



Poem. Let three children each recite one of these verses from Matthew 28:18, 19 and 20.

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

“Teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Let the older children write a poem, song or short story about why we love to obey Jesus.

Prayer: “Lord, we love to hear your words, and we also want to put into practice what you say. We want to obey you, because you are King of Kings and we love you.”

Jesus Is the King Over All Kings

Teach Children to Obey Jesus

Prayer. “Our Father, please use this study to help the children to obey Jesus, because they love Him.”

Choose any, or all, of these children's learning activities.

Let an older child or teacher read the story of the Soldier Who Obeyed Jesus, from Luke 7:1–10. It shows how a Roman army officer, a Centurion, understood what it meant to be obedient to the great King.

If convenient, **let the children copy** or colour this picture of a Roman soldier.

After telling the story, **ask** these questions.

- What did the Roman soldier want Jesus to do for him? (Answer: see verse 3)
- Who asked Jesus to help the soldier? (3)
- Why did the soldier not come out to meet Jesus? (Verse 7. He did not think he was worthy.)
- How did the soldier show his faith in Jesus, believing that he rules over all? (7–8)
- How did the soldier show his obedience to Jesus? (Verse 7. He accepted the words of Jesus about what would happen to his sick servant.)

Dramatize parts of the story. Use your time with the children to prepare the drama. You do not have to use all the parts.

Let **older children** or adults play these parts:

Narrator. Summarize the story and helps the children remember what to say.

Centurion

Soldier

Jesus

Let **younger children** play these parts:

Servant. Lie on the floor and act like you are sick and dying.

Jews (friends of the Centurion)

Drama, Part 1, Luke 7:1–7

Narrator: Tell the first part of the story (verses 1–6). Say, “Hear what the Centurion’s servant says.”

Servant: “Master, I am so sick. I know I am going to die.”

Centurion: “Jesus has come to Capernaum. He can heal you. I will send for him.”

Say to the Jews, “My Jewish friends, my servant is dying. Please ask Jesus to heal him. Jesus is too great for me to go to Him myself.”

Jews: “We will go for you.” Go to Jesus and say, “Please, Jesus, come with us.”
“The Roman Centurion asks you to heal his servant.” “He is a good man.”
“He cares for us. He built our synagogue.”

Jesus: “I will go with you.”

Drama, Part 2, Luke 7:7–10

Narrator: Tell the second part of the story (verses 7–10). Say, “Hear what the Centurion says.”

Centurion: “I am not worthy to meet Jesus. If he says the word, my servant will be healed. Soldier, go to him.”

Soldier: Salute. Say “Yes sir!” (Walk toward Jesus.)

Jews: “The Centurion’s home is not far. Hurry!” “Look! He sent a soldier to meet us.”

Soldier: Go to Jesus and say, “Jesus, my master knows you are a great man. He knows that when you give an order, it is to be obeyed without delay. Please command his servant’s illness to go away!”

Jesus: “This soldier’s commander understands what it means to obey orders. He knows that my commands hold authority. He is willing to trust my power over this illness. I have not found such great faith in Israel!”

Narrator: Tell when the drama is over. Thank everyone who helped with the drama.

Arrange with the leader of the congregation for the children to

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- Present the drama to the adults during the worship time.
- Ask the adults the questions that are listed near the beginning of this study.
- Present the poem and anything else that the children have prepared.

Ask the children: What are the things that Jesus has commanded us to do, that we should obey?

Draw a picture of a crown, such as kings have worn in some countries. Let the children copy it. (See next page.)

- Let older children help the younger ones. Let the children show their pictures to the adults at the next worship time. Let the children explain that this illustrates that Jesus is the King of Kings, and we obey His commands because we love Him.

Memorize what the King of Kings said in John 14:15: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”