

## God has provided a Savior for You!

**Memory Verse:** John 1:12 *"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"*

**Main Teaching:** God Has provided a Savior for Your **Word Up:** God provided the Savior!

### Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for "Jesus is the Good News" and "He is God - Worship (Sing About the King 1 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for "Jesus is the Good News" (cefpress.com)
- Plate, penny, water (add food coloring), clear glass cup, candle (that will fit inside the cup), lighter – Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Birthday Month Cards– Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Reverse Charade Cards - Activity
- Missionary Visuals– Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Memory Verse Token John 1:12 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

### Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

- 15 min – Small Group
- 10 min – Word Up / Worship
- 10 min – Object Lesson
- 15 min – Memory Verse
- 10 min – Game
- 5 min – Missionary Story
- 10 min – Small Group Wonder Time

## INTRODUCTION

God had been faithful to Abraham and Sarah and had given them their son Isaac. After keeping His promise, God tested Abraham's faith and love for Him. This test seems inconceivable to us until we understand what God is truly like. Because God is loving, wise and all-knowing, He can be trusted even when things seem hard to understand. In today's **Evangelistic Narrative** lesson you'll want to carefully help the children understand that Abraham could obey God because He knew and understood what God is like. Be sure to clearly explain that this was God's test for Abraham and is *not* one repeated today. This test is a picture of what God did for us by sending His only Son to be our Savior. Help the children understand the requirement for a blood sacrifice and how Jesus is the once-for-all sacrifice for sin.

Use the lesson to remind the saved child that God can always be trusted because of who He is. Spending time with Him and learning more about what He is like will build their trust in Him.

How about you? Are you taking the time to get to know God better? As you spend time with God, learning what He is like, your faith will grow too.

Concepts covered in this lesson include:

- **Jesus:** Fulfillment of blood sacrifice—In Old Testament times God required a perfect blood sacrifice to cover sin. Blood represented life. Jesus fulfilled God's requirement for blood sacrifice once and for all.
- **God:** Faithful—God never breaks His promises.



## SMALL GROUP

### Chief

This “follow the leader” game will help kids have fun with their small group. Have kids sit in a circle. One person goes to a corner and hides their eyes while the circle decides who the Chief is going to be. The Chief does an action and everyone in the circle copies them. When the Chief changes the action everyone changes. Encourage the Chief to change actions every minute or so as this helps the child who is guessing. The child hiding their eyes comes back in the circle and tries to guess who the Chief is. They get 3 guesses. Tell the kids not to say anything and to try not to look at the Chief to make it harder to guess who it is.

## WORSHIP

*“Jesus is the Good News”*

*“He is God”*

## CLUB RULES

Review the Up Rules reminding the kids that following the rules helps everyone be able to feel safe and learn. If there is a particular rule the children are having trouble with, do a skit to highlight that rule and why it is important. For example, if kids are being loud and touching each other during club, you could do this skit: with two leaders or two older kids:

Child one: Hi Pat, you look a little sad today. What is going on?

Pat: I'm frustrated with Good News Club. I try to listen, but Justin is always talking so I'm having trouble hearing. He also keeps touching me, which doesn't make me feel safe. He was just joking around, but accidentally kicked me when he was rolling around on the floor.

Take time to talk to the kids about why it is important to Zip Up and Sit Up.



## WORD UP!

**“God Provided the Savior!”**

People have lots of needs. Some people need money to pay bills. Others need medicine to help with a sickness. Others need a good friend to be there for them. The greatest need that every person in the world has is the need to be forgiven of sins. God provided just what we need by sending His Son, Jesus. When you hear one of your teachers say **“Word Up!”** in club today, call out **“God provided the Savior!”** (Say with children.)

## OBJECT LESSON

### Sin Separation

Materials: plate, penny, water (add food coloring to the water to make it easier to see), clear glass cup, candle (that will fit inside the cup), lighter

#### What You Do:

Show the penny to everyone telling them that the penny represents us. Place the penny on the plate, off to the side. Now pour the colored water, which represents sin, onto the plate covering the penny, just like in life we are covered with sin. (Experiment with the water to see how much to put on the plate for it to work right. You don't want to use too much water.) Then, take the candle that represents Christ and place it in the middle of the plate. Jesus is the Light! So light the candle. (A lighter works best.) Take the clear glass and place it over the candle onto the plate. Within seconds the water will begin to draw up inside the glass, off the penny (us).

