

***Jesus is the Only One Who Can Save You!***

**Memory Verse:** 2 Corinthians 5:21 “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

**Main Teaching:** Jesus is the only one who can save you      **Word Up:** Jesus died for me!

**Supplies:**

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for “For Our Sake”, “One Way” and “Jump” - Worship (Sing About the King 3 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “One Way” and “Jump” (cefpress.com)
- Cross cut out of paper – Word Up
- Dominoes or blocks– Small Group
- Cardboard with dots – Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Wadded up paper, painters tape or rope, music - Activity
- The Burnhams visual 5– Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Memory Verse Token 2 Corinthians 5:21 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

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

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



**SMALL GROUP**

**Sin Dominoes**

Materials: dominoes or blocks

Let the kids work together to line the dominoes up in a line. Allow one kid to push over the first domino in the line and watch them all fall. Tell the kids the chain reaction that the first domino started reminds us a lot of sin. One seemingly “little” sin can most often create a chain of more sin, create a whole mess of falling pieces in our life. Sin is a big problem that separates us from the perfect and holy God. Jesus is the only one who can save us from this problem of sin, because He never sinned!

**WORSHIP**

To learn songs and motions, go to YouTube and type in CEF and the name of the song in the search bar.

“One Way”

“Jump”

**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.

**WORD UP!**

“Jesus Died for Me”

Hold up a cross cut out of a piece of paper. What is this? (A cross.) Does it remind you of something good that happened or something bad that happened? (Let a few kids answer.) That is kind of a trick question. When someone dies on a cross, that is usually a bad thing. The person probably did something really bad and had to face a painful death being nailed to a cross. But when people who believe in Jesus look at a cross, it reminds us of something good that happened. Jesus died on the cross to save us – to take the punishment for our sin! Jesus wants everyone to believe in him! Word Up “**Jesus died for me!**”

**OBJECT LESSON****One Way to Heaven**

Demonstration at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7VSmZCsfmQ>

Materials: Cardboard with dots drawn on like a domino piece

(Show 6 dots) There's not six ways to heaven, (flip board to show 3 dots), there's not 3 ways to heaven, (flip board to show 4 dots), there's not 4 ways to heaven, (flip board to show 1 dot), but there's only 1 way to heaven. (Flip board back to six dots.) Some people believe that there are many ways to get to heaven. If you go to church every Sunday you will go to heaven, or if you are really, really good and always obey your mom you will go to heaven, or if you give all your money away you will go to heaven. (Flip the board to three dots.) Some people think that if you get baptized, work really hard, and be kind to others, you will get to heaven. (Flip to four dots.) Some people say you have to read your Bible every day to get to heaven. (Flip to one dot.) But the Bible tells us that there is only one way to heaven. Does anyone know what that way is? God's true book the Bible says to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." When you admit that you have sinned, which is anything you do, think, see, or say that makes God sad and breaks his laws, and believe that Jesus died on the cross and came alive again, you will be saved! Jesus came to the earth as a baby and lived a perfect, sinless life. When he was an adult, some mean men nailed him to a cross and killed him. But he didn't stay dead, he came alive again! And because of

what Jesus has done for you, your sins can be forgiven, and your heart can be made clean. When you believe that Jesus is the only one who can save you from your problem of sin, and you choose to follow him, you can live forever and ever in heaven with him one day!



## MEMORY VERSE

2 Corinthians 5:21 *“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

### INTRODUCTION

I'm going to describe some actions. If you think these actions are the right thing to do, put your thumbs up. If you think they are the wrong things to do, but your thumbs down.

Giving your sister a hug when she is crying (thumbs up)

Making fun of someone and calling them a baby when they are crying (thumbs down)

Telling someone they have a beautiful singing voice (thumbs up)

Laughing at someone whose voice cracked when they were singing (thumbs down)

When we do the wrong thing, God calls that sin. Our verse today talks about someone that never sinned. Let's see what it says.

### PRESENTATION

*(Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 from Bible.)* This verse is found in the New Testament part of the Bible. There are 66 different books in the Bible, and they all agree with each other even though they were written at different times throughout 1,600 years. A preacher named Paul was guided by God to write this verse to those who have believed in Jesus. Let's say it together. *(Say verse with children from visual.)*

### EXPLANATION

***For our sake he made him to be sin***—The “he” is talking about God the Father. The “him” is talking about Jesus, God the Son. God placed the sins of the whole world on Jesus when He died on the cross. Jesus took your sin and paid the punishment you deserve. Say with me, “**Jesus died for me!**” *(say with children.)*

***who knew no sin***—Did Jesus ever sin? *(Allow response.)* No! He was perfect. Another word for this is righteous—good and right in everything. Jesus is perfectly righteous because He is God. Because Jesus never sinned, He could be the perfect substitute for you and me, taking our place and our punishment.

***so that in him we might become the righteousness of God***—Jesus died and came back to life so you and I could have a right relationship with God. Being made right with God means that God no longer sees those who believe in Jesus as separated from Him by sin, but He sees the righteousness of Jesus instead. When you are no longer separated from God, you are able to have friendship with Him. God's special love and friendship are another part of being made right with Him.

Jesus who never sinned took your sin onto Himself so you can be right with God.

**APPLICATION**

**Saved:** If you have believed in Jesus as your Savior, you are made right with God and given the righteousness of Jesus. (*Pour some of now clear liquid from Jar 2 back into Jar 1.*) God no longer sees you in the sinful condition you were in before you believed in Jesus. He now sees the righteousness of Jesus. **You can come to God anytime.** He is always there for you.

