Jonah disobeyed him? (sad)
- What should Jonah have done? (obeyed happily)
- Did Jonah obey happily? (no, at first he didn't obey at all, then he obeyed but not happily, he just obeyed because he had to)
- How did God feel when the people in Nineveh changed? (happy)
- How did Jonah feel when the people changed? (angry, it wasn't fair, he wanted them to be punished)
- What grew and gave Jonah shade and taught him a lesson? (a vine)

# Obey Happily

- How does God feel about people? (he loves all of them and wants them to love him)
- How should we feel about people around us? (love them, want them to know God)
- What can we do to help people learn about God? Should we yell at them the way that Jonah did? (no, we should love them and teach them the truth)

### Teacher Tips

- Be creative! Dress up like Jonah as authentically as possible. (wig, sandals, etc.)
- Be animated and dramatic to keep the children's attention.



# Obey Happily

## A Day in the Life of Amy

This activity will reinforce ways to obey happily. It will help the children identify when they are not obeying happily.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever.  
*Psalm 106:1*

### Materials

For each child:

- 2 paper plates
- 1 large craft stick

For the teacher:

- a doll
- small baby blanket and pillow
- bowl and spoon
- doll clothes
- a few small toys
- small tub or bucket
- basket or bag
- black marker
- tape or glue

### Preparation

1. Familiarize yourself with the activity so that you can be animated and focused on the responses of the children.
2. Draw a happy face on one plate for each child.
3. Draw a sad face on a second plate for each child.
4. Tape or glue a craft stick as a handle in between a happy face plate and a sad face plate.
5. Place the doll, baby blanket, bowl and spoon, doll clothes, small tub and the toys in a basket or a bag so that the children will not be distracted by them.

### Instructions

Hold up the doll. *This is my friend Amy. Sit Amy down in front of the children. She is five years old. Let's pretend that we are visiting Amy at her house today. Let's see how happily Amy obeys her Mom.*

Give each child a happy/sad sign. *Every time Amy obeys her Mom happily I want you to hold up the happy face. When Amy does not obey happily I want you to hold up the sad face. Remember that we make God happy when we obey others happily.*

MOTHER: Lay Amy on the floor and place the baby blanket over her.

*Amy, it's time to get up! Good morning! Rise and shine!*

AMY: *No! I don't want to get up! I'm tired!* (whining)

TEACHER: *Did Amy obey happily? No!* Have the children hold up the sad face. *Now let's let Amy try again.*

MOTHER: *Amy, it's time to get up! Good morning! Rise and shine!*

AMY: *Okay, good morning Mom!* (happy)

TEACHER: *Did Amy obey happily this time?* Have the children hold up the happy face. *What did Amy change to show that she wanted to obey happily?* (She was happy and did not whine)

Repeat this example using the ideas listed below. First do it the wrong way. Have the children tell you what was wrong as they hold up the sad face sign. Then do it the right way asking the children if Amy obeyed happily as they hold up the happy face sign.

#### • Eating breakfast:

SAD - Amy obeys but is not happy when her mom asks her to eat something different from what she wants. (use bowl and spoon as props)

HAPPY - Amy is grateful for the food her mother gives her.

#### • Getting dressed:

SAD - Amy argues about the outfit her mom picked out for her and then obeys unhappily (use doll clothes as a prop)

HAPPY - Amy is thankful for the outfit and happily gets dressed.

#### • Picking up toys:

SAD - Amy obeys but only after being asked many times. (use toys as a prop)

HAPPY - Amy says "OK mom." and picks up her toys right away.

#### • Bath time:

SAD - Amy obeys angrily when her mother asks her to take a bath before bed time. (use the tub as a prop)

HAPPY - Amy obeys right away and has a fun time in the bath.

#### • Bed time:

SAD - Amy grumbles as she obeys her mom when her mom tells her to go to bed. (use pillow and blanket as props)

HAPPY - Amy obeys right away and kisses her mother good night.



# Obey Happily

## Scripture Memory Activity

Read the memory verse to the children. Ask them to repeat it with you. Explain to the children that we should be grateful and thank God. He loves us and will love us forever.

## Conclusion

*When we are not obeying happily God wants us to change just like the people in Nineveh did. They changed and obeyed God and that made him very happy.*

*When you are with your friends and you obey God it will show them how great God is. You can invite them to come to Bible class with you and learn how to obey. Encourage the children who brought their friends to class and welcome the friends.*

Pray with the children asking God to help them to obey happily.

