

Family Battle Plan

A discipleship pathway to assist parents in engaging their children on their journey of faith

Week 9: Holy Spirit

Older Preschool

Theme Verse

"God the Holy Spirit will help you follow Him" (Ezekiel 36:27).

Objective

God helps people.

Teach

Have you ever needed help doing or understanding something? Who helped you? How did they help you? In Acts 8:26–40, the Bible teaches about a man from Ethiopia. He oversaw the queen's treasury. He had been in Jerusalem to worship the Lord and was now heading home. While traveling, the man was reading from the book of Isaiah in the Bible. He was having a very hard time understanding what it said.

In the meantime, the Lord spoke to Philip, one of Jesus' helpers, and told him to go south to the road where the man was traveling. When Philip arrived, the Holy Spirt told Philip to go and join the man in his chariot. The Holy Spirit used Philip to explain the verses to the Ethiopian man. The scriptures were about Jesus. After listening to Philip, the Ethiopian man trusted Jesus as his Savior. As they were traveling, they came to some water. He asked to be baptized. They stopped the chariot, and Philip baptized the man in the water. Afterward, the Holy Spirit took Philip away, and the Ethiopian man continued traveling home.

Today, our verse is *"God the Holy Spirit will help you follow Him"* (Ezekiel 36:27). Repeat the verse several times. Instruct your child(ren) to carry an object around the table while everyone says the verse. Have someone help them carry the object while everyone says

the verse. Allow each person to carry the object by themselves and then with someone. Everyone should repeat the verse while the object is being carried.

Discussion Questions

- How did the Holy Spirit help the Ethiopian man? (He sent Philip to explain the Scriptures.)
- Who was Isaiah referring to in the Scriptures? (Jesus)
- How does the Holy Spirit help you? (Allow the children to explain.)

Play

Pass the Ball!

Materials:

- Two sets of 10 ping pong balls
- Sharpie/marker
- Two paper sacks or containers

Directions:

- Divide the family into two teams.
- Decide on some keywords about the lesson.
- Write one letter of the word on each ball. (Make two sets.)
- Place the balls in a bag or container.
- Have each person on the team select a ball.
- Pass the balls down to the last person.
- The last person should guess the word.
- Pick a different word and repeat steps two through five.
- Now have everyone on the team guess the word.
- You may want to give a list of words for the teams to use while guessing the word.

Live it Out

What was the easiest way to find the correct word? (When we had helpers and the list of words.) We need to remember when we have problems or need help, we need to pray and ask God for help. He will send the Holy Spirit to help us. Remind the children that God works in His timing and in His way.

Closing Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for sending us the Holy Spirit to help us. We need You to do the right thing in Your way. Help us to always ask and listen to You for the answers we need. In Jesus' name, amen!

1st and 2nd Grade

Theme Verse

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:26–27).

Objective

The Holy Spirit helps people understand God's plan for salvation.

Teach

Can you think of a time when you were in school or on a sports team, and while the teacher or coach was actively teaching, you began talking with your friend? You may have been talking about something the leader was saying or something completely different, and then you suddenly realized the whole room had become silent. You were the only one still talking, and then you noticed everyone was looking at you. At that moment, you also realized you were supposed to be listening to the leader and not talking with your neighbor.

Let's look at what just happened. Something was going on around you, and you were not fully aware of it. Circumstances changed, and you became aware of the situation. The whole room was looking at you. In this case, it may have been embarrassing, but the Bible says the Holy Spirit helps us by doing the same thing. You have heard that we all sin. We all do things that are displeasing to God. The Bible says the Holy Spirit will help us understand that we are sinners. The Bible word for this is "conviction." Conviction means that we become aware or are brought to a sense of knowing or belief. The Holy Spirit will help you to recognize when you sin. It's no fun to be told that you are wrong, but this is a good thing. God, in His grace, gives the Holy Spirit who helps us ask for His forgiveness. God is forgiving and abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon Him. The Holy Spirit is a helper to show you how to seek forgiveness.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Think about the story in the teaching; have you ever suddenly realized the whole room was looking at you?
- 2. How did this realization spur you to action?
- 3. Sometimes the Holy Spirit urges us to acts of kindness. Talk about a time when you were prompted and acted to be kind or help someone. (Parent, you might start with a story about how you were prompted to give a special tip to a waiter or help a homeless person.)