#### What You Say:

I brought a penny with me today. This penny represents us. *(Set penny on the side of the plate.)* I also have some water here. This water represents sin. Sin is anything we think, say, see, or do that makes God sad or breaks His laws. Sin can be something like lying to a teacher or even thinking something mean about someone in your class. The Bible, God's true Word, says that *all* have sinned. That means you have sinned, and I have sinned, and even moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas have sinned! Our sin covers us and separates us from God *(pour the water onto the plate to cover the penny)*.

But the Bible also says that Jesus, God's Son, is the LIGHT of the world. *(Bring out the candle and light it with the lighter.)* This candle is going to represent Jesus. Jesus is holy - that means He always does what is right, and never does what is wrong. The Bible says that God loves YOU so much, that He didn't want your sin to separate you from Him forever. He had a perfect plan to save us from our problem of sin! He sent His perfect Son Jesus down to Earth to be the LIGHT of the world! So, Jesus came down and lived with people like you and me. *(Place the candle on the plate next to the penny.)* And when Jesus grew up and became a man, some mean men killed Jesus on a cross. This was God's plan - the Bible says that "without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness." When Jesus died on that cross, His blood poured out so that our sins could be forgiven. *(Place glass cup over the candle and watch as the water leaves the plate and enters the glass.)*

Jesus took our sins upon Himself so that we could be forgiven and live with Him forever in heaven! After Jesus died, they placed him in a tomb, but did he stay dead? No - after three days, Jesus rose from the dead and He is alive today! And because of what Jesus has done for you, you can become a part of His forever family and live with Him in heaven one day. The Bible says that if you admit that you have sinned, believe that Jesus died for you and came alive again, and choose to follow Him, you can have eternal life! If you would like to learn more about how to do that today, you can talk to any of the Good News Club leaders here about becoming a part of God's forever family. Let's pray and thank God for sending Jesus to take our punishment from sin. *(Pray together)*



## MEMORY VERSE

*"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)*

## INTRODUCTION

People have lots of different ideas about what it means to be a child of God. Some people think everyone ever born is automatically God's child. Others think that you get to be a child of God by doing good things and earning the right to become His child. Our memory verse today tells exactly how to become a child of God. Listen carefully to find out.

## PRESENTATION

*(Read verse from Bible. Then show verse visual.)* Today's verse is from the book of John in the true Word of God. The Bible is an amazing book. It took over 1,600 years for it to be written. God inspired (worked through) over 40 men who wrote down what He wanted them to say. A man named John wrote the book our verses found in today. The book of John is one of the first four books of the New Testament. These books—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—are called Gospels because they tell the Good News of Jesus coming to Earth to save us from our sins. Gospel means Good News. Our verse is found in John chapter 1, verse 12. *(Read verse from visual with children.)*

## EXPLANATION

*But to all*—This is talking to anyone in the whole world! It is talking to you!

*who did receive him*—The word receive means 'to be given'. In this verse, that thing you're being given is the gift of Jesus when he died on the cross to save you from the punishment for your sins. When you believe in Jesus, you receive him as your Savior from sin's punishment.

*who believed in his name*—To believe in His name is to put your trust in Jesus, God's perfect Son, as the only one who can save you from your sin. Anyone who takes Jesus as his own, believing that Jesus is the Son of God who died for sins, will become God's child—a part of His family.

*he gave the right to become children of God*—When you believe in what Jesus did for you, when you receive him as your Savior, God adopts you into his forever family. That means that one day you will go to live forever with God in Heaven.

## APPLICATION

**Saved:** If you have received Jesus as your Savior, you can know for sure that you are His child and God is your perfect Heavenly Father! You can trust Him to be a good Father and to do what is best in your life even when it is hard.

