

Great truths in the book of Romans

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PLEASE NOTE!

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Introduction

Boys and girls need teaching from the narrative parts of the Scriptures. But as well, children need to be taught the wonderful truths given to us by God in the New Testament epistles. These lessons are an attempt to explain in simple terms a few of the great doctrines that the apostle Paul sets forth in the book of Romans.

These lessons can be used in Good News Clubs®, Sunday school classes, Holiday Bible Clubs, Bible camps, and Junior Youth Challenge meetings, particularly with older children. They could be taught in six weeks, although some of the lessons could be divided into two parts, if there is too much material for one session. A short sketch has been included at the end of the manual on the theme of justification. This could be presented to the parents possibly at the end of the series - for the programme of lesson 7.

Other related activities are suggested at the end of each lesson. These will be particularly useful if you are using these lessons in Holiday Bible Clubs, Bible camps, Junior Youth Challenge meetings and possibly Sunday school classes, when you have sufficient time to let the children participate more fully. A general principle of teaching is that pupils learn more by doing, than simply by hearing and seeing.

I have not attempted to teach the whole book of Romans; this would be impossible in six brief lessons. A selection has been made of some of the important themes that Paul deals with in the epistle, following the development of his teaching.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| ◆ Condemnation | Chapters 1 - 3 |
| ◆ Justification | Chapters 4 - 5 |
| ◆ Sanctification through the ministry of the Holy Spirit | Chapters 7 - 8 |
| ◆ Election | Chapters 9 - 11 |
| ◆ The body of Christ (the church) | Chapter 12 |
| ◆ Christian service | Chapters 13 - 15 |

A list of key verses that are quoted is given at the end of each lesson. You could photocopy the small list (see pages 72-73) and give the verses for that lesson to each child at the end of the club, so that they can follow the Scripture teaching.

The first two lessons are more evangelistic and the last four are more for teaching Christian children. However, even a lesson like the last one on Christian service can be taught with profit to unsaved children, helping them to realise that they cannot serve Christ until they trust Him as their Saviour. When they come to Christ, there is not only a change in their standing in the sight of God, but also a change in their conduct towards others. It is good for them to know what happens when they trust Christ.

Always be attentive to the spiritual needs of unsaved children in the class. They should always know that you, the teacher, are available to help and counsel them if they are seeking the Lord.

In the last lessons of this series, when the main teaching is for Christians, you can include a brief presentation of the Gospel in some other part of the programme of the hour. For example you can give a short object lesson like the *Gospel flipper-flapper* or the *wordless book*, or sing some evangelistic choruses with the children. After a chorus like "Good News, Good News, Christ died for me" you might like to say something like this:

“In this class there are some boys and girls who have not yet believed in Christ as their Saviour as this chorus teaches. They have not trusted in Him to take away their sin and give them eternal life. Maybe you have not yet asked Christ to save you. Are you concerned about your sin and would you like to be saved? Maybe you are not sure how to take that step. Well, I am always here ready to help you in any way I can. Today after the class, when the others go out, you could stay right there in your seat; I would be very happy to tell you personally how to put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as your own Saviour, today.”

My prayer is that these lessons will help you to present to the children “the Gospel of God ... concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord”, so that children may be brought to salvation and may be established in their faith (Romans 1:1,3,11 and 16).

Paul Reid

Teaching Bible truths

As you teach these lessons make sure that you do not get so engrossed in the narrative that you do not teach Bible truths. We fall short of our responsibility as teachers if we only tell children Bible stories. It is essential that children learn the truths those stories were written down to teach us, and that we then take them a step further to show what that truth means to them in their daily lives. Of course, we cannot in one lesson cover all the teaching any particular story would provide, so in each of these lessons one central truth has been chosen. The teaching of the central truth has been woven throughout the narrative, but to help you in your preparation the teaching sections have been marked “CT”. These are also marked out in the lesson plan.

You will notice that the central truths are marked with a “U” or an “S” to show the kind of children the truth is applied to - unsaved or saved. This is also made clear in the text by using phrases such as, “If you have not trusted the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin ...” or, “Christian, you ...”.

The application of the truth has been highlighted with a line beside the text. You may feel it necessary to adapt the applications to better suit the children you teach. For example, the application may use a boy’s name, yet you have only girls present. It could be that the application given is more applicable to older children, while yours are very young. Make the changes you feel are necessary. The important thing is that the Word of God is applied to their lives.

Gospel presentation and carry-over activity

We have suggested a Gospel presentation for some of the lessons where the main focus of teaching is Christian growth. This is a way to present the message of salvation for the unsaved child.

For some lessons a carry-over activity has been suggested. This can encourage saved children to act on the application for their lives.

Make yourself available for counselling

When you present the Gospel message, there will be children who will respond to it independently. They may or may not tell you later that they have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. There will, however, be others who would like some help. They may have questions to ask; they may need help or encouragement in knowing what to say.

As you teach the saved children, there may be times when they would like advice in a difficult situation; they may need clarification on how a particular lesson applies to their daily lives; they may find themselves in a situation where they do not know what the Bible says they should do; they may want to share a difficulty so that you can pray for them, especially if you are the only Christian support they have.

For these reasons it is important that the children know you are available to talk. It is also important that they know when and where to go when they want to talk to you. Finally, it is essential that unsaved children do not confuse coming to the Lord Jesus with coming to you. Clearly distinguish between God's invitation to come to Him through Christ and making yourself available for a personal conversation with the child. This will avoid giving the impression to the child that they cannot come to Christ without coming through you, or that they are saved simply by waiting to speak to you.

An example for use with the unsaved child

“Do you really want the Lord Jesus to save you from your sin and live for Him, but don't know how to come to Him? I will be glad to explain it from the Bible; come and see me. I'll be standing by that tree when the meeting is over. Remember, I can't take away your sin - only the Lord Jesus can do that - but I will be glad to help you understand better how you can come to Him. Just come and sit with me under that tree while the other children are having the games time with my helper.”

An example for use with the saved child

“If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and you have never told me about it, or if you have a problem, please let me know. I'll be standing beside the piano after the meeting is finished. I would like to know if you too have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, so that I can pray for you and perhaps help you.”

Memory verses

A Scripture verse to teach the children is suggested for each lesson. If you are teaching the lessons as a series over six weeks it would be advisable to choose two or three verses to teach well, which the children will then remember. If you try to teach all six, the children may not really know any of them well.

Practise using the visuals

Flashcards and PowerPoint® slides

It is wise to practise using the visuals before teaching the lesson to children. Become thoroughly familiar with the flashcards or PowerPoint slides and know when you need to use them in the lesson.

PowerPoint® visuals

If you are using the PowerPoint version of this lesson, you can choose from two options on the CD.

- 1 The first version contains the flashcard images and lesson cover slides only.
- 2 The second contains the extra features of the central truth, applications and memory verse.

At the bottom right side of each slide you will see a small image (such as a Bible, a cross or a crown) which contains a hyperlink. If you click on this image, it will take you to the central truth for that lesson, thus allowing you to use the central truth at any stage in your teaching. Clicking on the arrow on the central truth slide will take you back to the slide you were previously showing.

Some slides also have the letters “CTS” at the bottom left corner. Clicking on the “CTS” will allow you to show the application of the central truth for the saved child. Clicking on the arrow will return you to the previous slide.

Extra visual aids

On a piece of card print out the words of the central truth for each lesson. If you are using a flannelboard, back the card with flannel or pieces of flocked paper. (Use lower case letters, so that even the younger ones can read the words easily.) Put this card on the board at the beginning of the class or when you first teach the central truth in the lesson.

Additional helps

In the margins additional helps are provided, giving background information and optional ideas on how to add interest to your lesson.

These ideas are designed to incorporate different learning styles. For effective learning some children need to see or write, others need to hear or speak, others need to touch or handle, and still others need active participation. All children, however, benefit from using different senses!

You can use these ideas in your club as time allows.

Review questions

For lessons 1-5 some review questions are given. These can be used after the lesson or the following week, before teaching the new lesson.

Review time, if conducted in an orderly way, can be an ideal opportunity to reinforce what you have taught, while still being fun for the children. You can use this time ...

- 1 to find out how much the children are understanding and remembering.
- 2 to help you as a teacher to know what you need to emphasise more so that the children will remember better.
- 3 to provide a time of fun in the class. The children like competition and look forward to this part of the programme. But it is more than just a game: it is a time of learning.

In this textbook only questions on the lesson are included. It would be profitable to include questions also on the songs, verse and whatever else you teach. In this way the children realise that every part of the programme is important.