The Holy Spirit helps prompt us about our actions or recognize opportunities to help others. See if you can silently prompt your child(ren) into action with only nonverbal communication. These actions might be hand motions, facial expressions, or eye movements. Some ideas: follow me, thirstiness, stop misbehaving, etc.

Live it Out

Listen for the Holy Spirit to give you thoughts about actions and people. As you go this week ask God to show you how you can impact your community for Him. Look for needs in your neighborhood and listen for needs when you talk to friends and family.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to help us live for You. Thank You that the Holy Spirit urges us to seek forgiveness, so we can live for You even more today. Amen.

3rd Grade

Theme Verse

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:26–27).

Objective

The Holy Spirit urges people to receive God's salvation.

Teach

Can you think of a time when you were in school or on a sports team, and while the teacher or coach was actively teaching, you began talking with your friend? You may have been talking about something the leader was saying or something completely different, and then you suddenly realized the whole room had become silent. You were the only one still talking, and then you noticed everyone was looking at you. At that moment, you also realized you were supposed to be listening to the leader and not talking with your neighbor.

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help you to recognize when you sin. It's no fun to be told that you are wrong, but this is a good thing. God, in His grace, gives the Holy Spirit who helps us ask for His forgiveness. God is forgiving and abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon Him. The Holy Spirit is a helper to show you how to seek forgiveness.

Discussion Questions

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- 2. How did this realization spur you to action?
- 3. Sometimes the Holy Spirit urges us to acts of kindness. Talk about a time when you were prompted and acted to be kind or help someone. (Parent, you might start with a story about how you were prompted to give a special tip to a waiter or help a homeless person.)

Play

The Holy Spirit helps prompt us about our actions or recognize opportunities to help others. See if you can silently prompt your child(ren) into action with only nonverbal communication. These actions might be hand motions, facial expressions, or eye movements. Some ideas: follow me, thirstiness, stop misbehaving, etc.

Live it Out

Listen for the Holy Spirit to give you thoughts about actions and people. As you go this week ask God to show you how you can impact your community for Him. Look for needs in your neighborhood and listen for needs when you talk to friends and family.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to help us live for You. Thank You that the Holy Spirit urges us to seek forgiveness, so we can live for You even more today. Amen.

4th and 5th Grade

Theme Verse

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:26–27).

Objective

The Holy Spirit is given to a person when he/she trusts Jesus as his/her Savior and Lord.

Teach

We experience most of life through one of our five senses. Immediately, we recognize familiar sounds, sights, smells, tastes, or feelings. Memories rush to our minds when we encounter certain smells, and we respond quickly when we touch something hot. Because we rely so much on our senses, it is difficult to trust in the existence of something that cannot be seen, touched, heard, tasted, or smelled.

When we repent of our sins, believe that Jesus died and rose from the grave to save us, and receive Him as our Savior, we are given the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. We cannot see or hear him with our eyes or ears, but we can definitely sense His presence in our lives. The Holy Spirit comforts us, encourages us, convicts us of sin, and leads us toward truth.

What a privilege and blessing it is to have a personal guide helping us through the ups and downs of life. In fact, before Jesus left the earth to return to Heaven, He said that it is better for us to have the Holy Spirit than to have Jesus remain on the earth (John 16:7). The Holy Spirit is not seen with our eyes, but we can clearly sense His working in us and around us.

Discussion Questions

Allow time for family discussion.

- Have you ever felt like lying, but you didn't? Why do you think you made the right choice?
- Why do you think it makes you feel good to make the right choices?
- Think about a time that a familiar Bible verse finally made sense to you. Discuss the Holy Spirit's role in your understanding of God's Word.
- When have you gone through a difficult time and felt the Holy Spirit's comfort?

Play

Gather several items from around the house and place them in individual bags. Have your child close his or her eyes and reach in each bag to feel the items. See how many items he or she can identify. Explain that although the Holy Spirit cannot be seen, touched, or heard, we can become better at identifying His voice as we experience His presence.

Live it Out

Talk about your own salvation story and what it has looked like growing in your faith. How has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin, helped you to interpret Scripture, and encouraged or comforted you? Help your child(ren) understand that you desire to help them learn to listen to the Holy Spirit.

