## Bible background

Matthew 21:28-32.

## Aim of lesson

To teach obedience to parents and to God.

## Preparation required

Cut all activity sheets into two parts.

Make the two puppets' heads from your activity sheet for the three tallest fingers of each hand.

## Suggested outline of lesson

1.     Ask the children if they like grapes. Cut the grapes from the activity sheets to colour.

2.     Do the children know how they grow? Can they each be a curled up small seed that grows into a plant, and then into a strong vine or tree with bunches of grapes hanging from their branches?

3.     Act the part of the man and walk around inspecting your fine vineyard. Note that the grapes are all ripe and need picking quickly. Say you will ask one of your sons to help collect them. Put one puppet face on each hand and act out the story with these faces as the two sons. Rehearse this dialogue in your mind before class. Ask who did what his father wanted. Ask the children what they should do when their mother or father asks them to do some work. How should they answer and how should they act. Ask the same question for when God asks them to do something. Bring out that it is no good just saying we will obey. It is doing what is right that counts.

4.     Ask the children to make their own puppet faces and in turn act out the parable.

5.     You may like to teach the song 'What Shall We Do To Serve Our God' from Lesson 73.

## Alternative activities

1.     Make grapes out of modelling clay.

2.     Paint or print (with fingers) some grapes.

3.     Circle time: Sit in a circle and each take a turn at saying something helpful you can do at home, school or nursery.

4.     Ask the children to draw pictures of themselves helping a parent/carer or teacher.  Write a suitable caption to go with each picture.

## Relevance to the children's lives

Ask the children for practical examples of what their parents ask them to do.

## Prayer

Ask who wants to say sorry for not being obedient, and pray for help to obey our parents.

## Verse

'Children, obey your parents.' Ephesians 6:1.