Overview

Lesson	Central truth	Application	Memory verse
“Guilty,” says the judge Romans 1 - 3	Before God, the all-knowing, righteous Judge, we are all guilty sinners	Unsaved: Turn from your sin and accept the pardon God offers you Saved: Take the Gospel to those who are under condemnation	“... God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel” Romans 2:16 For younger children, just teach “... God will judge the secrets of men ...” Romans 2:16
The judge declares you right with the law Romans 3:21 - 5:9	Because the Lord Jesus gave His blood for sinners, God declares righteous all who trust in Him	Unsaved: Do not put your faith in your good works, but count on Christ alone to save you Saved: Thank God that as He looks at you, He sees you pure and clean, because the Lord Jesus died for you	“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” Romans 5:1
The very best friend Romans 6 - 8	The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian to strengthen and help him	Unsaved: Listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying and come to Christ Saved: Trust Him to give you victory over sin and Satan and to take away your doubts and fears	Review Romans 5:1
God’s chosen people Romans 9 - 11	God’s chosen people now are all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, whether they be Jews or Gentiles	Unsaved: Ask the Lord Jesus Christ to save you Saved: Thank God for saving you and that you are one of His chosen people	“Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” Romans 10:13
The body of Christ Romans 12:1-13 Colossians 1:18-19 Ephesians 4:7-16 1 Corinthians 12:1-31	Each Christian, as a part of the body of Christ, has some gift(s) to serve God and others	Saved: Thank God for the gift(s) He has given you; give yourself completely to Him to be used to do His will; ask Him what He would have you do	“We, being many, are one body in Christ ...” Romans 12:5
How much we owe Romans 1:14-16 Romans 13 - 15	As Christians, we owe so much to God and others	Saved: Love and obey God in every situation; respect and obey authorities; be friendly and loving to others; be considerate and set a good example for weaker Christians; bring the Gospel to the unsaved	“Owe no one anything, except to love one another ...” Romans 13:8

Lesson 1

“Guilty,” says the judge

Scripture for teachers

Romans 1 - 3

This lesson summarises the teaching of Romans 1 - 3. It would be good for the teacher to read all three chapters, but particularly Romans 3:9-26 which gives the main conclusions.

Central truth

Before God, the all-knowing, righteous Judge, we are all guilty sinners

Application

Unsaved: Turn from your sin and accept the pardon God offers you

Saved: Take the Gospel to those who are under condemnation

Memory verse

“... God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel” Romans 2:16

For younger children, just teach “... God will judge the secrets of men ...” Romans 2:16

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7 and 1-8
- ◆ Wordstrips: “Before God, the all-knowing, righteous Judge we are all guilty sinners” (central truth) and “Take the Gospel to those who are under condemnation” (application for the saved child)
- ◆ If possible, have ready for the children a list of prayer requests from a missionary working among Jews

Carry-over activity

- ◆ Photocopies of the script for the sketch (pages 65-69)

Lesson outline

Introduction

Do you like reading?

Progression of events

Flashcard 1-1 “Romans” is a special book, because it was written under the inspiration of God

Flashcard 1-2 What happens in a court?

God is the righteous Judge of men

Flashcard 1-3 God declares that those who have not received His written Word are nonetheless guilty, because they do not recognise and worship Him as the Creator of the world **CTS**

Flashcard 1-4 The Jews too are guilty, because they have not obeyed God’s Word which they were given **CTS**

Flashcard 1-5 All are guilty before God **CTU**

Flashcard 1-6 Two brothers go different ways

Flashcard 1-7 The judge condemns his own brother, guilty of crime, but pays the fine himself **CTU**

Conclusion

Flashcard 1-8 God declares us guilty, but through Christ pays the penalty Himself **CTU**

Lesson

★ Introduction: Do you like reading?

I hope you like reading. Do you? Isn't it great when someone gives you a new book, maybe for your birthday, and as you flick through the pages, you can see that it is an exciting adventure story. You just can't wait to curl up on an armchair and start into the thick of an adventure!

Well, today in our class we are going to begin a wonderful book in the Bible. It is called "The Book of Romans".

Flashcard 1-1

I wonder could you tell me who wrote this book? Think hard, because there are really two answers.

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, the apostle Paul wrote it a few years after the Lord Jesus died, rose again and went back to Heaven - probably about the year 57 A.D. The full title of the book is "The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Romans". "Epistle" simply means "letter" and Paul wrote it to the Christians in Rome. Probably he wrote the book from Corinth, during his last visit there.

★ Progression of events: "Romans" is a special book, because it was written under the inspiration of God.

But how did he know what to write in the letter? The wonderful answer to that question is that God guided him by His Holy Spirit, so that everything Paul wrote was perfectly correct. There were no mistakes. And what he wrote on the parchment was exactly what God wanted to say to the people in Rome and to us too.

All the writers of the Bible books wrote this way, perfectly guided by God. We say that they were inspired by God (from 2 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:21). That is why we call the Bible "the Word of God". All other books were written by men. The Bible is the only book whose author is God Himself. So, in one way, Romans was written by Paul; but in a much more wonderful way, it was written by God Himself.

What does God say to us in this book? We are going to find that out today and in the other meetings still to come.

Flashcard 1-2

★ Progression of events: What happens in a court?

In the first three chapters of this letter to the Roman Christians, Paul, guided by the Holy Spirit, explains that there is a great court scene. I wonder have you ever seen a programme on television or read about someone being in court, accused of a crime? I'm sure you have. There stands the person who is accused of breaking into a house or perhaps attacking someone and stealing from them. Several people are brought into the court, to tell what they know or saw of the crime. These people are called witnesses. Maybe some of them actually saw the accused man committing the crime. There is also a lawyer who tries to prove that the



PowerPoint 1-1

Read (or have an older child read) one of the verses from your Bible.

PowerPoint 1-2



man did not commit the crime. There is the judge, or magistrate, who has to decide if the accused person is guilty of the crime, or whether he is innocent.

The judges are usually good men, who make wise decisions after all the evidence has been presented and the discussion has taken place. But occasionally they can make a mistake and let a guilty man go free or even condemn an innocent man thinking that he did some terrible crime. Judges are human and don't always understand exactly what happened. In some countries even, the judges are cruel and dishonest and deliberately punish innocent people, because they are secretly bribed to do so.

Paul explains in the book of Romans that there is a court far more important than any you might see on TV or read about in the newspapers. Do you know who the Judge is?

★ **Progression of events: God is the righteous Judge of men.**

It is God. And who is the person who is standing in front of Him, to hear the verdict He decides? Every one of us - all the people of the world - stand before God.

However, God is not like a human judge, who does not always know all the facts. God knows absolutely everything that you and I have done. There is nothing that you can hide from Him. Sometimes you can hide your wrongdoing from your teacher or from your parents, but God can see into the very bottom of your heart.

The Bible says, "God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel" (Romans 2:16). This means that God will examine the actions of each person who has ever lived. Even your secret actions will be tested. Jesus Christ will have the authority to condemn all who are guilty. God is perfectly just and cannot make a mistake. So, as we stand before Him to hear His decision about us, you and I can know that it is true and correct every time.

Flashcard 1-3

Let's think of some people far away in some distant land, for example in the jungles of South America. They have never heard the Bible. Maybe they have never even heard of the one true God. They have never been to a church. We could ask ourselves:

- ◆ "Are they good people?"
- ◆ "Do they please God?"
- ◆ "Are they fit to go to Heaven?"
- ◆ "Are they sinners or are they innocent?"

If we asked the opinion of many people around us, they would say, "Of course they are innocent. They live as well as they can. God certainly could not expect them to live any better than they do."

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 1-3



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with central truth: "Before God, the all-knowing, righteous Judge we are all guilty sinners".

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

Show card with application for the saved child: "Take the Gospel to those who are under condemnation".

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

PowerPoint 1-4



★ **Progression of events:** God declares that these who have not received His written Word are nonetheless guilty, because they do not recognise and worship Him as the Creator of the world.

Let's hear what God says, He who is the Judge who never makes a mistake. God says they are guilty.

"They are without excuse" (Romans 1:20b).

Is that possible? Yes, and Paul explains why they are guilty.

God is the Creator of everything - the stars, the sea, the sky, the mountains, the trees, the flowers. When we look at all the wonders of this great world, God is speaking to us. It is as if He is telling us, "Look, you cannot see Me, can you? But you can see all the wonderful things that I have made. As you look at them you can know that I am a great and powerful God. And even though I am invisible (you cannot see Me), you should glorify Me (recognise my great power). You should praise Me and thank Me for all that I have done." But man does not do that.

"Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened" (Romans 1:21).

This means that man became proud and turned even farther away from God. Instead of worshipping the great, true, invisible God, man made images of wood and stone-carved animals and birds and calling them his "gods". So the true and living God says they are guilty. They have no excuse for their ignorance and disobedience. They cannot go to Heaven as they are.

Some of you are Christian boys and girls and you really love the Lord. Do you feel sad when you think of those poor people all over the world who are sinning against God? Do you realise that they cannot possibly go to Heaven unless they hear the Gospel? Wouldn't it be wonderful if one day you could be a missionary to take God's Word to them! Are you willing to go anywhere for His sake? If you are, tell Him that you are. When God makes it clear to you and me that those people are guilty sinners, separated from Him, it is to encourage us to do all we can to bring them the Gospel.