Closing Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for *"a new heart, and a new spirit that You put within me"* (Ezekiel 36:26). Thank You that Your Holy Spirit guides me even though I cannot see Him with my eyes. Help me to recognize His work in my life.

Middle School

Theme Verse

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:26–27).

Objective

Each person who comes to faith in Christ receives the Holy Spirit and is given a spiritual gift.

Teach

We experience most of life through one of our five senses. Immediately, we recognize familiar sounds, sights, smells, tastes, or feelings. Memories rush to our minds when we encounter certain smells, and we respond quickly when we touch something hot. Because we rely so much on our senses, it is difficult to trust in the existence of something that cannot be seen, touched, heard, tasted, or smelled.

The Holy Spirit can be a difficult person to describe. Just because we cannot see Him, that does not minimize His existence or significance. When Jesus left the earth, He said that something greater was coming! He was referring to the Holy Spirit. When we accept Jesus' sacrifice for our sins and become a follower of His, then we have the Holy Spirit to guide us in understanding the Bible, discerning His will, or fighting off temptation. He is the number one advocate in our personal walk with God. The Holy Spirit is not seen with our eyes, but we do sense His working all around us. As we learn more about God, we will grow to understand and see the Holy Spirit at work. The Holy Spirit is always there with us as Christians, but we must learn to recognize His work.

Discussion Questions

Allow time for family discussion.

- Have you ever felt like lying, but you didn't? Why do you think you made the right choice?
- Why do you think it makes you feel good to make the right choices?
- Think about a time that a familiar Bible verse finally made sense to you. Discuss the Holy Spirit's role in your understanding of God's Word.
- When have you gone through a difficult time and felt the Holy Spirit's comfort?

Play

Gather several items from around the house and place them in individual bags. Have your child close his or her eyes and reach in each bag to feel the items. See how many items he or she can identify. Explain that although the Holy Spirit cannot be seen, touched, or heard, we can become better at identifying His voice as we experience His presence.

Live it Out

Talk about your own salvation story and what it has looked like growing in your faith. How has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin, helped you to interpret Scripture, and encouraged or comforted you? Help your child(ren) understand that you desire to help them learn to listen to the Holy Spirit.

Closing Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for *"a new heart, and a new spirit that You put within me"* (Ezekiel 36:26). Thank You that Your Holy Spirit guides me even though I cannot see Him with my eyes. Help me to recognize His work in my life.

<u>High School</u>

Theme Verse

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:26–27).

Objective

Each person who comes to faith in Christ receives the Holy Spirit and is endowed with a spiritual gift to be used to serve the Church.

Teach

We experience most of life through one of our five senses. Immediately, we recognize familiar sounds, sights, smells, tastes, or feelings. Memories rush to our minds when we encounter certain smells, and we respond quickly when we touch something hot. Because we rely so much on our senses, it is difficult to trust in the existence of something that cannot be seen, touched, heard, tasted, or smelled.

The Holy Spirit can be a difficult person to describe. Just because we cannot see Him, that does not minimize His existence or significance. When Jesus left the earth, He said that something greater was coming! He was referring to the Holy Spirit. When we accept Jesus' sacrifice for our sins and become a follower of His, then we have the Holy Spirit to

guide us in understanding the Bible, discerning His will, or fighting off temptation. He is the number one advocate in our personal walk with God. The Holy Spirit is not seen with our eyes, but we do sense His working all around us. As we learn more about God, we will grow to understand and see the Holy Spirit at work. The Holy Spirit is always there with us as Christians, but we must learn to recognize His work.

Discussion Questions

Allow time for family discussion.

- Have you ever felt like lying, but you didn't? Why do you think you made the right choice?
- Why do you think it makes you feel good to make the right choices?
- Think about a time that a familiar Bible verse finally made sense to you. Discuss the Holy Spirit's role in your understanding of God's Word.
- When have you gone through a difficult time and felt the Holy Spirit's comfort?

Play

Gather several items from around the house and place them in individual bags. Have your child close his or her eyes and reach in each bag to feel the items. See how many items he or she can identify. Explain that although the Holy Spirit cannot be seen, touched, or heard, we can become better at identifying His voice as we experience His presence.