## Teacher Tips

- Create other sad and happy scenarios that may pertain to your class.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is  
good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 106:1



# Obey Happily

## Happy Face

This craft will remind the children to obey happily.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 11" x 14" piece of yellow poster board
- 1 piece of black construction paper, 4" x 5"
- crayons or markers
- glue stick

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- pencil

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the eye and smile stencils from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out two eyes and a mouth for each child from black construction paper.
3. Cut an eleven inch diameter circle for each child from yellow poster board.
4. Write "Obey Happily" in the middle of each circle. NOTE: If one side of the poster board is white write on the white side.
5. Make a model of the craft.

### Instructions

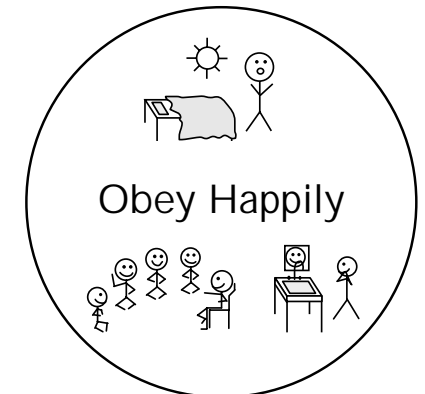
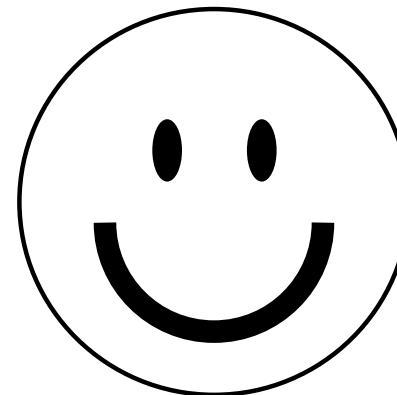
1. Show the children the model of the craft and explain that the smiley face will help remind them to obey God happily. Read the text to them. Ask the children to tell you ways that they can obey happily in the classroom, at home and with their friends or at school.
2. Give each child a circle, two eyes and a mouth. Have the children glue the eyes and the mouth to the yellow side of the circle (the side without the text).
3. Have the children turn over the circle and draw pictures on the back of them obeying happily.
4. Put the children's names on their crafts.

### Conclusion

Have the children share about the pictures that they drew of them obeying happily.

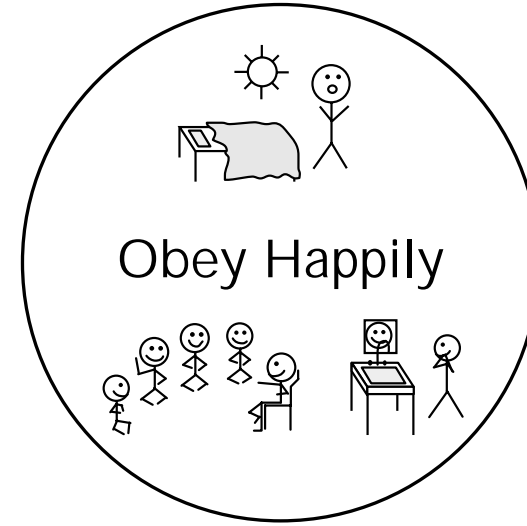
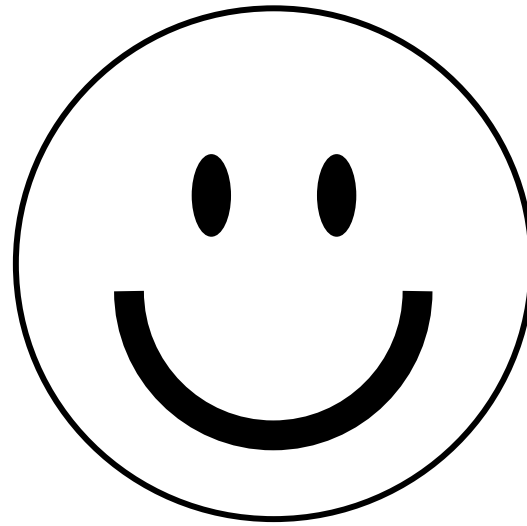
### Teacher Tips

- If some children are unsure of their ability, encourage what they've done so far by asking them to tell you about their picture. Don't do it for them.
- Use a whole piece of poster board for each child to make giant smiley faces. Blow up the stencils so they are the appropriate size.
- Use neon yellow poster board to make an extra bright smiley face!