CTS

Flashcard 1-4

Perhaps some of the people at Rome, who were reading the letter that had been sent to them through the apostle Paul, thought, "Yes, that is true; there are many people in the world who do not know the true God, but we Jewish people are different."

"Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God" (Romans 2:17).

Paul was writing about the Jews, who thought that their religion made them right with God.

They were saying, "We know God and we have the Old Testament Scriptures. We are innocent, and we are on our way to Heaven. God is very pleased with us."

★ **Progression of events: The Jews too are guilty, because they have not obeyed God's Word which they were given.**

What does God, the great, true and wise Judge, say about the Jews?

He says, "They too are guilty."

"Both Jews and Gentiles ... they are all under sin" (Romans 3:9).

Why does God declare that the Jews are guilty as well? Because they have the Word of God, but do not obey it.

"For not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified" (Romans 2:13).

There are missionaries working among the Jews, explaining to them that they can be saved if they believe in the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. You Christian boys and girls can help take the Gospel to the Jews as you pray for them and give for missionaries working among them. I have a little page here with prayer requests from a missionary working among the Jews. If you would like to pray for them, come to me after the class and I will tell you more about them and give you the page, so that you can pray at home for this wonderful work.

Flashcard 1-5

As God looks at this big world He is very sad because men and women, boys and girls have not obeyed Him; they have not done what is right. It does not matter what country you come from - Brazil, Mexico, China, Nigeria, France or Ireland. It does not matter whether we are rich or poor, big or small. Listen to what God says about each one of us.

★ **Progression of events: All are guilty before God.**

"There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10b).

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

That means that we are not pure and perfect as God wants us to be. God has told us in the Bible the right way to live - to love Him with all our hearts and to love others as ourselves. Yet so often we love other things like TV, sport, money, or even our friends more than we love God. We do not always love others as we should either. You can think of wrong things you have done - hatred for that other boy or girl which boils away inside you; rebellious words which you have said to your mother; "dirty" thoughts which you turn over in your mind. Yes, God sees them all. You know that what God says is true. He declares that you too are guilty and deserve to be punished.

But God does not want to punish you for your sin. It is true that He is holy and pure and hates sin, but He also loves you and wants to forgive you. He gave His Son, the Lord Jesus, to die for your sin and

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

If possible, give the children a list of prayer requests from a missionary working among Jews.

PowerPoint 1-5



Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

CTU

Make yourself available for personal counselling.

PowerPoint 1-6



today if you turn from your sin, and receive Christ as your Saviour, you can be forgiven by God.

If you have been concerned about your sin, and would like God to forgive you, but perhaps are not sure how you can be forgiven, you could stay behind after the class when the others have gone out. Just come and sit on one of these chairs at the front and then I will know you want me to help you. I will be here by the table and I would just love to show you how you can receive God's forgiveness today.

But how can God be holy and just, and yet forgive us? Let me explain it by using a story which is not in the Bible.

Flashcard 1-6

★ Progression of events: Two brothers go different ways.

Once there were two brothers called Kevin and Jack Matthews. They were very fond of each other and played a lot together. But they also fought quite a bit, as brothers do.

As the years went by and they grew up, they took very different directions in their lives. Jack worked hard at school, passed his exams and went to university and finally became a judge. He was a good, fair judge and he became famous all over the country. He also became quite wealthy and built a beautiful house where he lived with his wife and family.

Kevin, the other brother, was very lazy. He never bothered working at school and he began to fail his exams. When he left school he was too lazy and too badly-behaved to keep the jobs that he managed to get. One day he lost a job and to get money he began to steal. At first he stole small things, but gradually it became worse. One day he stole a large sum of money (500 euros) from the post office, but some people recognised him and later the police caught him. He was brought to court where he was accused of being a thief.

Flashcard 1-7

When Kevin was brought before the judge, he looked up and with a gasp of surprise realised that the judge was his brother Jack. The judge too recognised the man who was standing in front of him as his brother Kevin.

Some people in the courtroom realised too that they were brothers. They had the same surname, Matthews, of course.

Some people began whispering to others, "What will happen now?"

The witnesses explained what they had seen. The policeman presented the proofs they had found.

Jack, the judge, was thinking what he should do. "It is obvious that Kevin is guilty of this crime. What should I do? Will I let him go free because he is my brother? No, I could not do that. I am the judge and

PowerPoint 1-7



I must be fair and true. I must punish wrongdoers. Will I punish him as he deserves? But how could I do that to my own brother whom I am so fond of?"

The people in the courtroom were waiting to hear what the judge would say.

★ **Progression of events:** The judge condemns his own brother, guilty of crime, but pays the fine himself.

Finally at the end of the trial the judge said to Kevin, "I declare you guilty. I order you to pay a fine of 500 euros or go to jail for five months."

A murmur arose from the people listening because they thought it was a severe penalty. They knew that Kevin could not pay. But then the judge got up and walked to where his brother was. He pulled out his wallet and handed 500 euros over to the court. Now Kevin could go free because his own brother who loved him had paid the fine for him.

God did that, and much, much more for us. In the letter to the Romans Paul explains how God could be just and true in condemning our sins, and yet show us His love by forgiving us.

"To demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Romans 3:26).

God showed how right and fair He is by condemning sin: He paid for your sin, when He put the punishment on His Son, the Lord Jesus. Now when you put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, He will declare you right in His sight.

Flashcard 1-8

★ **Conclusion:** God declares us guilty, but through Christ pays the penalty Himself.

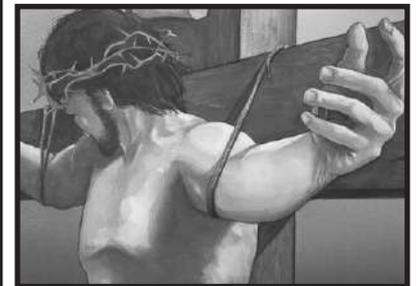
God first of all said about each one of us, "You are a rebellious sinner. You have done many wrong things. You have broken My laws which I gave in the Bible. You deserve to be punished - to die and to be put away out of My sight forever."

But then God took the punishment Himself. He gave His own beloved Son, the Lord Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, our wrongdoing. Just like the judge He paid a tremendous penalty, because He loved us so much. Now that the Lord Jesus has paid it all for us on the cross, God can forgive us. It's like what Jack was able to do, when he let Kevin go free, even though his brother was a thief and a wrongdoer.

If you have never turned from your sin to God, ask Him now to forgive you and to cleanse you from all your sin. "God will judge the secrets of men" (Romans 2:16). Trust in the Lord Jesus to be your Saviour, so that you can go free. Don't put off this important decision. Remember you are guilty before God and you need His forgiveness. Receive His pardon today!

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTU



PowerPoint 1-8

Verses for lesson 1

- Romans 1:20 “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”
- Romans 1:21 “Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”
- Romans 2:13 “For not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified.”
- Romans 2:16 “In the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.”
- Romans 2:17 “Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God.”
- Romans 3:9 “What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.”
- Romans 3:10 “As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one.’”
- Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”
- Romans 3:26 “To demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

Review game

Crossword puzzle

This can be used after the lesson this week or in your next session.

Copy the crossword puzzle (see page 70) on a chalkboard or large sheet of card (50 cm x 70 cm).

Ask the children to come up to write in the words with chalk or felt-tipped pen.

Another possibility is to make photocopies of the puzzle and let each pupil work on his own, or they could work in pairs.

Review questions

- 1 Who was the man who wrote the letter to the Romans? [8 across.] (Paul.)
- 2 What did God do so that Paul would write exactly the things that God wanted the Christians in Rome to read? [5 down.] (Inspired.)
- 3 Are people in foreign lands, who have never heard about the Bible or the one true God, innocent or guilty before God? [4 across.] (Guilty.)
- 4 The Jewish people too are guilty because though they had the Old Testament Scriptures, they did not ___ them [3 down]. (Obey.)
- 5 Complete this verse: “All have ___ and fall short of the glory of God” [10 across]. (Sinned.)
- 6 God is the Judge of all the world. He is all wise and completely ___ [7 down]. (Just.)

- 7 God is just, but He is also a God who is full of ____ for us [2 across]. (Love.)
- 8 You heard the story of the two brothers. One was called Jack. The other was called ____ [11 across]. (Kevin.)
- 9 Jack, the just judge, imposed a very heavy punishment on his brother Kevin. Then what did he do? He paid the ____ [9 down]. (Fine.)
- 10 God is the just Judge of all the world. What terrible punishment did He take for us? He gave His Son to ____ [1 down] on the ____ [6 across]. (Die; cross.)

Carry-over activity

The judge's verdict

At the end of this manual a sketch is provided which the children can present when the six lessons have been taught (see pages 65-69).