Live it Out

Talk about your own Salvation story and what it has looked like growing in your faith. How has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin, helped you to interpret Scripture, and encouraged or comforted you? Help your child(ren) understand that you desire to help them learn to listen to the Holy Spirit.

Closing Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for "a new heart, and a new spirit that You put within me" (Ezekiel 36:26). Thank You that Your Holy Spirit guides me even though I cannot see Him with my eyes. Help me to recognize His work in my life.

Week 10: Salvation

Younger Preschool

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

God cares about us.

Teach

While the concept of salvation is too complex for a younger preschooler to grasp, you can still prepare a foundation for future learning. This week, lay this foundation by teaching how God not only loves them but also cares for them. A great verse to clarify the distinction of care from love is *"Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you"* (1 Peter 5:7 NLT). When your child is afraid or concerned, remind them you care and God cares. In regard to salvation, one day they will learn that God cares for their soul and where they spend eternity.

For this lesson, instead of looking for a moment when your child is concerned or afraid (although this is a great time to remind them that God cares), create a scenario with their toys or act out a scene yourself with them. For example, if your child is afraid of going to the doctor, create a scene with toys where a character is going to the doctor, becomes scared, and is comforted. Act out and provide voices for the toys in this scenario. As your child grows and develops, pretend play is one of the methods God designed for them to work out emotions, thoughts, and behaviors to prepare them for real-life situations.

Discussion Questions

As always, a great way to model discussion for your child is to provide the question and answer for them. Ask, "*Child's name*, who cares for you?" and then answer, "God cares for you!" Provide the opportunity to respond; set up the answer to merely be "God!" or "God cares!" and repeat several times. It is okay if they do not answer or repeat; they are able to observe and acquire language skills that you model.

Play

Continue from where you left off with the toys or if you were acting out a scene. This can involve some imagination and creativity as you think of scenarios to set. Consider the things your child responds positively to or what they enjoy and build from there.

Sing

"Sin Messed Everything Up"

Live it Out

Throughout the week, remind your child when they are afraid or concerned that God cares. Demonstrate that you care for them.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for caring for us so much. Help us to be like You and care for each other. Amen.

Older Preschool

Theme Verse

"God loved the world and gave His Son" (John 3:16).

Objective

God sent His only Son, Jesus, because He cares about us.

Teach

What does the word "care" mean? How do you know that someone cares about you? What would you do to show someone that you care about them? Throughout the Bible, God told His people that He loved them and was going to send a Messiah because He cared for them. The Messiah was Jesus. He sent Jesus as a baby that grew to become a man. He shared God's love by healing people and telling them about His Father. He even raised people from the dead. That was a lot of love shown to those people. Can you do any of those things? No, I cannot do them either. Only God could do those things.

One day, Jesus rode into the town of Jerusalem on a donkey. This was the way a king would ride into town. The people were excited. They waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna!" Some of the people knew Jesus was God's Son, and He was the true Messiah. Others were just caught up in the moment. They thought Jesus would lead an attack against the Romans who were controlling the country of Israel. That was not God's plan.

God planned to send Jesus to die for our sins. Jesus had never sinned. Therefore, He could take our place. He was and is the perfect, sinless Son of God. Jesus did die on the cross, but the best news ever is that He rose from the dead. He is alive in Heaven with His Father. One day, He will return to Earth to take us all to be with Him. Are you ready?

In our Bible verse, "God loved the world and gave His Son," the word "world" means you and me (John 3:16). We can even put our name in the place of the word "world." Say the verse but replace "world" with your name. Say the verse with each person's name in the place of the word "world." Jesus showed that He cares and loves you by giving His life for you. Most importantly, He cared enough to come back to life and live for us.

Discussion Questions

- 1. What did God tell the people He would do because He cared for them? (Send the Messiah.)
- 2. Who is the Messiah, the Promised One? (Jesus)
- 3. How did Jesus show that He cares for you? (He died on the cross and rose again.)

Play

Love, Bible, Cross

This game is played like Rock, Paper, Scissors. Love: Use hands to form a heart. Bible: Use hands to form an open book. Cross: Use arms to form a cross.

