Date | November 21, 2021 Family Theme | The Only Cure for Sin Study Text | John 14:6; Romans 3:10-26; Galatians 2:16

Objective: Children understand God offers forgiveness and salvation to every person, but only through faith in His Son Jesus. They trust Christ and share the good news with others.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson affirms a truth found all through the Scriptures. God planned before creation to send His Son to pay the penalty for our sins. He offers salvation to every person through faith in His Son Jesus. There is no other way to be saved.

Bible Basics: Memorize John 14:6 and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: John 14:6; Romans 3:10-26; Galatians 2:16

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that they have sinned against God and can only be saved by trusting in what Christ did for us on the cross.



Key Truth: Jesus Declared He Is the Only Way to God (John 14:6)

Although it may come as a surprise to some people, Jesus is the One who claimed to be the only way to God. It wasn't arrogant or self-righteous Christians who made the claim. Christians simply repeat what Jesus Himself said. Jesus did not claim to be a way, a truth, and a life. No, He said, He is the Way, the truth, and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Him. But Jesus was not excluding anyone here. He was inviting everyone to believe in Him and experience salvation. He wishes that all would believe and that none would perish (2 Peter 3:9). Jesus told His followers to offer salvation to everyone (Matthew 28:18-20).



Key Truth: Every Person Has Sinned and Must Trust in Christ Alone for Salvation (Romans 3:10-26)

Jesus said that if people do not believe He is who He said He is, they will die in their sins (John 8:24). Sin is the human predicament that leads to eternal separation from God. And we can't save ourselves through good works. We must trust in what Jesus did for us. Paul echoed Jesus' diagnosis in the book of Romans. In chapter 3, he used various Old Testament passages to make the point that no person is righteous, not even one. No one really seeks after God on his or her own. Every human has turned away from God, and no one is truly good. Every person has sinned and fallen short of God's glory and perfect standard. Sin results in spiritual death (Romans 6:23a). Thankfully, we can receive eternal life in Christ (Romans 6:23b). All we have to do is confess and believe.



Key Truth: We Are Made Right With God Through Faith In Christ, Not by Good Works (Galatians 2:16)

Galatians 2:16 tells us that no person can be justified by keeping God's Law and doing good works. Instead, we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ. We believe in Christ Jesus and are justified by faith in Him, not by the works of the Law. Ephesians 2:8-9 says that salvation is a gift from God, not by our works. We simply need

to personally trust Christ to save us. Since God is holy and we are sinful, we are under wrath and judgment, incapable of erasing our own debt. Justification is the term we use to describe Christ's work to pay our debt and declare us innocent in God's eyes. Since Jesus paid for our sins on the cross, if we trust in Him for salvation God no longer sees us as sinners. Instead He sees the righteousness of Christ in us. Jesus bore our sin so we could have His righteousness and stand forgiven before God (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- · Besides faith in Christ, what are some other ways people believe will make them right with God?
- Why do Christians claim Jesus is the only way to God and to Heaven? What is the source of this claim?
- Why is Christianity actually very inclusive?
- · Why does every person need Jesus?
- How would you explain to a neighbor how we can be made right with God?
- How would you explain to a neighbor why Jesus is the only one who can save us and make us right with God?
- · With whom this week could you share Jesus' claim to be the only way to the Father?
- For Elementary: What do you think Zacchaeus thought when Jesus stopped to talk to him?
- For Elementary: What changes were seen in Zacchaeus after he met with Jesus?
- For Elementary: What changes have people seen in you because of your relationship with Jesus?

Everyday Extras

We all are lost in sin, and there is no amount of law-following that will provide salvation. Salvation is only guaranteed through what Christ has done on the cross. Sit down with your child, a glass plate, coin, candle, glass cup, and colored water. Place the coin (which represents humans) on one side of the plate, then pour water (which represents our sin) on the plate until the coin is covered. Light the candle, which represents Jesus, and put it in the middle of the plate. Place the glass cup over the lit candle, and the water should start moving into the inverted cup. Jesus' death on the cross removed our sins just like the candle removed the water from the penny!

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned about a young son who left home and foolishly wasted all his money. He wasn't able to buy food and so he got a job feeding pigs. He was sorry for what he had done and decided to return home to ask for forgiveness and a job as his father's servant. **We Are Special to God** and He forgives us when we ask.