For week 1 make photocopies of the script for those in your group and you can begin to distribute the parts for scenes 1, 2 and 3.

You will need:

- ◆ Narrator
- ◆ Kevin
- ◆ Jack
- ◆ Mr Todd
- ◆ First policeman
- ◆ Second policeman
- ◆ Mrs Stewart
- ◆ Secretary of the court

Give the longer parts to those most able to handle the assignment. Choose shorter parts for the shy or younger pupils. (Keep in mind that there are two important parts coming up next time - for girls.)

Begin to read through the sketch with your group. Encourage the children to begin to learn their parts. Each week you can continue to read and rehearse. As you do so, you are teaching, of course, the great doctrine of justification to the children.

Lesson 2

The judge declares you right with the law

Scripture for teachers

Romans 3:21 - 5:9

Central truth

Because the Lord Jesus gave His blood for sinners, God declares righteous all who trust in Him

Application

Unsaved: Do not put your faith in your good works, but count on Christ alone to save you

Saved: Thank God that as He looks at you, He sees you pure and clean, because the Lord Jesus died for you

Memory verse

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”
Romans 5:1

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards: 1-7, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-7 and 2-8
- ♦ Wordstrips: “Because the Lord Jesus gave His blood for sinners, God declares righteous all who trust in Him” (central truth) and “Thank God that as He looks at you, He sees you pure and clean, because the Lord Jesus died for you” (application for the saved child)

Carry-over activity

- ♦ Photocopies of the script for the sketch (pages 65-69)

Note for the teacher

Paul also deals in Romans with the source of our justification, which is the grace of God. This aspect is not dealt with specifically in the lesson to avoid making it too intense for the children.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Review of the story of Jack and Kevin from lesson 1

Progression of events

Flashcard 2-1 We cannot justify ourselves by “the deeds of the law” **CTU**

Flashcard 2-2 The ground of our justification is the shed blood of Christ **CTS**

Flashcard 2-3 The effect of our justification is Christ’s righteousness counted to us **CTS**

Flashcard 2-4 The means of our justification is faith in Christ **CTU**

Flashcard 2-5 The Biblical example of how Abraham was justified when he believed God

Flashcard 2-6 Illustration: Tom floating on airbed, which springs a leak

Climax

Flashcard 2-7 Richard comes to rescue him - Tom struggles, but finally trusts the lifeguard and is saved **CTU**

Conclusion

Flashcard 2-8 Have you trusted God for salvation? **CTU**

Lesson

Flashcard 1-7

★ **Introduction:** Review of the story of Jack and Kevin from lesson 1.

Do you remember the story of the two brothers - Kevin and Jack? What had Kevin done? (Stolen money.)

Did the judge declare that Kevin was guilty or innocent? (Guilty.)

That's right! And before God, the great Judge, all of us are guilty, because you and I have broken His laws.

Let's imagine in our story when the judge sentenced him to pay 500 euros or to go to prison, that Kevin had said, "Please don't punish me. I am going to be a good man from now on."

Do you think that the judge would have said, "That's all right then; you can go free"? What do you think?

Allow the children to answer.

The answer is "no". The judge could not simply let him off. He had broken the law and it was the judge's job to see that he was punished for doing so.

Flashcard 2-1

★ **Progression of events:** We cannot justify ourselves by "the deeds of the law".

That's true for you and me too as we stand before God. God is the just Judge of all the world. It would not be right if God would simply say to sinful people, "Oh, it does not matter! Don't do it again!" In any case, none of us could say to God, "I am going to be good from now on. I won't break Your laws any more." Do you know why we could not say that to God? Because you and I have a sinful nature - we were born with something in our hearts which makes us want to do wrong, so we soon find ourselves sinning against God.

There are many people who think that by doing good things they can be saved from their sins and can go to Heaven. Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans that they try to get right in God's sight by "the deeds of the law" (Romans 3:20). They try to be good and kind. They give money to the church. They help their neighbours and they think, "These good deeds will make me right with God." Have you ever thought such things? All these things are excellent. God wants us to be good and kind, helpful and generous. But He tells us in His Word that we cannot get rid of our sins by being good. We cannot be right in God's sight that way.

"Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight" (Romans 3:20a).

That means that no-one can be made right with God by being good and by trying to keep God's commands.

PowerPoint 1-7



CTU

PowerPoint 2-1

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 2-2

Do you remember how Kevin was able to walk out of the courtroom that day, a free man?

As he walked into the street that day, nobody could say to him, “You can’t leave! You have to pay the fine!”

“No,” he could reply, “it has already been paid and I don’t need to pay it again.”

Why could Kevin now say, “I cannot be punished for that crime”? Because Jack, the judge, came down beside him and paid the fine for him. Kevin was right with the law because the fine had been paid.

★ **Progression of events: The ground of our justification is the shed blood of Christ.**

For a similar reason we can now know what it means to be free from the punishment of our sin. God can say to us, “You are right with My law.” That’s what “justify” means. It means to declare that someone is not guilty, is right with the law. How can God justify us? We find the answer in God’s Word.

“Having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him” (Romans 5:9b).

The penalty for your sin was paid on the cross, when God gave His Son to die for you. You deserve to be separated from God forever. The price for your being freed from that punishment was the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, His death for you. The price has been paid in full, because He took all the punishment for our sin. At the end He cried, “It is finished.” The word literally means, “It is paid in full.” Through Christ we no longer need to pay for our sins. If you are trusting in Him, then you cannot be punished again; you are justified. Do you remember what that means?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, it means God declares you not guilty, right with the law, when you trust in Christ.

Flashcard 2-3

★ **Progression of events: The effect of our justification is Christ’s righteousness counted to us.**

The Lord Jesus was the only one, who could pay for us, because He was the only one who always kept God’s law perfectly; He never sinned or did anything wrong; He always loved God and others; His words and thoughts were always good and true. Everyone else has sinned and is guilty in the sight of God. No-one else could pay for us. The Lord Jesus always obeyed God’s commands and now if you trust in Him, His goodness is counted to you. This means that in God’s sight it is as if we had lived the perfect life of the Lord Jesus. When God looks at us He does not see all our sins. He just sees the perfect things that Jesus did.



PowerPoint 2-2

CTS

Show card with central truth: “Because the Lord Jesus gave His blood for sinners, God declares righteous all who trust in Him”.

**PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom right of screen)**

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.



PowerPoint 2-3

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: “Thank God that as He looks at you, He sees you pure and clean, because the Lord Jesus died for you”.

PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom left of screen)



PowerPoint 2-4

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTU



Paul writes about Abraham, “It was accounted to him for righteousness” (Romans 4:22b).

That means that Abraham was counted as perfect and right by God. This is what happens to us when we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

When God justifies us, it is not that He is making our lives pure and perfect. (We will see in our next lesson how He makes us different.) In a similar way the judge does not make the person good; he simply says that he is right with the law, not guilty. When God justifies us, the perfect goodness of the Lord Jesus is counted to us. If you are a believer, you should praise the Lord that as He looks down on you, He sees you as if you had lived the perfect life of the Lord Jesus. Have you thanked Him for this? Do it right now in the quietness of your heart!

Flashcard 2-4

Does that mean that everybody is now going to Heaven? Has God decided that everyone has been forgiven, because Jesus died on the cross? Is everyone “justified” in God’s sight now? What do you think?

Allow the children to answer.

No, not all have been forgiven. Not all are on their way to Heaven, only those who by faith have received God’s gift of forgiveness.

“A man is justified by faith apart from [without] the deeds of the law” (Romans 3:28b).

★ **Progression of events: The means of our justification is faith in Christ.**

What does that mean? It means that you have to trust completely in Christ to receive forgiveness for your sins. You can do nothing by yourself to make things right. In a way it is like what Kevin did. He knew that he deserved to be punished. He knew that he could not pay. So he gratefully accepted the gift of 500 euros that his brother paid, so that he could go free. He counted on his brother to pay the price for him.

In a similar way you need to come to the Lord Jesus and tell Him, “I cannot make myself right in Your sight. I cannot take away my own sins. Even if I were to try to do all the good things I could, I know that would not be enough. But I know that Jesus died to pay the punishment for my wrongdoing. Thank You. I now receive the gift of forgiveness from You.”

Flashcard 2-5

Some people in the apostle Paul’s time could not understand how God could forgive sinners freely, without their having to do good deeds, or to pay money, or to do things to please God. So Paul wrote in this letter, “Think about Abraham, how he was justified” - how he became right in God’s sight (Romans 4:3).

★ **Progression of events: The Biblical example of how Abraham was justified when he believed God.**

Abraham had lived many hundreds of years before the Lord Jesus came to Earth. God called him from the city of Ur where he lived and promised him that one day he would have many children and that he would own much land. He believed God and left his city. He now had no house and no land; he did not even have one son. He was an old man. He was a good man, but like all of us he did some sinful things. More than once he told lies and deceived the people around him. Once, for example, he told the king of Egypt that his wife was his sister.