**Unsaved:** If you have not believed in Jesus, you are still separated from God because of your sin. There is nothing you can do to save yourself. **Jesus is the only one who can save you** because He is your perfect substitute. Today you can call on Jesus to save you from sin's punishment so you can be made right with God. He loves you and wants to forgive you. If you haven't believed in Jesus, you can do that right now.

**INVITATION**

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 says in Acts 16:31 *"Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved."* When you believe in Jesus, trusting that He died on the cross for your sins, you will be saved – rescued from sin's punishment. 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****The Switcheroo**

(Divide the children into two teams and have each team sit in a circle. Give one child on each team an object. Then have all the children recite the memory verse while passing the object around their circle every time a word is said. After the last reference is said, the two children holding the objects get up and switch places. Repeat as time allows.)

**Sing Memory Verse Song "For Our Sake"****ACTIVITY****Throw Sin Away**

Materials: Wadded up pieces of paper, masking tape or rope, and music

Before the activity: Wad up the pieces of paper and put the tape or rope on the ground to divide the room or space in half.

Presentation: Today we learned that our problem of sin separates us from the holy, or perfect, God. Jesus is the ONLY one who can take away our problem of sin so that we can become a part of his forever family and live forever with him in heaven one day! Sin is anything we do, see, say, or think that makes God sad and breaks his law. We want to run from sin and follow the path that Jesus has for us. In today's game, these wads of paper are going to represent sin. I'm going to divide you into two teams, and while the music plays, your team will try to throw

all the sin onto the other side of the room. When the music stops, everyone must FREEZE. We will count up how much paper is on each side, and whoever has LESS pieces of sin paper on their side wins!

## MISSIONS STORY

### The Burnhams Part 5



Martin and Gracia Burnham were missionaries in the Philippine Islands, and they had been kidnapped by terrorists! This must have been a terrifying situation but the Burnhams remembered that God was with them. The Burnhams knew God was in control and they decided to trust Him. They didn't regret their decision to be missionaries because they knew following Jesus is better than anything else—better than being comfortable, better than safety, better than life itself. God could use them no matter where they were or what was happening.

God used Gracia's gift of music to encourage Gracia and the other captives. God helped Martin talk with the terrorists and tell them about Jesus.

During this time, the Burnhams had little food and faced many troubles but they continued to follow Jesus. Martin and Gracia often prayed together. Sometimes Gracia felt angry about what was happening but God helped her control her temper. Martin and Gracia asked God to help them love their enemies. They prayed that their captors would trust Jesus as their Savior.

They told God what they needed and depended on Him for everything.

A whole year went by. The Philippine army kept looking for them. Every time the army found the terrorist camp, shooting started and everyone was in danger! One day Martin and Gracia were resting in a hammock when gunfire erupted from over the top of a hill. Gracia immediately dropped to the ground. She felt a sting in her leg and knew a bullet had hit her. She saw Martin on the ground and crawled over to him. He had been hit too.

Shots continued to ring out, but Martin didn't hear them. The Philippine soldiers who were trying to rescue the Burnhams had accidentally shot Martin, and he died.

Everyone dies at some point—even people like Martin who believe in Jesus. But Martin's story doesn't end with death. When Jesus died, He took the punishment for Martin's sins, for your sins, and my sins. If you believe in Jesus as your Savior, you can have a friendship with God now and someday be in Heaven with Him. Martin knew this and because he believed in Jesus, he didn't have to fear death. When he died, he went to be with Jesus in Heaven. He knew that following Jesus was worth everything—even His life.

Gracia was injured but the soldiers rescued her and took her to the hospital, where she got better. She was very sad that Martin had died but she continued to trust God, knowing that God was in

control of everything that happened—even Martin’s death. Gracia was comforted to know that Martin was in Heaven with Jesus.

After Gracia got better, she flew back to the United States to join her children and the rest of her family. There are still times when Gracia feels sad and misses Martin, but she continues to trust

God even when it’s hard. Gracia is still using the skills God gave her to serve Him. She writes books and talks to groups of people about what happened in the Philippines. She tells them that God wants us to love our enemies—even when they hurt us, that God’s Word is true—even when it doesn’t feel like it, and that God has given us gifts so we can serve Him. Even today God is using Gracia to serve Him and help others.



**SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME**

**“The Presence of God”**

In our lesson last week, we talked about the temple curtain being torn in two when Jesus died. This showed that ordinary people can now come near to God. They can have a close friendship with Him.

Because Jesus is God the Son who died and came alive again, you can come near to God anywhere and anytime. The Bible says, (*read Hebrews 4:16*). “Throne of grace” is a way of saying coming near to God. If you believe in Jesus, you don’t have to be afraid to come to God and talk with Him. You can come before God boldly—with confidence—because your sins are forgiven.

When you come to God, you receive mercy and grace.

Mercy is showing kindness by not getting what you deserve. One way God shows His kindness to you is when He gives you forgiveness rather than the punishment you deserve.

Grace is undeserved loving care. One way God gives you grace is by saving you from sin. That’s not all! In His grace, God does something in you that you can’t do on your own. When He gives you His special help and care even during the most difficult problems, that is grace too. When you come near to God—when you know God and talk with Him as a close friend—God gives you mercy and grace to help you know Him and love Him more. Because of Jesus, you can come to God to talk with Him about anything and you can have confidence that He will listen to you. Remember **you can come to God anytime**.

When you talk to God this week, thank Him for His mercy and grace. Will you talk to God every day this week? Let’s talk to God right now. (*Pray with children.*)

**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 to thank God for showing us mercy and grace.