

Artist:	Album Title & Record Company:	Video Title:	Study by:
HILLSONG + DELIRIOUS? HILLSONGMUSIC.COM	[UP] UNIFIED: PRAISE HILLSONG/ INTEGRITY MUSIC	RAIN DOWN	KEVIN WILLIAMS FIRST NAZARENE CHURCH BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA REVKEVJODY@SBCGLOBAL.NET



## Theme

Obedience

## Objective

Young people will learn to let God's Word completely saturate them and, as the song says, "do not shut the heavens" but rather "open up our hearts" and be obedient.

## Warm Up

There are dozens of games that have to do with food and drinks. Try some that will cause you students to be thirsty or that at least use drinks. For example: students shove several crackers in their mouths and attempt to whistle a tune; or a race to finish a cup of peanut butter; or "Chubby Bunny" with atomic fireballs; or the old favorite of hot root beer and whoever give the best belch! Be creative, and refer back to your warm up during your closing.

## Video

Say, "**delirious?**", a well-known band from the UK, has a new live concert DVD with the Australian band **Hillsong**. We are going to watch the song called, 'Rain Down.' Pay very close attention to the closing chorus of the song." (The song says, "do not shut the heavens", but 'open up our hearts.'). Show the video to your group.

## Transition

Ask for stories of the worst storm your students have ever seen. Then ask about what type of weather they like the best. Say, "For the most part storms are composed of wind, rain, thunder and lightning. But of course, depending on where you live you can add in the tornados, mudslides, earthquakes, hurricanes, tsunamis, etc. We want to concentrate on wind and rain briefly."

## Bible Study

Pass out your student guides. There are two passages in Isaiah mentioning rain. Recruit a volunteer to read **Isaiah 55:6-12** and **Isaiah 45:8**. (They read best from *The Message* paraphrase of the Bible.) Here are several verses to highlight and point out:

- Verses 6 & 7 – These verses are pretty straight forward.
- Verse 8 – Trust Him. His ways are better than yours.
- Verses 9 to 11 – When rain falls to the earth, it always accomplishes what it was sent to do. God's word is exactly like that. As we read it and allow it to saturate us like water on dry ground, it will, without a doubt, accomplish what its intended purposes are.
- In 45:8 – Isaiah speaks of something else raining down. The NIV says "rain down righteousness" and *The Message* says "pour out buckets of goodness." But to receive this we must do something else...
- Ask you students where they remember "wind" being mentioned in the New Testament. Recruit a volunteer to read **Acts 1:1-11**. When Jesus was with the disciples before His ascension, He gave them one instruction: wait. As they waited, a sound like a rushing wind filled the room. Now the disciples had walked and talked with Him. They had witnessed His miracles; they heard every single message;

they asked Him hundreds of questions and still – they were not ready. They needed the Holy Spirit. He told them to wait, and the disciples were obedient. There is no substitution for obedience.

- Finally, refer to one more passage from a guy who spent time in water (and in a fish!) Paraphrase the story of **Jonah**. His act of disobedience nearly caused harm to others who were in the boat with him. And his act of obedience actually saved an entire city of more than 120,000! We want nothing more than for God to rain down righteousness on us like water on dry ground, but we need to be obedient.

## Closing

For the closing read **Isaiah 55:1**. Say, "There is a 'living water' who wants to 'rain down' and fill us if we will just 'open up our hearts.'" Play the song again and make this invitation: "Are there areas of your life where you are being disobedient? Are you feeling like your life is dry and dull? Are you willing to 'open up your heart' and be obedient?" Close in a prayer mentioning your students by name.

Student Guide

# HILLSONG + DELIRIOUS?

Artist:

HILLSONG + DELIRIOUS?  
HILLSONGMUSIC.COM

Album Title & Record Company:

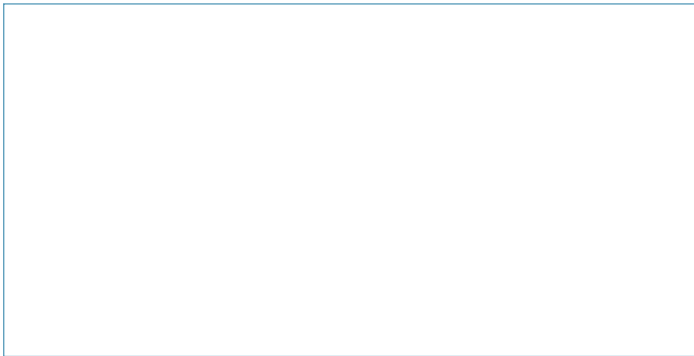
[UP] UNIFIED: PRAISE  
HILLSONG/ INTEGRITY MUSIC

Video Title:

RAIN DOWN

Theme:

OBEDIENCE



Isaiah 55:6-12 & Acts 1:1-11  
Isaiah 45:8

Jonah's Story

Isaiah 55:1