Yet God decided that Abraham was right in His sight. How could that be?

“Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness” (Romans 4:3).

That means that he believed all that God promised him, and for that reason God declared that he was right in His sight. God did not consider him guilty for his sins: God justified him.

Let’s read Romans 5:1. “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

“Being justified” means “being counted by God as being good and right”. That happens when you put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Flashcard 2-6

I want to tell you another story that I hope will help you to understand more what it means to be justified by faith.

★ **Progression of events: Illustration: Tom floating on airbed, which springs a leak.**

Tom was spending his summer holidays at the seaside. He was having a wonderful time, because the sun shone every day and he was able to go and swim. He especially enjoyed taking his airbed into the water and paddling away out beyond the waves that break on the beach. It was so calm out there and he would lie on his back, looking up at the sky, while the airbed rocked gently on the water.

But one day a terrible thing happened. Suddenly the air began to hiss noisily out of the airbed, and in a few moments it could no longer keep him afloat. Tom was in real trouble, because he was a very poor swimmer.

“Help!” he shouted. “Help! I’m sinking.”

On the beach that day there was a lifeguard called Richard who was constantly looking through his powerful binoculars, checking that none of the people in the water was in trouble. He saw Tom’s danger and heard his voice faintly calling for help. Richard dropped his glasses, ran down the beach, and dived into the sea. His powerful arms and legs

PowerPoint 2-5

Genesis 11:26-12:7.

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

PowerPoint 2-6



thrust him steadily through the water, until he came to where poor Tom was struggling for his life.

Flashcard 2-7

★ **Climax:** Richard comes to rescue him - Tom struggles, but finally trusts the lifeguard and is saved.

As soon as the lifeguard reached him, Tom began to kick out with his feet and wave with his arms, trying to help Richard swim and take him into the shore.

“No!” cried Richard. “You are only making it harder for me to save your life. Stop struggling and trying to save yourself. Just lie still and trust me. I’ll take you ashore.”

Tom did just that and the big, strong lifeguard turned on his back, held the boy’s head and swam for shore. He had saved other people’s lives before and he knew exactly what to do.

Soon he was into the shallower water and was able to touch the bottom. He picked up Tom, who was exhausted, and carried him up on to the warm sand.

“How wonderful it is to be safe ashore!” thought Tom, as he lay panting in the sun.

In the same way the Lord wants us to trust in Him, to “have faith in Him”.

“But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness” (Romans 4:5).

That means that we don’t have to try to save ourselves. We are to trust in the Lord Jesus alone to make us right with God. Tom trusted in the big, strong lifeguard. He could not save himself. Nor can we save ourselves from our sin. In fact, if we try, we hinder God from saving us. Remember Tom’s struggles to help Richard actually made it more difficult for him to be rescued.

Flashcard 2-8

But the Lord Jesus did much more for us than Richard did for Tom. Richard bravely risked his life, but the Lord Jesus Christ knew when He came to save us, that He would have to die. He freely gave His life for us.

God did much more for us than Jack, the judge, did for his guilty brother. The Lord Jesus did not pay a fine of 500 euros, but He took the awful punishment of death for your sake and mine. As we trust in Him, we have “peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1b). We have this peace with God because our sins have been forgiven. We have this peace, because we are right in God’s sight. We have this peace, because we are safe and know that we are going to Heaven.

PowerPoint 2-7



CTU

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with central truth.

PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom right of screen)

PowerPoint 2-8



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

★ **Conclusion: Have you trusted God for salvation?**

Have you trusted Christ as your Lord and Saviour? Do you have peace with God? Today He wants you to trust in Him. Turn from your sins and ask Him to forgive you and to make you His child.

Verses for lesson 2

- Romans 3:20 “Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”
- Romans 3:28 “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”
- Romans 4:3 “For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”
- Romans 4:5 “But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.”
- Romans 4:22 “And therefore ‘it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”
- Romans 5:1 “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- Romans 5:9 “Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

Review questions

- 1 Explain what the word “justify” means in the Bible? (To declare that a person is not guilty, is right with the law.)
- 2 In our lesson today we have seen a wrong way that people try to justify themselves before God. What is that wrong way? (By “the deeds of the law”, trying to do good things to save themselves.)
- 3 In Romans 5:9 we read that we are “justified by the blood of Jesus”. Can you explain that? (When Jesus died on the cross and His blood was poured out for us, the penalty for our sin was paid in full.)
- 4 And in Romans 5:1 we also read that we are “justified by faith”. Can you explain that? (The work of Jesus is only applied to us, as we trust in Him by faith.)
- 5 (a) Who was the person in the Old Testament that we studied who was “justified” because he believed in God? (Abraham.)
(b) From what city did God call him? (Ur.)
- 6 What promises of God did he believe? (That he would have many descendants, and that he would own much land.)

CTU**Review game*****Piece it together***

For the visual aid, use the puzzle picture provided at the end of the flashcard book. Back it for use on the flannelboard. Cut out the 8 interlocking pieces.

When a child correctly answers a question, he can place a piece of the puzzle in position on the flannelboard.

- 7 How did Tom show that he put his faith in the lifeguard? (He stopped struggling and allowed Richard to save him.)
- 8 In what way is the lifeguard an illustration of the Lord Jesus? (He was strong and able to save; he had already saved other people; he was willing to sacrifice himself to save others.)

Carry-over activity

The judge's verdict

Allocate the parts for scenes 4 and 5 of the sketch. The new parts are:

- ♦ Jenny
- ♦ Mary

Continue to read and rehearse.

Lesson 3

The very best friend

Scripture for teachers

Romans 6 - 8 (especially chapter 8)

Central truth

The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian to strengthen and help him

Application

Unsaved: Listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying and come to Christ

Saved: Trust Him to give you victory over sin and Satan and to take away your doubts and fears

Memory verse

Review Romans 5:1

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 1-7, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7 and 3-8
- ◆ Wordstrips: "The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian to strengthen and help him" (central truth) and "Trust Him to give you victory over sin and Satan and to take away your doubts and fears" (application for the saved child)

Carry-over activity

- ◆ Make a photocopy of page 71 for each child.
- ◆ Pencils and/or colouring pencils.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Brief review of the story of Jack (the judge) and his brother, Kevin

Progression of events

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Flashcard 3-1 | Kevin's thankfulness to Jack |
| Flashcard 3-2 | Our thankfulness to God should be shown by the way we help and obey our parents CTS |
| Flashcard 3-3 | The Holy Spirit helps us to obey God's commands (Romans 8:4)
Example: Sandra CTS |
| Flashcard 3-4 | Satan tries to make Christians doubt, but the Holy Spirit assures us that we are the children of God (Romans 8:16) CTS |
| Flashcard 3-5 | The Holy Spirit uses God's promises and our changed lives to give us assurance
Example: Sandra CTS |
| Flashcard 3-6 | The Holy Spirit guides us in our decisions (Romans 8:14) |
| Flashcard 3-7 | The Holy Spirit guides us through Bible reading and prayer, His peace in our hearts, and other Christians |

Conclusion

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Flashcard 3-8 | The Holy Spirit helps us to pray in the right way (Romans 8:26) CTS
The Holy Spirit shows the unsaved their sin - to bring them to Christ CTU |
|---------------|--|

Gospel presentation

Mark the verses

Following the general structure of the book of Romans, this lesson deals more with teaching about the life of the Christian, rather than the way of salvation.

For unsaved children in your class you could include the Gospel in an earlier part of the programme before the lesson, basing it on the verses listed below in Romans.

The children could also underline these verses in their Bibles, if they have them, and write these words beside the references to help them remember. Alternatively they could write the reference and the words on little post-it notes and place them at the appropriate verses in their Bibles.

Romans 3:23	Our need
Romans 5:8	The only Saviour
Romans 6:23	God's gift
Romans 10:13	What to do

Lesson

★ **Introduction:** Brief review of the story of Jack (the judge) and his brother, Kevin.

Do you remember the story of Kevin and Jack?

Show flashcard 1-7 for the sake of these who were not present on the previous weeks. Let the children briefly tell the story.

Let's continue the story of our two friends.

Flashcard 3-1

After the trial was over, Jack invited his brother home to dinner. As soon as they arrived at his house, they sat down in the living room and Kevin began to talk. What do you think he said? I am going to give you two suggestions. Which one do you think is correct?

First suggestion: “Jack, it was good of you to pay the fine, but don't expect me to stop stealing because of that. Let me live my life the way I want and you live yours the way you want. I will do what I like with my life.”

Second suggestion: “Jack, I am so grateful to you for paying that fine for me. I know I deserved a fine, but I could not have paid it. Thank you so much. From now on I want to live in a way that will not make you ashamed of me.”

The second suggestion was the right one.