Have the family members pair together. Count, "1, 2, 3 Go!" Each person will choose one of the signs. Bible trumps love, cross trumps Bible, and love trumps cross. Continue playing until someone wins.

Discuss that God shared His love with us through Jesus. He told us this in the Bible. He showed His love that He promised in the Bible when Jesus died on the cross and rose again after three days.

Repeat the game.

Sing

"Sin Messed Everything Up"

Live it Out

God loves us so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins. The best part is that Jesus did not stay dead, but he came back to life and now lives in Heaven. Let's thank Him!

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank You for sending us Your Son, Jesus, to be our Messiah. Thank You that Jesus was willing to die for us. Most of all, we thank You that Jesus is alive and now lives in Heaven. Help us to always love and thank You. In Jesus' name, amen!

1st and 2nd Grade

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

God sent His only Son, Jesus, to be the only Savior of the world.

Teach

Some of the places we go require a ticket for admission. What are some places where a ticket is required to enter (the zoo, a plane trip, the planetarium, a movie, etc.)? Some of the places we named require a paper ticket. If we have the ticket at the door or gate to enter, then we have permission to enter. Sometimes, like in the case of plane tickets, we obtain the ticket days or weeks before the actual time to travel or enter the event, but we have our ticket as the promise of permission to enter. Entrance tickets are usually for an event we are excited to attend.

Discussion Questions

- Do you think Heaven is a place you would like to go someday?
- Do you know how I can get to Heaven?
- Do I need a ticket?

We don't need a ticket to Heaven, but the Bible does tell us how we can go to Heaven when we die. We call this salvation, because we do need to be saved to go to Heaven. Only people who trust in Jesus go to Heaven. We place our trust in Jesus by telling God:

- We are sorry for disobeying Him. This is called "sin".
- We believe Jesus came to earth and died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin, and after three days, Jesus rose from the dead.
- We receive Jesus in our life by praying and asking Him to be our Lord and our Master.

The Bible says whoever places their trust in Jesus becomes a child of God and will go to Heaven when they die.

Play

Looking around the room, take turns picking items and deciding how much they are worth or how much you would pay for that item. Everything in this world has a dollar amount it could be worth, bought, or traded for, but that's not how Heaven works. Salvation through Jesus' death on the cross is the only payment that makes it possible for us to go to Heaven.

Sing

"Sin Messed Everything Up"

Live it Out

At the end of the day, take time to reflect on moments when we sinned. How does it make us feel when we sin? Why did we sin? Sometimes we think we have a reason, but we really do not. What do you think our punishment should have been when we sinned? While it is sad and discouraging when we sin, we can be thankful that God sent His Son, Jesus, so that we could be forgiven for our sin.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to live a perfect life and die for my sins because we couldn't. Thank you for loving us and wanting to have a relationship with us. Amen.

3rd Grade

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

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Teach

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The Bible says whoever places their trust in Jesus becomes a child of God and will go to Heaven when they die.

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Live it Out

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Closing Prayer

God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to live a perfect life and die for my sins because we couldn't. Thank you for loving us and wanting to have a relationship with us. Amen.

4th and 5th Grade

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

Jesus willingly died to provide salvation. Jesus' death and resurrection makes salvation possible.

Teach

As a part of our human nature, we tend to compare ourselves to others. Because we are naturally selfish people, it makes us feel better about ourselves to think that we are more skilled or gifted at something than someone else. We also tend to compare our sins with others' sins. We may be willing to admit to a mistake, but we tend to justify it by pointing out that others made bigger or worse mistakes. God created the world perfectly, without sin. When man chose to sin, it changed the world forever. Just one sin separates us from our perfect and holy God.

Because of our sin, we each have to experience a physical death. Jesus is the only man to have ever lived a perfect, sinless life. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the penalty for all the sins of the world. When He rose from the dead, He defeated death so that we can spend eternity in heaven with Him. If we repent of our sin, believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead to save us, and receive Him as our Savior, we can have eternal life! This promise brings us peace and purpose as we live the rest of our earthly lives. If we can trust Him with our eternity, we can certainly trust Him with our earthly lives.

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever accepted Jesus as your Savior?
- What sins are you struggling with that you need to confess to God?
- Who is a friend or family member that needs to hear God's message of salvation through Jesus?