# CRAFT

## Obey Happily



Finished Craft







Pre class



# Obey Happily

### Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe Jonah as a man who did not happily obey God.
- The children will see the difference between obeying happily and not obeying happily.
- The children will share ways that they can obey happily.

### Lesson Text

Jonah 1-4

### Scripture Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever.  
*Psalm 106:1*

### Vine Chart

The children will think of ways to obey in class.

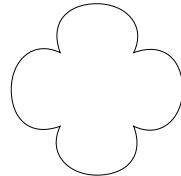
#### Materials

*For each child:*

- 3 pieces of construction paper, 4" x 4"
- 6" x 6" piece of green construction paper
- crayons

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- black marker
- masking tape
- pencil
- 1 large piece of poster board
- 1 piece of white paper



*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page C, one copy for the teacher

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Vine Chart

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Go Fish

Craft: Jonah's Vine

Life Application: A Day in the Life of Amy

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

### Preparation

1. On the white paper write "Ways We Will Obey in Class."
2. Cut out the flower and leaf stencils from the copy of Reproducible Page C.
3. Trace and cut out three flowers for each child from construction paper.
4. Trace and cut out three leaves for each child from green construction paper.
5. Cut the poster board into 4" x 28" strips.
6. Tape the poster board strips together end to end.
7. Before class tape the poster board to the wall of the classroom.

### Instructions

1. Give each child 3 flowers to color.
2. On the back of each flower write one way the child will happily obey in class.
3. Help the child to tape the flowers onto the poster board with one leaf in between each flower, making a vine.

### Teacher Tips

- Help the children to think of ways they can be obedient.
- Give the flowers back to the children when they leave and encourage them with how obedient they were. If correction is necessary, keep it positive.



### Go Fish

The children will demonstrate the difference between happy and unhappy obedience and how both responses make God feel.

#### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 piece of construction paper, 3" x 5" (use a variety of colors)
- 1 paper clip

*For the teacher:*

- 1 dowel rod or stick
- a 30" piece of string
- 1 round magnet with a hole in the middle
- black marker
- scissors
- blue sheet or towel

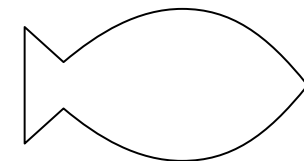
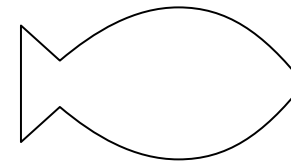
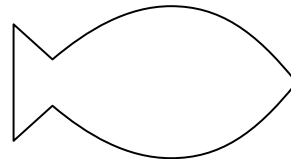
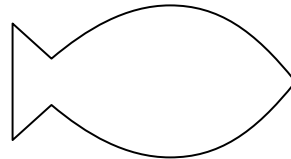
*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, one copy for the teacher



#### Preparation

1. Cut out the fish stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Trace and cut out one fish for each child from construction paper.
3. On each fish write an instruction for the child to obey: hug the teacher, touch your toes, smile at a friend, etc.
4. Place one paper clip on each fish.
5. Tie the magnet to one end of the string and tie the other end to the dowel rod. This is the fishing pole.
6. Before the children arrive place the sheet on the floor as water and place the fish on top of the sheet.



#### Instructions

1. Remind the children that they are learning about obeying happily. Explain that they are going to get a chance to obey happily in this game.
2. Have the children form a circle around the "water."
3. Show the children the fishing pole and explain that each child will get a turn to go fishing. Demonstrate how to catch a fish using the pole. Explain that there is an instruction on each fish that they will have to follow.
4. Choose a child to go first. Help the child catch a fish. Read the fish to the child. Have the child obey the instruction written on the fish.
5. After each child's turn ask the group if the child obeyed happily. NOTE: If for some reason the child does not obey happily, give them a chance to do it again happily.
6. Give each child a turn.

#### Conclusion

Demonstrate for the children the difference between obeying happily and unhappily. Unhappy: folded arms, hanging bottom lip, frown, etc. Happy: smile, say "okay," etc.

#### Teacher Tips

- Be sure to write simple instructions for the children to follow.



## Jonah's Vine

The children will make a vine headband to remind them to love the people around them.

### Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- 1 piece of poster board, 2" x 28"
- 1 piece of green construction paper
- green crayon

For the teacher:

- scissors
- stapler
- black marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the leaf stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page C.  
NOTE: You will not need the flower stencil for this craft.
2. Trace and cut out eight leaves for each child from green construction paper.
3. Cut a 2" x 28" piece of poster board for each child.
4. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.



# Obey Happily

### Instructions

1. Remind the children of the story of Jonah. Explain that at the end of the story God used a vine to teach Jonah that he needed to love the people in Nineveh. *God wants us to love our friends so that they will see that God loves them too. The vine that you make today will remind you to love your friends.*
2. Give each child a piece of poster board and have them color one side green.
3. Give each child six leaves. Have them color the leaves.
4. Have the children glue the leaves onto the poster board making a vine.
5. When the children are finished, staple the headband to the correct size for the child.

### Conclusion

Ask the children to tell you ways that they can be kind and loving to their friends.

### Teacher Tips

- Measure the headbands and cut them to size before the children start working.
- Show the children how to draw "veins" on the leaves.

supplement

# CRAFT

## Obey Happily

**God Cares**

Lesson 5



Finished Craft



Summer 2

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God Cares 20-5-12

## A Day in the Life of Amy

This activity will reinforce ways to obey happily. It will help the children identify when they are not obeying happily.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever.  
*Psalm 106:1*

### Materials

For each child:

- 2 paper plates
- 1 large craft stick

For the teacher:

- a doll
- small baby blanket and pillow
- bowl and spoon
- doll clothes
- a few small toys
- small tub or bucket
- basket or bag
- black marker
- tape or glue

### Preparation

1. Familiarize yourself with the activity so that you can be animated and focused on the responses of the children.
2. Draw a happy face on one plate for each child.
3. Draw a sad face on a second plate for each child.
4. Tape or glue a craft stick as a handle in between a happy face plate and a sad face plate.
5. Place the doll, baby blanket, bowl and spoon, doll clothes, small tub and the toys in a basket or a bag so that the children will not be distracted by them.

### Instructions

Hold up the doll. *This is my friend Amy. Sit Amy down in front of the children. She is five years old. Let's pretend that we are visiting Amy at her house today. Let's see how happily Amy obeys her Mom.*

Give each child a happy/sad sign. *Every time Amy obeys her Mom happily I want you to hold up the happy face. When Amy*

# Obey Happily

*does not obey happily I want you to hold up the sad face.*

*Remember that we make God happy when we obey others happily.*

MOTHER: Lay Amy on the floor and place the baby blanket over her.

*Amy, it's time to get up! Good morning! Rise and shine!*

AMY: *No! I don't want to get up! I'm tired!* (whining)

TEACHER: *Did Amy obey happily? No!* Have the children hold up the sad face. *Now let's let Amy try again.*

MOTHER: *Amy, it's time to get up! Good morning! Rise and shine!*

AMY: *Okay, good morning Mom!* (happy)

TEACHER: *Did Amy obey happily this time?* Have the children hold up the happy face. *What did Amy change to show that she wanted to obey happily?* (She was happy and did not whine)

Repeat this example using the ideas listed below. First do it the wrong way. Have the children tell you what was wrong as they hold up the sad face sign. Then do it the right way asking the children if Amy obeyed happily as they hold up the happy face sign.

- Eating breakfast:  
SAD - Amy obeys but is not happy when her mom asks her to eat something different from what she wants. (use bowl and spoon as props)  
HAPPY - Amy is grateful for the food her mother gives her.
- Getting dressed:  
SAD - Amy argues about the outfit her mom picked out for her and then obeys unhappily (use doll clothes as a prop)  
HAPPY - Amy is thankful for the outfit and happily gets dressed.
- Picking up toys:  
SAD - Amy obeys but only after being asked many times. (use toys as a prop)  
HAPPY - Amy says "OK mom." and picks up her toys right away.
- Bath time:  
SAD - Amy obeys angrily when her mother asks her to take a bath before bed time. (use the tub as a prop)  
HAPPY - Amy obeys right away and has a fun time in the bath.
- Bed time:  
SAD - Amy grumbles as she obeys her mom when her mom tells her to go to bed. (use pillow and blanket as props)  
HAPPY - Amy obeys right away and kisses her mother good night.



# Obey Happily

## Scripture Memory Activity

Read the memory verse to the children. Ask them to repeat it with you. Explain to the children that we should be grateful and thank God. He loves us and will love us forever.