★ **Progression of events:** Kevin's thankfulness to Jack.

Kevin even went on to say, “Jack, I can never, never begin to repay you, but maybe I could come round from time to time and wash your car for you, or cut your lawn. Would you let me do that? Just to show how much I appreciate your kindness, even though I can never pay back the money.”

In this class I know that there are several boys and girls who are in God's family. You have trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour. God has done much more for you than Jack did for Kevin because He gave His only Son to die for your sins. What should be your reaction, now that you realise the great price Christ paid for you?

Flashcard 3-2

★ **Progression of events:** Our thankfulness to God should be shown by the way we help and obey our parents.

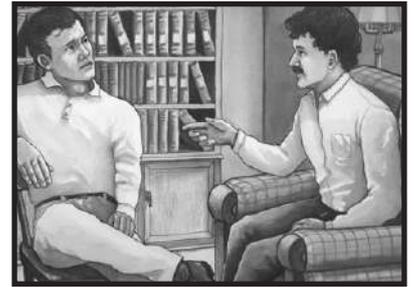
Here are two possibilities summed up in these pictures. Which picture corresponds to the true Christian?

First possibility: “Lord Jesus, thank You for taking the terrible punishment for my sins. From now on I want to please You. Help me in my home, in school and wherever I am, to show You that I love You and I'm thankful to You.”

PowerPoint 1-7



PowerPoint 3-1



PowerPoint 3-2



Second possibility: “Lord Jesus, it’s so good to be a Christian. I enjoy Sunday school, and I have good friends. But do I really have to do what my parents tell me? It’s hard, because I want to do what I like.”

I hope that you do not react like the second example. Let’s think about these two pictures. What do you think is happening? Which picture shows the attitude of a true Christian - the child laying the table, or the child playing outside and pretending not to hear his mother calling?

CTS

Being a Christian is wonderful and exciting, but it is not always easy. In fact it is a real battle. We have a terrible enemy, called Satan, who will do everything possible to make us do wrong and displease the Lord Jesus, even though we are God’s children. We have a very powerful enemy who fights against us, but each Christian has an even more powerful Helper who lives inside him (or her), to help him to do what is right. Do you know who that is? Let’s look at Romans 8:9 where He is mentioned three times.

“But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”

What is He called? He has three names here - the Spirit, the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. We usually call Him the Holy Spirit. He is God and He lives in every Christian, every person who has trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Saviour. If you have trusted Him as your Saviour, the Holy Spirit lives in you to give you strength in your battle against the devil! Today we will find in the book of Romans four tremendous things which the Holy Spirit wants to do, and is able to do, in the life of each child of God.

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with central truth: “The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian to strengthen and help him”.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 3-3

★ Progression of events: The Holy Spirit helps us to obey God’s commands (Romans 8:4).

First of all He helps us to keep God’s commands. In Romans 8:4 we read ...

“That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

That is a little difficult to understand, but it means that when the Holy Spirit is in control of our lives, we keep God’s commands. Just as in the picture we were looking at before.

Show flashcard 3-2 again briefly.

He gives us the strength to obey our parents and to win against temptations of the devil.

★ Progression of events: Example: Sandra.

Sandra was ten years old. A year before in Bible camp she asked the Lord Jesus Christ to be her Lord and Saviour. Often when she came

home from school, her Mum would ask her to go to the shop to get some groceries.

Before becoming a Christian, Sandra had often kept a little of the money for herself, before slipping the rest of the change back into mother's purse. Mum never counted the money and did not know that Sandra was stealing.

But now Sandra was converted, and she wanted to please the Lord Jesus and do what is right, though sometimes she was still tempted to go back to her old habit of stealing. Who was it who reminded her of God's command, "You shall not steal" (Exodus 20:15) and who gave her the strength to do what was right? Yes, the Holy Spirit!

In the evening, after doing her homework, Sandra sometimes went down the street to a friend's house. When her Mum asked, "Where are you going?" Sandra was tempted to answer, "I'm going to get Jean to help me with my homework."

Her mother would have told her to go and stay as long as she needed. But a voice inside her reminded her of God's command, "Do not lie to one to another" (Colossians 3:9a) and she told the truth, "I am going to play a while with Jean. Is that okay?"

Her mother did not allow her to stay as long as if she were going to do her homework. But now Sandra knew that she should tell the truth. Who was helping her? Yes, the Holy Spirit.

If you are a Christian boy or girl, you can ask the Holy Spirit to help you also to obey God's commands. He will give you the strength, if you trust in Him.

Flashcard 3-4

★ **Progression of events:** Satan tries to make Christians doubt, but the Holy Spirit assures us that we are the children of God (Romans 8:16).

Sometimes Christians doubt if they really are God's children. They wonder, "Am I really a child of God? Is the Lord Jesus Christ living in my life now? If I were to die, would I go to Heaven after all?" The devil wants us to doubt if we really are God's children. To whom do you turn, if you have this kind of doubt? If you have the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, there is Someone very, very close to you to help you. Who is it?

Let's read Romans 8:16.

"The Spirit Himself [not Itself] bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."

That means that if you are a child of God, the Holy Spirit encourages you and gives you peace in your heart, assuring you that you are indeed a member of God's family. It is not a voice that you hear with your ears, but He makes you to know, deep within you, that you belong to Him. So, as well as giving you strength to please God, the Holy

PowerPoint 3-3a

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 3-3b

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: "Trust Him to give you victory over sin and Satan and to take away your doubts and fears".

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

PowerPoint 3-4

CTS



Show card with application for the saved child.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

Spirit assures you that you are a child of God, when you have trusted the Lord Jesus.



PowerPoint 3-5

Flashcard 3-5

★ **Progression of events: The Holy Spirit uses God's promises and our changed lives to give us assurance.**

How does the Holy Spirit assure you that you are a child of God? He does this in two ways - by the promises of God's Word and by the way that He has changed your life. Let me explain how it happened for Sandra.

★ **Progression of events: Example: Sandra.**

Sandra went to a Good News Club[®] every Wednesday afternoon. It was held in a home just two streets from where she lived. She had also gone to Bible camp and something wonderful had happened there; she had prayed to receive Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Saviour. However sometimes the devil brought doubts to Sandra's mind and she would wonder was she really saved and on her way to Heaven. She felt her Good News Club teacher could help her, so one day she stayed behind after the class and shared her problem with Grace, the teacher.

"Sometimes I am not sure if the Lord Jesus is really living in my life," she said.

Grace explained it this way. "Sandra, do you remember at camp last year, when you asked the Lord Jesus to be your Saviour? Do you remember the verse you read that day in your Bible, 'Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved' (Romans 10:13)? When you prayed, did you ask the Lord to forgive your sin and take control of your life?"

"Yes," answered Sandra, "I did. I asked Him to save me and really meant it."

Grace said, "Here is His promise: if you call on His name, He will save you. So what do you think He has done?"

"He has saved me."

"And how can you be sure?" asked the teacher. Sandra thought quietly for a minute. Then Grace explained, "You can be sure because of God's promise. And there is another wonderful promise in Hebrews 13:5 where God says, 'I will never leave you.'"

"There is one other thing," said Grace. "Over the last year there has been a real change in your behaviour. Little by little you have become kinder and more obedient and more attentive too in class. That is a sign to me that you have the Lord Jesus as your Saviour."

As Sandra thought of the Lord's promise and the change in her life, there was a wonderful joy and peace in her heart. It was not so much the teacher's encouragement that was making her feel so assured. Do you know who was quietly helping her to be sure that she was a child

of God? Yes, the Holy Spirit in her heart. He can do that for you too. When you have doubts, think back to the time when you asked the Lord Jesus to save you. Think of His promise to save you and be with you. Think too of the little changes in your life. The Holy Spirit will help you overcome your doubts and fears. That is part of His work. Trust Him to do it for you.

Flashcard 3-6

Sandra found it hard to make up her mind about even simple things, like what shoes she should wear, or whom she wanted to invite to her birthday party. As she thought of some of the big decisions that her older friends were making, decisions that she herself would have to make in a few years, she wondered how she would be able to do it. Then one day Grace taught her in the Good News Club that the Holy Spirit wanted to help her with that as well.

★ **Progression of events: The Holy Spirit guides us in our decisions (Romans 8:14).**

The Holy Spirit guides us in what to do. This is the third thing He does. Can you remember the first two?

Allow the children to answer.

He shows us each day what is right and wrong. He helps us to know and to do God's will day by day.

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God” (Romans 8:14).

The Holy Spirit wants to lead us in the path that God has planned for our lives. For example in a few years time, how will you know which subjects to study at school and which to “drop”? How will you know which friends to choose? How will you know which job to take? Maybe God wants you to be a missionary, a preacher or an evangelist. How will you find out what God's will is for your life? In all these things the Holy Spirit can lead you to make wise decisions. I am sure you are asking, “But how does the Holy Spirit guide us?”