**Unsaved:** If you have never believed in Jesus, receiving Him as your Savior, you can believe in Him today. God loves you and wants you to become His child! You can become God's child by believing in Jesus, the Savior. **God has provided a Savior for you. Word Up!, "God provided the Savior!"** *(Say with children.)*

## INVITATION



What about you? Do you know that you have sinned? Do you know that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Have you made the decision to put your trust in Him? The verse we just learned from the Bible says *“But to all who did receive Him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”* When you believe in Jesus, trusting that He died on the cross for your sins, you will become a Child of God. God will change you on the inside, helping you love Him and obey Him each day. Will you turn from your sin and believe in the lord Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you called on Jesus for the very first time today, or you want to talk to someone more about doing that, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me (*designate location*) and I'll show you more from God's Word how you can be saved.

## REPETITION

## “When is Your Birthday”

*(Prepare twelve brightly colored cards with a different month of the year written on each one. Place them face down on a table or in a pocket chart and let a child choose one of the cards. When a month is chosen, every child who was **not** born in that month stands up and says the verse. The children who were born in that month get to remain seated and shout out the reference at the beginning and end of the verse. If a month is chosen in which none of your students were born, simply choose another month and keep playing.)*

**Sing Memory Verse Song** “To All Who Did Receive Him”

## ACTIVITY

## Reverse Charades

Have kids stand up. Invite one child to come up to the front and face the class. Without the child in the front seeing the card, hold the card over their head so the class can read it. Have the entire class act out what is on the card and the child in the front tries to guess what the card says. All of these cards are going to be situations that involve being saved or needing a Savior.

Drowning in a Swimming Pool

Firefighter saving someone from a burning building

Someone is choking

Paying for something at the store and you don't have enough money

Lost at the playground

You have a broken leg

## MISSIONARY STORY

### Adhiambo Gives Her Life to God (Part 4)



Did Adhiambo give her whole life to serve God wherever He wanted her? Adhiambo did not! She was willing to put one foot inside the circle but she didn't want to give God all of her life. She didn't want to give up her good job as a high school teacher.

"Give all of yourself," the teacher urged.

A battle was going on in Adhiambo's heart as she listened. Finally she decided she would give her whole life to God! Adhiambo knew God wanted her job to be serving Him but what would her family think?

Adhiambo traveled the long way from Nairobi to her father's house in Mombasa. How could she ever explain why she wanted to give up a good job as a school teacher to serve God as a missionary? Would the Lord provide a place for her to live? Would He send money for food?

Adhiambo's father, two of her brothers and one of her best

friends, Rahab, stood on the front porch of her house to welcome her home. "Shikamoo," (*She-KAH-mō*) (hello) Adhiambo greeted her father politely. After a few minutes she explained what God wanted to do with her life.

Her father was very angry. "All those years of schooling!" he scolded. "What is this thing called missionary work? Who is going to take care of you? Who will pay your bills? You'll probably starve to death!"

One brother sneered at her. "You, who couldn't even make decent ugali, are you going to teach adults?"

Adhiambo tried to explain how important it was to teach children about Jesus, how necessary it was to train adults to teach the children and that she trusted God to give her everything she needed.

Suddenly Rahab burst out, "You mean you will resign your job to come and beg money from us?"

"Oh, no, no," Adhiambo answered.

She turned away, hurt and discouraged but determined to serve God. She remembered God's promise and prayed for strength. She would trust God and obey Him!

**Would Adhiambo trust and obey God while living in a hut filled with snakes, bats and scorpions? You'll find out next time!**

**SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME****“Three Questions”**

We talk a lot about spending time with God each day by reading the Bible and praying. But how can you understand what's in the Bible? There are three questions you can ask as you read your Bible. Here are the questions:

1. “What does it say?”—Who is talking? Who is he talking to? What is he saying?
2. “What does it mean?”—What do the words mean?
3. “What is God saying to me?”—Is there something God wants you to do? Is there a promise for you to believe? Is there a command for you to obey? Is there a truth about God or about you that God wants you to know. How does this part of the Bible affect your life?

These are great questions to ask! As you study God's Word, you will get to know God better. The more you know God, the greater your faith in Him will be. God is faithful! This week as you read your Bible, ask yourself these three questions. Can you repeat them with me again? (*Repeat three questions with children.*) In our next Wonder Time we'll read a verse in the Bible and we'll ask those three questions together.

**DISMISSAL**

Hand out memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week. Remind the kids that whenever they read the Bible they can ask their three questions – What does it say? What does it Mean? What is God saying to me?.