

God Deserves Our Attention

By Anne Love

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 2**Focus:**

That your students will inspire others to worship God by faithfully worshipping God themselves.

Lesson 2**Bible Basis:**

2 Chronicles
34:1—35:19

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
—Psalm 122:1

Students will explore what happens when we pay attention and when we don't as they learn that God's Word deserves our undivided attention.

Materials:

Internet access

At some point in our lives, all of us have heard a parent, a teacher, or a coach tell us to pay attention to what we are doing. We might be completing a task or learning a new concept or skill, and paying attention and staying focused is vital for us to be successful.

➤ **What kinds of things might happen if you aren't paying attention?** (The task may be done incorrectly, you might get something wrong, you could get hurt.)

Paying attention and focusing on what you are doing is an important part of growing and learning.

➤ **Is being focused and attentive an easy thing to do, or is it hard?** (Allow students to share their opinions.)

➤ **When is it easiest for you to be focused and attentive? When is it the most difficult?** (Allow for students to respond, sharing from their personal experiences.)

This video will test your ability to be focused and attentive. You might find that each task may require you to look at the big picture as a whole, or try to focus on the tiniest of details. Let's see how successful we can be in accomplishing each task given.

Show this video to your students [video is 10:04; let students go through as many picture puzzles as time/interest allows]:

Can You Find the Odd One Out in These Pictures? Level 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=141DfKQhcEI>

➤ **Did you find it easy or difficult to complete each task? What made it easy? What made it difficult?** (Answers will vary.)

➤ **What did you have to do to be successful in finding each hidden object?** (Students should conclude that paying close attention was the only way to succeed.)

We all have times when it's hard to pay attention, and we are unable to be successful. But when we are focused and attentive in what we are doing, success can happen! Our lesson today takes us to a time when the Israelites were struggling to pay attention to something very important. Let's see what happens when someone comes along who helps them shift their focus so they can start paying attention.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 2 / June 10, 2018

God Deserves Our Attention

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 2 Focus:

That your students will inspire others to worship God by faithfully worshipping God themselves.

Lesson 2 Bible Basis:

2 Chronicles
34:1—35:19

Lesson 2 Memory Verse:

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
—Psalm 122:1

Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and marker
- S.O.A.P. infographic printout (1 per student; infographic template available here)
- S.O.A.P. worksheet printout (2 per student; worksheet template available here)
- Pens/pencils

Before this step, go to the following website and familiarize yourself with this Bible study method.
Dig Deeper Series-S.O.A.P. Method

<https://sarahnuss.com/2017/01/25/dig-deeper-series-S.O.A.P.-method/>

Print out one (1) infographic for each student; template found here.

<https://sarahbnuss.files.wordpress.com/2017/01/S.O.A.P.-method-for-studying-your-bible.jpg?w=301&h=753>

Print out two (2) worksheets per student; template found here.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6fY8xKqGng5SG1FZHdDVCOE0/view>

In our lesson today, we saw what happened when the Israelites decided to pay attention to God's Word; Josiah was able to get their focus back on the Word of God, and he led them in promising to obey and follow God with all their hearts. The Israelites stopped worshipping idols and instead made every effort to pay attention to what God asked of them. Their attitudes reflected their hearts as they celebrated the Passover, and they began to serve the Lord and do what He said.

Paying attention to God's Word is easy to do here at church, but it might be harder to do as you go through the week. Being focused on what God tells us and striving to live in a way that glorifies Him is important to do no matter where we are.

➤ **What are some ways that you can worship God by paying attention to His Word this week?** (As students share ideas, write them on the board. Suggestions may include reading the Bible, praying, memorizing Scripture, being obedient to what God asks us to do.)

The Bible is one way that we can confidently know what God wants us to do and how He wants us to live. God wants us to read His Word, to meditate on it, and to hide it in our hearts. But it can be challenging sometimes to focus on what a passage of Scripture might be telling us. Having a tool that can help us focus our reading can help us apply it to our everyday lives.

The S.O.A.P. method is a tool that we can use to study the Bible and focus on what God is telling us.

Hand out a printed infographic to each student so that they can follow along as you discuss it.

By using the acronym S.O.A.P., we can work our way through a verse or passage of Scripture and really focus on what God is telling us through that Scripture. This method can help us pay close attention to what the passage is saying.

Read through each step of the S.O.A.P. method from the infographic. Allow students to ask questions and/or make observations as you read and discuss each step.

Distribute the S.O.A.P. worksheets and pens/pencils. Have students write today's memory verse in the box on the printable and then give them time to work through each step of the S.O.A.P. method.

While students think and pray individually, play the following video [3:08]:
Word of God Speak – Mercy Me with Lyrics (High Quality)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8cJQMU9Q-U>

After you have given your students time to think and write, come back together as a group.

Our lives can get very busy from day to day, and they are filled with all kinds of things that we have to focus on and pay attention to. It can be easy to get caught up in the busyness and forget to focus on the most important thing—God's Word. This week, spend a few minutes each day using the S.O.A.P. method and discover what God wants to tell you through His Word. The time that you spend focusing on a verse or passage of Scripture will allow you to know God more and more; you'll see just how much He loves you, how He wants you to live, and how you can show Jesus to others.

Before students leave, have them put their copy of the S.O.A.P. infographic in their Bible to refer to during their quiet time; also provide blank copies of the S.O.A.P. printable worksheet for students to use during the week.

Close in prayer: Father God, thank You for the gift of Your Word and the countless ways that it points us back to You. Thank You for what the Bible teaches us, for the ways it encourages and guides us. Give us a desire to focus and pay attention to what You tell us, and give us the strength to take what we learn from Your Word and apply it to our lives each and every day. Fill our hearts with a desire to know You more and more. In Jesus' name, amen.

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