Flashcard 3-7

★ **Progression of events: The Holy Spirit guides us through Bible reading and prayer.**

Cover this flashcard with two strips of card, and then remove them one by one as you teach.

The most important way He guides us is through the Bible and prayer. As you read God's Word each day and ask Him to guide you, He will help you to know what is right and what He wants you to do. Sometimes He will show you a special promise or a command from the Bible that He wants you to know and obey. In Psalm 119:105 we read, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

★ **Progression of events: The Holy Spirit guides us through His peace in our hearts.**

There is another way that we can know what God wants us to do - by the peace which the Holy Spirit gives in our hearts. Colossians 3:15a says, “Let the peace of God rule in your hearts.”

CTS

PowerPoint 3-6



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.



PowerPoint 3-7a

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 3-7b

The Holy Spirit has given His peace to be a “referee” in our hearts. You know what a referee does, don’t you? He blows his whistle when someone commits a fault. When a Christian does something which is against God’s will, the peace of God will be disturbed in his heart. When you are doing what God wants you to do, you will have peace about it, even though it may be very difficult.

★ **Progression of events: The Holy Spirit guides us through other Christians.**

The Holy Spirit uses other Christians to guide us. 1 Peter 5:5a says that the younger believers are to listen to those who are older and have more experience in the Christian life. Your teachers in Sunday school and Good News Club will give you good advice about God’s will for your life. If your parents are believers, they can help you to make decisions about God’s will. Don’t be afraid to ask them. Other Christians want to help you to walk in the way that God has planned for your life.

Flashcard 3-8

So far we have thought of three great things that the Holy Spirit does in the believer. Do you remember them?

Allow the children to answer.

He helps us to obey God’s commands, He assures us that we are the children of God and He guides us in our decisions.

Finally there is one more wonderful work which the Holy Spirit does in the lives of Christians.

★ **Conclusion: The Holy Spirit helps us to pray in the right way (Romans 8:26).**

Let’s read Romans 8:26 and see what this other wonderful work is.

“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”

Do you understand what we have just read? God teaches us here that the Holy Spirit helps us in our praying. He prays to God for us, and helps us to pray in the right way. Because He lives in us, He can guide us to pray about the right things. He can help us to come to God in prayer with real reverence and humility. He can help us to trust God for the things that we are asking. It is a great blessing that the Holy Spirit prays for us and helps us to pray. Ask Him to teach you how to pray in an even better way.

CTS

What a wonderful Friend and Helper the Holy Spirit is! Do you give thanks to God that He lives in your heart? Let Him do in your life these wonderful things that we have been thinking about today. Try not to offend Him or make Him sad by doing things that are sinful.

★ **Conclusion: The Holy Spirit shows the unsaved their sin - to bring them to Christ.**

CTU

Does the Holy Spirit also speak to the hearts of boys and girls who have not trusted Jesus Christ as their own Lord and Saviour? What do you



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 3-8

Show card with central truth.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

think? He does! He shows that you are a sinner and makes you want to come to Jesus. If He is speaking to you, listen to what He is saying and come to Christ today! He promises, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

Read the verse from your Bible.

Verses for lesson 3

- Romans 8:4 "That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."
- Romans 8:9 "But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His."
- Romans 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."
- Romans 8:16 "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."
- Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Review questions

- 1 What did Kevin want to do to show his gratefulness to Jack? (Wash Jack's car or cut his lawn.)
- 2 Think of three things that we can do to show our thankfulness to the Lord for saving us. (Obeying our parents, being truthful in school, helping our friends.)
- 3 Every Christian boy and girl has a powerful enemy, but an even more powerful Friend and Helper. Who are they? (Satan is the enemy; the Holy Spirit is the Friend.)
- 4 Who is the Holy Spirit and where does He live? (He is God and lives in every Christian.)
- 5 In which two ways did Sandra show that the Holy Spirit was helping her to keep God's commands? (By not stealing from her mother's purse and by telling the truth when she was going to her friend's house.)
- 6 When a Christian boy or girl has doubts about whether he is really a child of God, how does the Holy Spirit help to take these doubts away? (By the promises of God's Word and the way He has changed his life.)
- 7 In what kind of decisions does the Holy Spirit want to guide us? (In all kinds of decisions - big and small.)
- 8 How does He guide us? (Through the Bible and prayer, through

the peace of God in our hearts, and through other Christians.)

- 9 What other work does the Holy Spirit do in the lives of Christians?
It is the thing we mentioned last. (He helps us in our praying.)
- 10 Does the Holy Spirit work in the hearts of unsaved boys and girls?
If so, how? (Yes, He shows them that they are sinners and makes them want to come to Christ.)

Carry-over activity

Showing God our love and gratitude

Make photocopies of page 71 and give one to each child.

Ask each child to draw three appropriate pictures - how he can show his love to the Lord at home, at school, at play.

This piece of work is suitable too for unconverted pupils. It explains to them some of the implications of conversion and prepares them for truly turning to Christ.

Carry-over activity

The judge's verdict

Continue with learning and rehearsing the sketch.

Lesson 4

God's chosen people

Scripture for teachers

Romans 9 - 11

Central truth

God's chosen people now are all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, whether they be Jews or Gentiles

Application

Unsaved: Ask the Lord Jesus Christ to save you

Saved: Thank God for saving you and that you are one of His chosen people

Memory verse

"Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" Romans 10:13

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8
- ◆ Wordstrips: "God's chosen people now are all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, whether they be Jews or Gentiles" (central truth) and "Thank God for saving you and that you are one of His chosen people" (application for the saved child)
- ◆ Suggestions for prayers written on small cards (see page 42)

Carry-over activity

- ◆ A branch, a shoot of another tree and string.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Many Jews were killed during the Second World War

Progression of events

Flashcard 4-1 The Jews were chosen by God in His mercy to be His special people **CT**

Flashcard 4-2 God chose the Jews to write the Bible

Flashcard 4-3 God chose the Jews to be the race from whom the Saviour of the world would come

Flashcard 4-4 The Lord Jesus Christ came to save Jews and those who were not Jews **CTU**

The Jews rejected God's Saviour and tried to be saved by works

Flashcard 4-5 The gardener grafts the wild olive branches into the olive tree which does not produce good olives

Flashcard 4-6 We who are not Jews and are saved have been "grafted in" - through God's mercy **CTS**

Flashcard 4-7 God "grafts in again" Jews who put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ

Conclusion

Flashcard 4-8 Be thankful to God and pray for the Jews to be saved **CTS**

Lesson

★ **Introduction:** Many Jews were killed during the Second World War.

Some of you older boys and girls have read stories about the last World War, or maybe you have seen programmes on the TV. All wars are terrible, because many brave men are killed on both sides. Women and children too are killed, when the planes drop bombs on the cities. But one of the most awful things that happened during the last World War was the killing of many innocent Jewish people - men and women, boys and girls.

Flashcard 4-1

Who are the Jews? In the lesson before the last one, I was telling you about the very first Jew who ever lived. He was called Abraham. Do you remember how God called him to leave his city of Ur and his land and to trust in God to give him a new land and a great family? Abraham had a son called Isaac and a grandson called Jacob. Jacob had twelve sons, and so the number of the Jews began to grow and grow. Now there are millions of Jewish people living in many lands, and especially in the country of Israel.

★ **Progression of events:** The Jews were chosen by God in His mercy to be His special people.

Why did God choose the Jews as His own special people? He did not choose them because they were the biggest number. When God chose the Jews there was only one of them - Abraham. He did not choose them because they were the best people on the Earth, or because they were the strongest. He chose them because of His mercy. That's why it says in Romans 9:15, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."

CT

God shows pity on whom He chooses and is kind to those who do not deserve it. The Jews did not deserve to be chosen by God. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all his children were sinful people, like you and I.

Flashcard 4-2

But God had a special job for the Jewish people.

★ **Progression of events:** God chose the Jews to write the Bible.

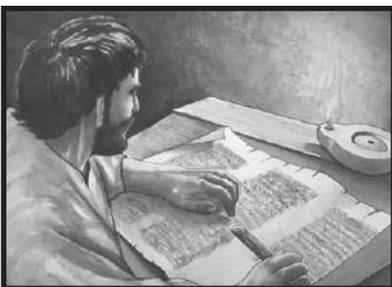
In Romans 3:2 we read that they had been entrusted with the very Words of God. That means that they would have the great responsibility of writing down very accurately the Words of God. So in different ways God spoke to certain Jews and they wrote down what He said. In this way we got our Bible book by book. Moses was a Jew who listened to what God said and he wrote the first five books of the Bible. King David was a Jew who listened to God and he wrote many of the Psalms. The prophet Daniel was a Jew. Matthew, who wrote the first Gospel, was a Jew. Paul was a Jew. How much we should thank God for the work that Jewish writers did with God's special help. They let God guide

PowerPoint 4-1



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 4-2



them in what they wrote so that we could have in this precious book, the Bible, exactly what God wanted to say to us.

