

## Jesus Can Change You from the Inside Out!



**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:** Jesus Can Change You from the Inside Out!

**Word Up:** Jesus Can Change Me!

### Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for “He is God” and “Jesus Loves Me / Amazing Grace” - Worship (Sing About the King 1 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “Christ Redeemed Us” and “Jesus
- Small Object for the “bone” in each Small Group – Small Group
- Gold gift bag, To/From tag, Clean heart, Dark heart, and cross– Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Copies of Philippians 1:6 for each group – Small Group / Wonder Time
- Memory Verse Token of 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 can change any heart! In today's **Evangelistic Narrative** the children will hear how God changed deceiver Jacob into a follower of God. The children will see the Gospel presented throughout the lesson.

The saved children will be reminded that they can trust God and His sovereign control in their lives. God knows everything about them and works in His own time.

The memory verse, John 1:12, reminds the saved child of the blessings of being part of God's family. They can trust Him! *Wonder Time* emphasizes the importance of studying God's Word, using Philippians 1:6 as an example. This is a great time to give practical helps for how children can study and apply Scripture to their lives. Do you have children in your class who you have given up on? Perhaps they are always misbehaving. Remember, God can change any heart!

Concepts covered in this lesson include:

- **God:** Sovereign—God is sovereign—in control of everything.
- **Man:** Sin—I am born a sinner. Sin hurts me and others too.
- **Salvation:** Reverses the effects of sin—When I believe on Jesus, He frees me from the power and penalty of sin. Jesus changes me from the inside out. I am a new creation.

**SMALL GROUP****Doggie, Doggie, Where's Your Bone**

Have kids sit in a circle. One child goes to the middle and hides their eyes. Give a small object (the bone) to someone in the circle. Everyone says "Doggie, Doggie, where's your bone, somebody stole it from your home" 2xs. The person in the middle keeps their eyes closed and says "who stole my bone?". The person that has the bone says "I did". Everyone sits with their hands behind their back so they look like they stole the bone. The person in the middle opens their eyes and gets three guesses to say who has the bone.

**WORD UP!****"Jesus can change me!"**

Have you ever tried to break a bad habit and you keep doing it anyway? Or maybe you try hard to be nice to your brother or sister then you get mad at him or her again. Sometimes we try to make ourselves better and it just doesn't seem to work. But there is someone who can give us the power to change and that is Jesus. When you hear one of your teachers say "Word Up!" in club today, call out **"Jesus can change me!"** (Say with children.)

**WORSHIP****"He is God"****"Jesus Loves Me/Amazing Grace"****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.

**OBJECT LESSON****The Gift**

You will need a gold gift bag and "The Gift" visuals from the GNC Resource Pack. Prepare a tag that reads "To: Everyone. From: God." Tie it to the bag. Place a clean heart with the word "Believe" inside the bag. Place a dark heart on one side of the bag and a red cross on the other side.)

What is a gift? Is it something you earn? Is it something you work very hard for? Is it something you buy? (Allow response.) No. It is something that is *given* to you, usually by someone who loves you.

Now there are three things you can do with a gift. You can *ignore* (show ignore sign) it. Maybe it doesn't look as big as some of the other gifts you have received so you just let it sit there. Or perhaps you get very

interested in something else and you even *forget* (*show forget sign*) there is a gift sitting there with your name on it! What is the most important thing you can do with a gift? (*Allow response.*) *Take* (*show take sign*) it and open it! A gift only becomes yours when you receive it for yourself.

Let's see who this gift is for. (*Read "To:" part of tag.*) Wow! It's for everyone who will take it! I wonder who could give a gift like that? (*Read "From:" part of tag.*) It's from God! God's book, the Bible, tells you that He loves you. (*Read John 3:16a.*) He loves you so much He gave you a special gift. Let's see what the gift is!

