

## God Can Save Anyone Who Trusts in Jesus!

**Memory Verse:** Romans 5:8 “But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

**Main Teaching:** God can save anyone who trusts in Jesus!

**Word Up:** God can save anyone!

### Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for “He is God” and “Jesus is the Good News” - Worship (Sing About the King 3 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “Jesus is the Good News” (cefpres.com)
- Sponge Cross and Cubes Pack or paper printouts– Object Lesson (laflinmagicstore.com)
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Different Direction Cards – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Colored Paper (Gold/Yellow, Black, Red, White), tape, and a paper sack with strips of paper in it that match the four colors - Activity
- Missionary Visual – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Color Scratch Crosses – Small Group (Oriental Trading)
- Prayer Notebook– Small Group
- Memory Verse Token Romans 5:8 for each child – Dismissal

### 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

## INTRODUCTION

*Without Christ we would be nothing. Without His sacrifice on the cross we would still be wallowing in the filth of our sin. But Jesus came and pulled us out to a place of purity. While we were still in sin, He died for us without any guarantee that we would accept His gift.*

*An amazing example of a man who received this gift of salvation is the Apostle Paul. This lesson will encourage the children that anyone can be saved. At the beginning of his life Paul was killing people who believed in Jesus. By the end of his life Paul was dying for this same Jesus. What a drastic change!*

*The lesson also emphasizes the importance of obedience to God. Ananias's obedience changed the course of history. Encourage the children you teach that God can use anyone for His purposes. He can change anyone to be part of His family and to do His work.*

*The following concepts should be clearly conveyed during the club hour:*

- **Jesus:** Jesus is God.
- **Man:** Consecration/Commitment/Challenge to do what God asks—By God's grace I can live my life to please the Lord. I give the Lord Jesus my whole life—all I am and hope to be—to use for His glory.
- **Prayer:** Prayer is talking to God. I can talk to God.
- **Bible:** Inspiration.



## **SMALL GROUP**

### ***Favorite Candy Question***

*Have each child say what their favorite kind of candy is and why.*

## **WORSHIP**

**“Jesus is the Good News”**

**“He is God”**



## **WORD UP!**

**“God can save anyone!”**

I have the best news ever! God has all power to save anyone from sin! Even people that others might think are impossible to change, God can save them from their sins! Say with me, **“God can save anyone!”** (Say with children.)

## **CLUB RULES**

Review the Up Rules reminding the kids that following the rules helps everyone be able to feel safe and learn.

## **OBJECT LESSON**

### **Salvation in Jesus Alone**

Materials Needed: Sponge Cross and Cubes Pack from [laflinmagicstore.com](https://laflinmagicstore.com) (You could also use paper instead to make this object lesson. Print out pictures of “things that make us happy” and cut out a cross. Crumple up all the papers so that they fit in your fists, putting the pictures in one fist and the cross in the other. As you share the object lesson, unfold each paper.)

Order this illusion and see the demonstration at: [https://laflinmagicstore.com/products/sponge-cross-and-cubes?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=9da94777c&\\_ss=r](https://laflinmagicstore.com/products/sponge-cross-and-cubes?_pos=1&_sid=9da94777c&_ss=r)

What You Do: Before presenting the object lesson, stuff the foam cross into one hand and the cubes into the other hand, making two fists. Make sure you remember which hand has the cross. It is important, when transferring the foam cross to the child’s hand, to make sure to have them close their fist right away so that the cross looks like it might also be cubes just like the other hand has.

What You Say: (Call up a volunteer to help you with the illustration.) "My volunteer here is going to help me today with an important lesson. [Child's Name], What I need you to do today is touch one of my hands." (Remembering which hand the cross is in, say one of the following statements based on which hand the child chose.)

If they choose the hand **with** the cross in it, say, "Open your hand, and I am going to put the thing from my fist into your hand." (Remind them to hold it tightly so that they cannot see the foam cross unfold.)