## Conclusion

*When we are not obeying happily God wants us to change just like the people in Nineveh did. They changed and obeyed God and that made him very happy.*

*When you are with your friends and you obey God it will show them how great God is. You can invite them to come to Bible class with you and learn how to obey. Encourage the children who brought their friends to class and welcome the friends.*

Pray with the children asking God to help them to obey happily.

## Teacher Tips

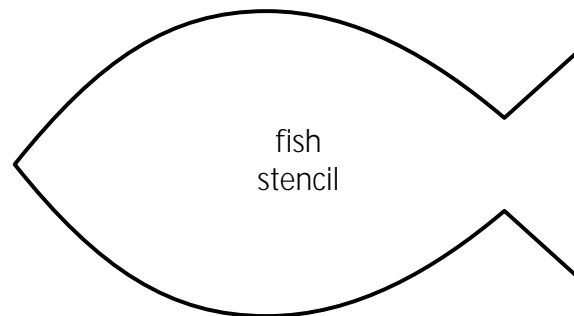
- Create other sad and happy scenarios that may pertain to your class.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is  
good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 106:1



Core/Preclass/1 copy for the teacher  
Supplement/Game/1 copy for the teacher



**R  
A  
D  
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C  
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B  
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B  
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E**

Page

**A**

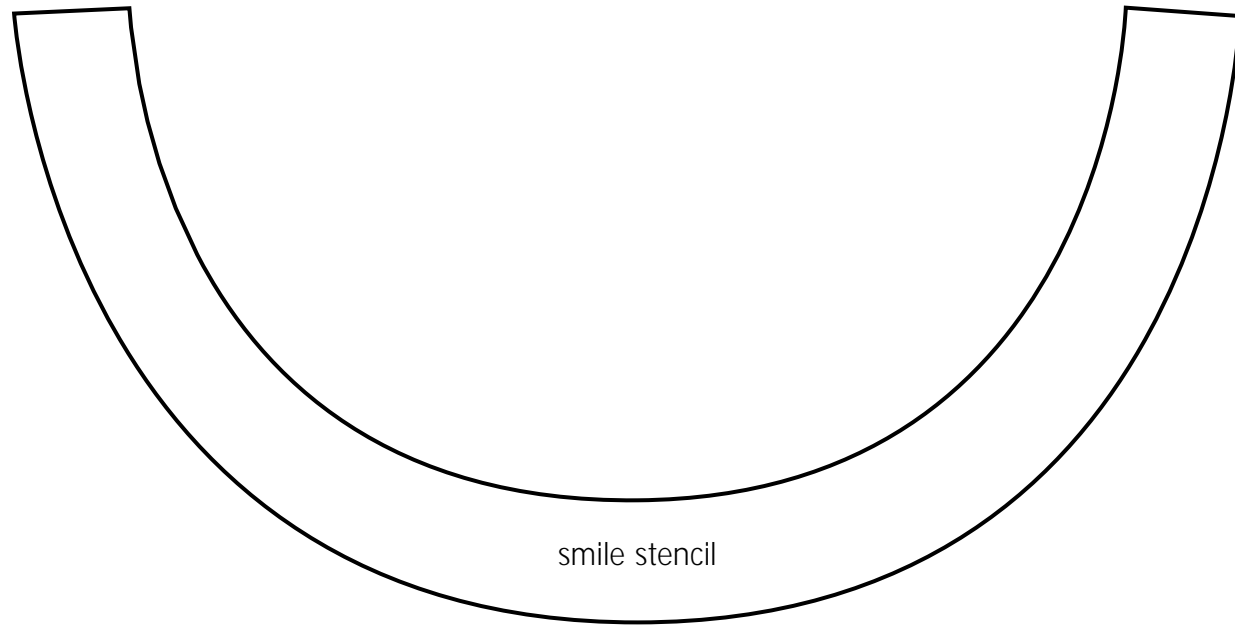
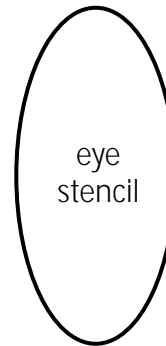


Core/Craft  
1 copy for the teacher

**A-B-C-E-O-T-P-R**  
**a-b-c-e-o-t-p-r**

Page

**B**





Supplement/Preclass/1 copy for the teacher  
Supplement/Craft/1 copy for the teacher

**Pre-Preparation**

Page

**C**