To understand how valuable God's gift is, you must first understand something about God. God is perfectly good. He made the first man and woman perfectly good. But they chose to disobey His rules so they weren't perfectly good anymore. No one who lived after them was perfectly good either. God says there is no one who does right all the time. (*Read Romans 3:10.*) You and I were born wanting our own way instead of God's way. When you and I disobey God, it is called sin. God says to treat others kindly, so when you don't, that is sin. God says to honor those in authority over you, like a teacher or a parent, so when you complain about the homework they tell you to do, that is sin. The punishment for sin is to be separated from God. (*Show dark heart side of bag*) This dark heart reminds me of that—being in darkness away from God.

God says, (*read Romans 6:23a*). Each of us deserves to die for our sins—to be separated from God forever in a place where there is no love, comfort or happiness. But God loves you. He wants you to be part of His forever family. He wants to forgive your sin and have a friendship with you. God made a way for you to be forgiven. That's what this cross stands for. (*Show side of bag with the cross.*) God sent His perfect Son, Jesus, to Earth from Heaven. Why did God send His Son to Earth? (*Read 1 John 4:14.*) He sent His Son to be the Savior of the world!

Jesus grew to be a man. He never sinned—not even once. Because He is perfect, He is the only one who could die for your sin. Wicked men nailed Jesus to a wooden cross where He willingly bled and died for you. This cross is red to remind us of the blood Jesus gave. Jesus chose to suffer and die for all the wrong things you and I have done. On the third day after Jesus died, God raised Him from the dead. He gave Him life again! And that is why God can offer you this gift today. (*Read Romans 6:23b.*) God sent Jesus to save you from your sin and give you a new life that will last forever. Let's open our gift and see how we can have that eternal life.

(*Open bag and pull out the clean heart.*)

God says, (*read John 1:12*). If you believe that Jesus died for your sins, trusting Him as your Savior, you will receive God's gift of eternal life. You will become a child of God! You will have a friendship with God while you are here on Earth and someday live forever in Heaven with Him! You can believe in Jesus and receive God's gift of eternal life today!

### 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 Bible verse we have been learning says in John 1:12 "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 – part of God's forever family. Will you turn from your sin and believe in the Lord Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you believed in 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 become a child of God.



## 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

What is the son of a king called? (*Allow response.*) A prince. What is a daughter of a king called? (*Allow response.*) A princess. The prince and princess are royalty, just like the king. They live in the palace. They have the rights that come with being a child of the king. Did you know you can become a child of the one true King who rules over everything? Our verse, John 1:12, tells us about that.

## PRESENTATION

Can anyone tell me how to find John 1:12 in the Bible? (*Allow response.*) First, we need to find the book of John, then chapter one, then the verse number 12. (*Work together to find John 1:12.*) I'm going to read it from my Bible while you read it with me on the visual. (*Read verse together.*) We can know that these words are true because God is the author of the Bible. He told John to write them through the power of the Holy Spirit. Last time we talked about how God used over 40 men to write what He wanted to say. Many of these men lived at different times and places. In fact, The Bible was written over 1,600 years. You might think that 40 different men might write things that disagree with each other. But everything in the Bible agrees with everything else. Things men wrote at the beginning of the 1,600 years agree completely with things men wrote at the end of that time. This is another reason you can trust what God says and believe the promises He gives in this verse.

## EXPLANATION

*But to all who did receive him*—This means anyone who has trusted Jesus as the only one who can save them from sin.

*who believed in his name*—This verse makes a promise for anyone who trusts that Jesus is God's Son, who came to Earth to die for sin and rose again.

*he gave the right to become children of God*—When you believe on Jesus, He gives you the authority to become a child of God. You become part of God's family. This doesn't mean that you are no longer part of your family at home, but it means that you also belong to the family of believers—others who have also trusted Jesus as Savior. God becomes your Heavenly Father, who loves you and wants what is best for you. When you become a child of God—the great King—you belong to His family forever. This verse says you can be a child of God when you believe on Jesus. That is the best news ever!

## APPLICATION

**Unsaved:** If you haven't believed in Jesus, you can choose to do that anytime. When you believe in Him and receive Him as your Savior from sin, **Jesus can change you from the inside out.** Word Up! **"Jesus can change me!"** (*Say with children.*) Jesus gives you the right to be God's child. He helps you change and grow in God's family.