Play

Play a simple game of "Let's Make a Deal." Give your preteen \$1. Then allow him or her to decide whether to keep the \$1 or choose one of three other options that he or she cannot see, some of which are more valuable than \$1 and some not. Use this illustration to explain that choosing Jesus for eternal security is a great deal. We not only receive eternal life after we die, but we also enjoy an abundant life on earth.

Sing

<u>"Happy Day"</u>

Live it Out

Talk about how our culture downplays the seriousness of sin and promotes an obsession with self. How does much of the world think that someone gets to heaven? Compare this with what the Bible teaches. Discuss ways that Christians can stand for the truth of God's Word and still love and respect those who do not.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for loving me so much that you would send your Son to pay my price for sin. Thank You for loving me enough to not only give me eternal life but help me follow You and live an abundant life here on earth.

Middle School

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

People cannot save themselves, and Jesus is the only way to be reconciled to God.

Teach

In the beginning, Adam and Eve walked with God in a perfect relationship! Each day, they were in harmony with each other, enjoying all of creation. God gave them a simple command: Don't eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve failed and committed a sin against God. They chose their ways rather than God's ways.

This sin had some serious consequences, not just for Adam and Eve, but for all of mankind. Every person is born as a sinner, separated from a relationship with God. Not only has sin caused hurt, trials, and sufferings here in this life, but also for eternity. The ultimate cost of sin is eternal punishment in Hell. Praise God verses like John 3:16 show us that God still loves us and has made a way for us to be reconciled to Him.

Jesus came to this earth and died on the cross. He took on the full punishment for every person's sin when the wrath of God was poured out on Jesus at His death. He was buried in a tomb, and many of His followers doubted if He was truly the Messiah to bring salvation. However, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead! He literally walked out of the tomb, defeating sin and crushing death. Jesus invites all of the world to believe in Jesus as the Savior of the world, repenting of sin, and receiving Him as their Lord.

One man's failure, Adam, led to the condemnation of all of mankind. However, one Man's sacrifice, Jesus, led to salvation for all who would put their faith in Him and repent of their sin.

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever accepted Jesus as your Savior?
- Do you think about that often?
- How could you share that more often with your friends?

Play

Play a simple game of deal or no deal. Give your preteen \$1 and have them choose one of three options. Some may be good, and some may be bad. Do this as many times as you want but use it to teach that giving your eternal security to Jesus is never a bad deal. We always get more in return.

Sing

"God So Loved"

Live it Out

Pray as a family that over the next week, at least one of you will get to tell someone else about Jesus. If we truly believe God saved us from a horrible separation from Him, we should want to tell others. Set a time one week from now when you will all share if you had the opportunity.

Closing Prayer

Lord, I praise You "that everyone who believes in Him (You) will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Thank You for saving me from my sins and separation from You. Help me to share this truth with others.

High School

Theme Verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Objective

No amount of good works can save a person, and Jesus' praying the penalty for our sin is the only way to be reconciled to God.

Teach

In the beginning, Adam and Eve walked with God in a perfect relationship! Each day, they were in harmony with each other, enjoying all of creation. God gave them a simple command: Don't eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve failed and committed a sin against God. They chose their ways rather than God's ways.

This sin had some serious consequences, not just for Adam and Eve, but for all of mankind. Every person is born as a sinner, separated from a relationship with God. Not only has sin caused hurt, trials, and sufferings here in this life, but also for eternity. The ultimate cost of sin is eternal punishment in Hell. Praise God verses like John 3:16 show us that God still loves us and has made a way for us to be reconciled to Him.

Jesus came to this earth and died on the cross. He took on the full punishment for every person's sin when the wrath of God was poured out on Jesus at His death. He was buried in a tomb, and many of His followers doubted if He was truly the Messiah to bring salvation. However, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead! He literally walked out of the tomb, defeating sin and crushing death. Jesus invites all of the world to believe in Jesus as the Savior of the world, repenting of sin, and receiving Him as their Lord.

One man's failure, Adam, led to the condemnation of all of mankind. However, one Man's sacrifice, Jesus, led to salvation for all who would put their faith in Him and repent of their sin.

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever accepted Jesus as your Savior?
- Do you think about that often?
- How could you share that more often with your friends?

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