



DEEPER BIBLE

How Do Christians in Other Parts of the World Worship Jesus?

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bibles*

Tip

- If you're able, show the video of "Amazing Grace" sung in different countries. It's a powerful video! Click [here](#).

Dig Into the Bible

Say: **Today we're learning that God's family is all over the world. And the Bible has some really cool things to say about what it will be like when we all come together in heaven.**

Read Philippians 2:9-11 and Revelation 7:9.

Say: **It's pretty neat to think that people from different cultures and languages will all worship Jesus together in heaven someday. And it makes me wonder...how do Christians in other parts of the world worship Jesus? What other ways to worship might we see in heaven one day? Let's dig in to that.**

Dig Deeper

Say: I'm going to tell you some things people in other countries do when they worship Jesus together, and then we'll talk about how that's like or unlike what we do at our church.

In some places in South Asia, worship is loud and long, and it involves a lot of movement! Many South Asian Christians worship using what they call "action songs," which can include foot movement, clapping, and jumping.

Ask: • **How is that like or unlike what we do when we sing praises?**

Say: In some Russian churches, anyone is welcome to share during the service. They can talk about what God has done for them or how they got to share about Jesus.

Ask: • **Have you ever seen anything like that here?** Kids can share in small groups.

Say: Russians also use a greeting at Easter. Let's say it. The first person says, "*Khristos voskres.*" (*KRIS-tose vos-KRES.*) Repeat that after me. *Khristos voskres.* Pause.

The second person responds with "*voistinu voskres.*" (*va-EES-ti-nu vos-KRES.*) Repeat that. *Voistinu voskres.* Pause.

Russians say that phrase a lot in church and sometimes to strangers on the street! It means "Christ is risen," and the response means "indeed."

Ask: • **Does that remind you of any greetings we say here?**

Say: In the Andes mountains in Peru, many churches play rustic mountain music called *musica andina* (*MOO-zik-ah an-DEEN-ah*). They use a lot of handmade instruments to play, including the *quena* (*KAY-nah*), *zampoña* (*zam-PONE-ya*), and *charango* (*cha-RAYN-go*).

In the country of Nepal, a lot of Western culture has sneaked into their churches. But some people, especially older people, still make sure to use traditional Nepalese instruments to praise God. They use instruments called the *mandolin* (*MAN-doh-lin*), *gyumang* (*GYOO-mahng*), and *madal* (*MAY-del*).

Ask: • **What instruments have you seen used in our church?**

Say: In India, people in churches usually sing loudly, and one song can go on for 10 minutes. Worship services are often over two hours long.

Ask: • How does that compare to our worship services?

Say: In Guatemala, many Christians wear the Star of David as a symbol, instead of the cross. And some women wear handmade tops and skirts that show specifically where in Guatemala they are from.

Ask: • How would you describe what people wear to our church? Kids can share in small groups.

Say: In West African countries, people usually have expressive, animated dancing. Their music is based more on rhythm than melody.

Ask: • How would you describe *our* music to someone from a country in West Africa? Kids can share in small groups.

Say: In South Africa, worship songs are meant to be the whole community talking to God together. So one person might start a song, and then everyone else finishes that phrase—and they keep singing like that for a whole song.

Ask: • Can you think of any songs we sing where we take turns singing the words?

Say: Churches all around the world are different but the same. Even within our country, some churches have different ways to worship. But Christians all have this in common: We're all part of God's family, and we love to praise Jesus!

In fact, during the COVID-19 pandemic, people from 50 countries came together over video and all sang the same song—"Amazing Grace"—in their own languages. That's amazing! People all got to worship God with the same song, but with words they understood. What a cool way to show that God's family is all over the world.

And here's another cool thing. Sometimes people in our country say "hallelujah" as a word to praise God. That word is the same in almost every language on earth. So you could meet a Christian who doesn't speak any English, and you don't know their language, but you could both say "hallelujah" and praise God together. Let's do that now!

Lead kids in repeating "hallelujah" several times.

Say: So cool! It's really amazing to think about how as Christians, we're part of this *huge* family that extends not just in our city...not just in our country...but all around the world! Hallelujah!