**Saved:** If you have believed in Jesus as your Savior, you can thank God for making you part of His forever family. Now you can enjoy all that God has for you as His child. He gives you peace and joy, even in hard times. He gives you love that will never end. You can know that He is always at work in your life and in control of all that happens to you. You can trust God's sovereign control in your life.

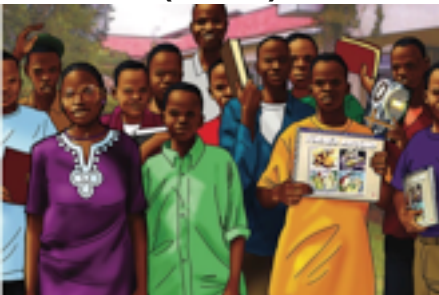
**REPETITION****Change the Volume**

*Hold your hand out in front of you. This is your volume control. Start with your hand in the middle with the children reading the verse in a normal voice. The higher you raise your hand, the louder their voices should get. The lower you move your hand, the quieter they should get. After you lead the children a few times, let them take turns being the volume control. You may need to limit the number of times they can go up and down.*

**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 examples of sinful things people do.

- Hitting Someone
- Whispering about someone and laughing at them
- Stealing something from your mom's purse
- Not Sharing
- Sneaking to play video games when you should be in bed
- Yelling at your friend and stomping off
- Pouting and Whining

**MISSIONS STORY****Adhiambo – God Provides More Teachers (Part 6)**

Every day Pam and Adhiambo had classes for children. Almost 100 children came to learn God's Word! They sat on the dirt floor of a large mud hut. It was very hot in the hut—about 120 degrees!

But the children didn't mind; they just wanted to hear about Jesus. Adhiambo was so glad she could tell them.

Before arriving in Keew, Adhiambo and Pam had prayed about who would teach the children after they left South Sudan. They asked if anyone was interested in learning to teach. A group of 12 teenage boys came to them after class. "We want to learn how to teach the children God's Word," they said. "Will you help us?" Later Adhiambo asked if there were any teenage girls who could come to training class too. Six girls came! God had answered prayer!

Adhiambo was happy to see how excited these 18 students were as she taught them how to teach God's Word to the children. Soon the teenagers would be able to help children receive Jesus as their Savior and understand God's plan for their lives.

If Adhiambo could come to our class today, she would say, "Trust God to answer your prayers. He will do for you what He did for me. Trust Him with your whole life for today and for your future. He is able to do more than you could ask or imagine—no matter what your problems are."

If you know Jesus as your Savior, have you ever given all of yourself to God like Adhiambo did? God may want you to teach others about Him some day. He may want you to be a missionary somewhere. Or He may have another special job for you. There may be something He is asking you to do for Him this week like talking to a friend or family member about how to believe in Jesus. Are you willing to let Him use your life and follow His plan for you? Pray that God will show you what He wants to do with your life and that He will give you the courage and the strength to do it.



## **SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME**

### **"Three Questions Review"**

Last week we talked about three questions that can help you understand what you read in the Bible. Did any of you ask those questions in your Quiet Time last week? *(Allow response.)* Today we're going to read a verse in the Bible and ask the three questions about it. The part of the Bible we're going to read is Philippians 1:6. *(Read out loud.) "And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ"* On the count of three, shout out the first question. 1, 2, 3!

The first question is "What does it say?" What is the verse we just read talking about? *(Allow response, helping if needed. The answers could include, I can be sure this verse is true. The one who started working in me is God. He will keep working in me until Jesus comes back.)* What is the second question? *(Allow response.)*

"What does it mean?" What do you think this verse means? *(Allow response, helping if needed. Answers could include, I can be sure that if I have believed on Jesus, He will keep helping me grow to be more like Jesus.)* Who remembers the third question? *(Allow response.)*

"What is God saying to me?" What do you think God is saying to you from this verse? *(Allow response, helping if needed. Answers could include, Don't worry! I love you and I will help you!)* As you read your Bible this week, you can use these questions to help you understand God's Word and do what it says. *(Close in prayer, praising God that He is in control and that He will finish the work He started in each one who has believed on Jesus.)*

## ***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 God is their helper and will help them change to be more like Jesus.