If they choose the hand **without** the cross in it, say, "We are going to use these to learn a very important lesson. So hold tightly to these for me. (Hand them the contents from your other hand to hold tightly in their fist.) "Hold tight and don't let it get away. Because I am going to tell you today what you need to be truly happy in life." (Grab one cube from your hand and stack onto a table or your opposite hand.) "First you need lots of money, right? Because then you can live in a great big house, (add another cube) and drive a fancy car (add another cube), and have all the fancy games and toys you ever wanted, right? Is that what you need to be happy? (allow kids to respond) Not really. You see, the truth is, if that's what you choose to build your life's foundation on, then when the storms of life come, (Let the child blow over the stack of foam cubes.) that foundation will collapse." "But there's one foundation that will last forever. Open your hand up so we can see what's in there. (Let child open their hand to reveal the foam cross.) The one foundation that we can always count on is the cross and the message of Jesus Christ. We are going to learn today that Christ died for you and for me on this cross. He didn't die for us because we are perfect or do everything right. He died for sinners! Jesus died for YOU and he wants you to receive His free gift of salvation. We are going to learn more about what that means today."



## MEMORY VERSE

*"But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)*

### INTRODUCTION

Imagine being grounded for lying to your parents and your brother says he'll take your punishment! Wouldn't that be amazing? Our verse today tells us that God did something even more amazing for us!

### PRESENTATION

(Read verse from visual with children.) Our verse today is found in the New Testament, in the book of Romans, chapter 5, verse 8. Let's say the reference together. (Say with children.) Why is it important to make sure that this verse is actually from the Bible? (Allow response.) God's Word has very important information. It tells us what God wants us to know about Him. God put what He needed you to know in the Bible. We call that "inspired"—God working through men to write down His words. Those words were put into books. Only the books that were actually from God were put in the Bible. Because God is always true, we can know the Bible is true. How fast do you think you could find today's memory verse in my Bible? (Call on a volunteer to come up and find the verse while you time him. When he finds it, tell how long it took then have him read the verse while the rest of the children follow along on the visual.)

### EXPLANATION

*But God shows his love for us*—This verse is talking about the all-powerful, Creator God and how He showed His love for you and me.

*in that while we were still sinners*—You and I were born wanting to and knowing how to sin—doing things that go against God. We deserve to be separated from Him forever in a place of punishment. This is the payment for your sin.

*Christ died for us*—God showed His love for you and me by sending Christ Jesus—His perfect Son—to die on a cross to pay for your sin. That's even more amazing than your brother taking your punishment. God loves you so much He took the punishment for sin with His life. You could never get rid of the punishment by yourself. After Jesus died, He did not stay dead. After He was buried He came back to life on the third day! God loves you so much, He sent His Son to die for you!

#### **APPLICATION**

**Saved:** *If you have already trusted in Jesus, you can thank God that He loved you while you were a sinner and He loves others with that same kind of love. One way you can show your love for God is by following His direction in your life. He will show you what He wants you to do through His Word the Bible. **Are you willing to follow God's directions?***

**Unsaved:** If you have not trusted Jesus as your Savior, you can do that today. God saves anyone who trusts in Jesus!

#### **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? *Our verse today says* "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." 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**

##### **"Different Directions!"**

(Write simple directions on both sides of small cards—e.g., stand on one foot, stand on your tiptoes, clap your hands, spin in circles, jump in place, stomp your feet, freeze in place, etc. Divide the children into two teams and have a volunteer choose a card, hold it up and drop it to the floor. His team must follow the instructions that are facing up, while the other team follows the instructions that are facing down as everyone repeats the verse together.

Variations: Have the boys follow the instructions that are facing up while the girls follow the instructions that are facing down. Or have the children follow one set of instructions while the teachers follow the others.)

**Sing Memory Verse Song** "God Shows His Love"

## ACTIVITY

### Wordless Book Four Corners

**Materials Needed:** Colored Paper (Gold/Yellow, Black, Red, White), tape, and a paper sack with strips of paper in it that match the four colors.

**What You Do:** Before the activity, tape the full sheets of colored paper onto the four corners of the room or space you are in. (If you aren't in a room with four walls, tape the paper onto the floor.) Fold the strips of colored paper and put them inside of a paper bag (or another bag that you cannot see through).

To play, choose one leader or kid to stand in the middle. That person will close their eyes and begin to count to 10. As they count, the other kids in the room will all choose a color/corner to stand next to. When the person in the middle gets to 10, everyone must freeze and stay in the corner they have chosen. The person in the middle will then draw a colored paper from their bag. The kids who are standing in the corner that corresponds to the color chosen are OUT and must sit down. After they sit down, read one of the statements below that corresponds to their color. For example, "The gold group is out. Gold reminds us of the streets in heaven that are made out of gold. Gold is where God lives!"

