

RELATIONSHIPS
WITH INTEGRITY

GOD IS HOLY

A QUEST FOR HOLINESS™



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Curriculum for Grades K-12 and Parents

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GOD IS HOLY

"BE HOLY FOR I AM HOLY" 1 PETER 16

Thank you for guiding your students
in a quest for holiness!

In this journey, students will learn what it means to be a royal warrior and princess in God's Kingdom. These lessons are designed to give the students clues in their **quest for holiness**. With medieval "facts" as a backdrop, they will learn truths to strengthen their understanding of holiness, and they will learn to recognize the evil forces that would try to keep them from moving forward in their quest for the "holy grail"... purity of heart! A goal from this unit is to help the student make healthy choices and protect their heart for a future relationship. Parents will be receiving materials to help reinforce these lessons, along with additional information to help encourage personal conversations with their son or daughter that pertain to their relationships and sexuality.

Unit Objectives

- Students will learn information about holiness and begin to apply it to their lives.
- Students will have the opportunity to play games invented in medieval times which illuminate key themes in the lessons.
- Students will experience object lessons which bring to life the messages of holiness, purity and the heart.
- Students will have the opportunity to make a commitment to Christ either for the first time, or as a recommitment during the course of this unit.
- Students will experience whole person learning through audio, crafts, games, reading and the coronation.

How to Make this Unit Come Alive for Your Students

Create a medieval atmosphere with a few props such as a sword, shield, medieval helmet, etc. Each student will have their own castle book, entitled "Explore within a Medieval Castle", and at the end of the week, a simple sword or tiara will be given in the commitment ceremony.

Medieval society was very difficult, so games were a good way to escape. One very popular game was chess. Other popular games were bowling, backgammon, blind man's bluff, checkers, handball, something like tennis and gymnastics of sorts. When possible, these games will be played throughout this unit. Have students bring in chess sets, checkers, kiddie bowling sets, and archery (or darts) from home so there are several sets available.

You will need a stereo boom box that will be loud enough to be heard by all students in the classroom. Each lesson includes a 5 to 12 minute teaching on a CD by a knight with coordinating activities in the student's training manual.

Prepare copies of extra worksheets (one per student) as follows: Cumulative Craft Instructions (Lessons 1-4) and Gatekeeper Contracts (Lesson 3).

One Week Prior

- Ask students to prepare by bringing in a shoebox wrapped in heavy duty aluminum foil on the bottom portion of the box only. Then have students write their name or initials in permanent marker on the bottom of the box. This box is very important for the unit and will be used for the craft as well as the commitment ceremony at the end. Every student must have one.
- Give parents information about the unit, including an invitation to the commitment ceremony. Parent help is also suggested in Lesson 4 for the object lesson.
- Ask several parents to get involved by preparing details for the ceremony (see reference document on the ceremony).
- Prepare posters of the key truths for each of the five lessons. These will be posted at the beginning of each lesson and should remain visible in a prominent spot in the classroom.
- Obtain the craft supplies for the cumulative craft.
- Find a bow and arrow for the class demonstration in Lesson 2.
- Have on hand a wax seal of some kind if possible (see Lesson 3).

One Day Prior

- Give each student their castle book and have them put their name on it. Read aloud the first four pages about castles (Stories In Stone and The Gatehouse) and explain how they will be using the book in this unit on holiness. This book will stay in the classroom during the entire unit. This book does NOT include page numbers, so all references for a page will be by title of the section along with page “numbers” to help you find the section quicker.
- Decorate the room to look medieval. Solicit the help of creative parents with this!
- Pray for this week’s teaching on holiness, asking God to prepare each student’s heart for these lessons as well as the teacher’s.
- Be prepared to help the students come up with a name for the “order” that they will belong to as a class, much like the knights in medieval times.

LESSON ONE

GOD IS HOLY AND WANTS US TO BE HOLY

Learning Objectives

- Students will understand that God is Holy.
- Students will define holiness using the Bible as the authority.
- Students will be able to identify and express the ways in which holiness is worked out through submission and obedience.

Key Truth: God is holy and wants us to be holy.

Teacher Directed Lesson

- Start the lesson with prayer.
- Pass out a training manual to each student and have them put their name in it. These will be used closely with the audio lessons so *they must remain in the classroom for the duration of the unit.*
- Read the key truth for the day, and post it in a prominent spot in the classroom.
- Read the following and then have students follow along in their training manual, beginning with the Scripture in Isaiah.

Teacher Prompt:

When you hear the word holy, what do you think of? It's hard to know what something means unless you can see it or experience it. The Bible says God is Holy, but it also says no one has ever seen God. This is true, yet some men have been allowed by God to have a vision of Him. Isaiah the prophet was one of those men. Let's look at Isaiah's account by reading page 1 in your training manual...

Students Read in their Training Manuals the following:

Isaiah 6:1-3

"In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord, sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe, filling the temple." In the year of the death of a human King, Isaiah has a vision of the King of the Universe! He is so big, just the train of His robe fills the temple!

Seraphim stood above Him... **verse 3:** "And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory!"

Unlike any human King, God is the ultimate picture of Holy. He is **the standard** of righteousness, perfection and beauty.

Holy means perfect freedom from evil. God is Holy. He is perfect and free from evil!

Now, here is the great part: God made you, and He wants you to be holy! It's true! Look at our verse for today:

Review Scripture Memory Verse: 1 Peter 1:15-16

“But just as He who called you is Holy so be holy in all you do, for it is written ‘Be holy, because I am Holy.’”

Medieval Facts

In medieval times, chivalric orders were common. In the modern English, chivalry means ideals and virtues. Virtue means moral excellence, goodness and righteousness. Chivalric orders then would emphasize components of piety (religious devotion), faith, humility, purity and other worthy ideals. Each order would have its’ own name. Some examples include: The Slaves of Virtue, The Palm and Alligator, The Fools, The Broom Flowers and so on. The most well known are The Hospitallers, The Templars, and The Teutonic Knights. We will come up with a name for our class, so start thinking about that. Instead of chivalric orders, for our unit we will call them holy orders. By the way, in some places, there were female-only orders of knights! One such military order of knighthood for women was known as The Order of the Hatchet (orden de la Hacha) in Catalonia. It was founded in 1149 by Raymond Berenger, count of Barcelona, to honor the women who fought for the defense of the town of Tortosa against a Moor attack.

(Teacher Note: We recognize that not all knights were good, but for our purposes, we will not focus on this.)

In our times, choosing a process of holiness, like chivalry, is important. This week we will go through training that should continue throughout your life! Both boys and girls can become holy in God’s Kingdom, so this process is for everyone. The boys will be referred to as Royal Warriors and the girls will be Royal Princesses.

Your Quest

The quest you are about to begin is very important. It is a quest for holiness! Of course, you cannot be perfect in holiness like God, but perfect in Scripture also means whole or complete. You can become holy, free from evil, by the work of Christ, as you make wise choices to do right, and in the end, you get to wear a robe of righteousness, too!

End of student reading section

Review:

1. Ask the students what Isaiah saw.
2. Ask the students what holy means.
3. Discuss as a class what “order” name you will use for your class.

Read in the Castle Book:

Read out-loud as the students read along in the castle book in the section entitled: The Lord’s Men (page 5).