Continue playing the game with the children who are still standing. The person in the middle will again close their eyes and count to 10 and everyone will choose a new corner. Continue playing until one child is standing. (To make the game more fun as you go, give one child from the group that is called out the chance to get back in the game by stating something that their color represents from the facts below!)

#### Color Facts:

**Gold:** God lives in heaven.

God is the Creator - He made everything!

God is holy (perfect).

**Black (Dark):** Everyone has sinned.

Sin separates us from God.

We cannot get rid of our sin on our own.

**Red:** Jesus died for you and me!

Jesus came alive again after 3 days

Jesus' blood paid the punishment for your sins so that you no longer have to be separated from Him.

Because of what Jesus has done for you on the cross, your sins can be forgiven.

**White:** Jesus can make your heart clean.

If you admit you have sinned, believe that Jesus died and came alive again, and choose to follow Him, you can be forgiven.

When you choose to follow Jesus, He sends the Holy Spirit to live inside of you.

## MISSIONS STORY

### John and Lois Marry and head for California (Part 4)



Do you remember the question John asked Lois? (*Allow response.*)

John asked. "Lois, will you marry me?"

She answered right away. "Yes!" And she was willing to go with him to South Korea as a missionary! John and Lois heard about a school that trains Christians (people who believe in Jesus) to tell children about Jesus in ways that are easy to understand. It was a *Child Evangelism Fellowship® (CEF®)* training school. CEF had missionaries in America and in countries all around the world—including South Korea! They applied to the school. But there were a few problems. John and Lois weren't even married yet. They were poor college students with no money. And the CEF school was over 3,000 miles away in California! Could God solve these problems? (*Allow response.*)

He could and He did! The president of the college John studied at gave John the money to buy the wedding rings and get married. God took care of that! Next, John found out a friend had brought a brand new car and needed someone to drive it to California. Where did John and Lois need to go? (*Allow response.*) California! God took care of that too! On June 4, 1956, the same day John graduated from Bible College, he and Lois were married. That evening they loaded all their belongings into the car and headed to California! God had shown them that He would take care of their needs!

At the CEF training school, John and Lois learned how to tell boys and girls that they needed to believe in Jesus as their Savior. John and Lois soon became CEF missionaries. They began telling the Good News of Jesus to the children in the state of Washington. While they served God there, He blessed them with their first baby, a son they named Kerry. Meanwhile, they were meeting with friends and churches all over the United States, who promised to pray and give money so John and Lois could go tell the children in South Korea that God loves them too.

**It had been three years since John and Lois decided to follow God's plan for them to serve Him in South Korea. Would they ever get to go or would they get discouraged and give up? Come back next time to find out.**



## SMALL GROUP

### Wonder Time: Scratch Crosses

Materials Needed: Crosses, ribbons, and wooden writing tools ordered from Oriental Trading Company. If you don't have the scratch crosses, you could have the kids draw and decorate a cross as you do the discussion questions.

What You Do: Give each child a cross, a ribbon, and a writing tool. Show them how to scratch the cross with the wooden tool to reveal the colors. Let them decorate their cross however they would like. At the end, help them tie on the ribbon to create an ornament.

While they are working on their cross, you can ask the following questions:

- What did Jesus do for you on the cross? (*He died*)
- Did Jesus deserve to die? (*No - He never did anything wrong. He was perfect.*)
- Did Jesus stay dead? (*No - After 3 days, He came alive again!*)
- Why did Jesus have to die on the cross? (*To take the punishment for our sins*)
- What do you have to do to accept Jesus' free gift of salvation? (*Admit I've sinned, believe Jesus died and came alive again, and choose to follow Him*)

### Additional Optional activity if you don't have scratch crosses:

#### "God's Power"

Let's talk about the things that God has the power to do. God is almighty—He can do anything! (*Let children share things God has power to do.*) One of the most amazing things God has power to do is to save people from sin. God can save people that others may think cannot be saved because they are so sinful.

Another thing God has the power to do is answer prayer. We've been using our prayer notebooks to remember to pray for each other. Does anyone have anything they want to add to our prayer notebook? Let's pray for each other 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 that Jesus loves and wants save everyone – even if they have done really bad things.