Flashcard 4-3

★ **Progression of events:** God chose the Jews to be the race from whom the Saviour of the world would come.

But God had another reason for choosing the Jewish people (they are sometimes called “Hebrews”). He chose this people so that through them would come the Saviour of the world.

“Of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God” (Romans 9:5).

Thousands of years before the Lord Jesus was born, God promised that one day He would send a Saviour. Even before Abraham lived, or Moses, or David, God had made that promise. Many years went by. Perhaps people thought that the Saviour would never come. Powerful enemies attacked the Jewish people and sometimes it looked as if they would be wiped out. But God protected them, because He had chosen this people to be the one out of whom the Saviour would come. At last Jesus was born in Bethlehem and laid in the manger in the stable. Did you know that Jesus was born into a Jewish family?

Mary, the mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, was a Jewess. Joseph, who was given the task of bringing up Jesus Christ, was a Jew. In fact Jesus Himself was a Jew, though of course He was God’s Son at the same time.

Flashcard 4-4

★ **Progression of events:** The Lord Jesus Christ came to save Jews and those who were not Jews.

The Lord Jesus was not born simply to be the Saviour of the Jews, but of all mankind. He came to save people of every country in the world. But the sad thing is that the Jews did not understand or accept God’s wonderful plan of salvation. You know what that plan was, don’t you? Let’s read about it in Romans 10:12-13.

“For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

We are saved when we call upon the name of the Lord to save us from our sins. We cannot save ourselves, but we trust in Him and ask Him to be our Lord and Saviour. He alone can take away our sin and make us God’s children.

Have you called on the name of the Lord? Have you asked the Lord to save you from your sin? You can do it today. God promises, “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13). Call on Him today.

PowerPoint 4-3

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.



PowerPoint 4-4

CTU

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.



Make yourself available for personal counselling.

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

If you have done that and have not told anyone or if you would like to do that and do not know what to do, please stay behind in your seat after the class. If I see you sitting there I will come to you and talk to you about what it means to call on the Lord.

★ **Progression of events: The Jews rejected God's Saviour and tried to be saved by works.**

But the Jews did not accept this wonderful way of salvation. We read in Romans 9:32, "They did not seek it [salvation] by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law."

They thought that they had to work their way to Heaven - that if they kept all the commandments God would accept them. Of course no-one can keep God's commands perfectly and so they could not be saved that way. The Jews rejected the Lord Jesus. You remember how they had Him put to death on the cross. God was very sad to see how they rejected His Son. But if the Jewish people did not accept the Lord Jesus, God had chosen a people who would believe in Him and love Him. I wonder who they were.

Flashcard 4-5

In Romans Paul compares God to a gardener, who is looking after his fruit trees. The gardener has a beautiful olive tree which should grow lots of lovely black olives. People like the Romans used olives for their salads and, when they were crushed, the olives made olive oil which was used for cooking and for baking. So an olive tree was a very useful tree indeed.

★ **Progression of events: The gardener grafts the wild olive branches into the olive tree which does not produce good olives.**

This picture of the olive tree reminds us of God's special people the Jews. They were very precious to God, just as the olive tree was to the gardener. But the olive tree was not producing the good olives that the gardener expected - just like the Jewish people were not trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ as they should. So the farmer cut off lots of the branches. In the same way God was setting aside the Jews as a people. But then the gardener did a strange thing. He went into the woods and found a wild olive tree. He cut off some of the branches of this wild olive tree and set them into the places of the olive tree where the old olive branches had been. He tied up the join with bark and pieces of string, and soon the new olive branches began to grow, getting their food through the trunk and the roots of the old olive tree. Doing this is called "grafting".

Flashcard 4-6

What is God telling us through this picture?

When he put aside the Jews as a people, like the branches that were cut off and thrown away, He had another people, whom He had chosen to put in their place. God chose them too by His mercy. They did not

PowerPoint 4-5



PowerPoint 4-6

deserve to be chosen as God's people either. But God loved them and called them His own people.

Who are these men and women, boys and girls, whom God has chosen to be His own special people now?

★ **Progression of events: We who are not Jews and are saved have been "grafted in" - through God's mercy.**

"You will say then, 'Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in'" (Romans 11:19).

The special people are all of us who are trusting in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. You and I are like the branches of the wild olive tree, which have been "grafted" into the trunk, to be part of His special tree. It does not matter whether you are French or English, Irish or American. If you are trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are part of God's special people.

Can you boast that God chose you to be a child of His (if you are like a branch of His special tree)?

"Do not boast against the branches" (Romans 11:18a).

No, of course not! We must realise that we did not deserve to be chosen by Him. We did not deserve that the Lord Jesus should die for us. We did not deserve to hear the Gospel. It is only by God's mercy that we have been able to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and we have been saved, and in this way we have become part of God's special people.

Flashcard 4-7

Does this mean that God has no time now for the Jews? Certainly not. God still loves them too and wants them to come to know Him, by putting their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

★ **Progression of events: God "grafts in again" Jews who put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Let's read Romans 11:23-24.

"And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?"

Can you understand these verses? What are these "branches" which God can graft back into the tree? They are Jewish people, when they put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. Today there are missionaries working among Jewish people all over the world bringing them the Gospel. It is very hard work, because many Jews will not receive the Gospel and will not believe that the Lord Jesus was God's Son, sent from Heaven to be the Saviour of the Jews and of all mankind.

However some Jewish people, when they hear the Gospel, do trust in Jesus Christ. They are like olive branches grafted back in the tree. They

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with central truth: "God's chosen people now are all these who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, whether they be Jews or Gentiles".

**PowerPoint hyperlink
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Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with application for the saved child: "Thank God for saving you and that you are one of His chosen people".

**PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom left of screen)**



Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

PowerPoint 4-7

Show card with central truth.

PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom right of screen)

PowerPoint 4-8



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

It would be good to ask the children in advance. You could write the prayer points on small cards and give them to the children.

are part of God's chosen people, made up of Jews and other people too who are not Jews. We believe that one day, before the Lord Jesus comes back as the King of glory, many Jewish people will believe on Him. Isn't that wonderful?

Flashcard 4-8

★ **Conclusion:** Be thankful to God and pray for the Jews to be saved.

What does God want us to do for the Jewish people? We should give thanks to God for using them so that we might have the Bible, and in making them the race through whom the Lord Jesus Christ was born into the world. We should never despise them, but rather appreciate them and love them for Christ's sake.

There is one more very important thing that we should do. Let's read Romans 10:1 and see what the apostle Paul did, and what God wants us to do.

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved" (Romans 10:1).

We are to pray for them earnestly from our hearts, that they might be saved.

As we come to the end of our lesson today, I am going to ask four of you who love the Lord to pray:

- 1 Thank God for the Jews, that through them we receive the Bible and that through their race the Lord Jesus Christ was born on Earth.
- 2 Thank God that those of us who are saved have been chosen to be part of God's special people (like branches grafted into the olive tree).
- 3 Pray for the Jewish people that many more might believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour and be saved.
- 4 Pray for the missionaries working among the Jewish people, that God will help them to go on bringing the Gospel, even when very few want to listen.

Verses for lesson 4

Romans 9:5 "Of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen."

Romans 9:15 "For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.'"

Romans 9:32 "Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone."

- Romans 10:1 “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved.”
- Romans 10:12-13 “For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”
- Romans 11:18a “Do not boast against the branches.”
- Romans 11:19 “You will say then, ‘Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.’”
- Romans 11:23-24 “And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?”

Review questions

- 1 Who was the first Jew? (Abraham.)
- 2 What were the names of his son and his grandson through whom the Jewish nation would begin? (Isaac and Jacob.)
- 3 In His mercy, God chose the Jews to be His special people. What does “mercy” mean? (Pity or kindness towards those who do not deserve it.)
- 4 God had two very special jobs for the Jews, His own people. What was one of them? (To write the Bible.)
- 5 What was the other? (To be the people from whom the Saviour would come.)
- 6 What was the wonderful way of salvation from which many Jews turned away? (To be saved by faith, not works; by trusting in Jesus.)
- 7 When the Jews turned away from God and from the Lord Jesus, God chose another special people. Who were they? (All of us who are trusting in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour.)
- 8 In the picture of the olive tree, who do the branches that were cut off represent? (Jewish people who did not believe in Jesus Christ.)
- 9 After that, branches of a wild olive tree were grafted in. Who do they represent? (They represent us who are not Jews but who are trusting in Jesus Christ.)
- 10 Why can we not boast if God has chosen to have us as His special people? (We did not deserve God to choose us, Jesus to die for us, someone to bring us the Gospel, God to give us faith.)

- 11 (a) Has God finished with the Jews? (No.)
(b) What does He want them to do? (Trust in Jesus Christ.)
- 12 What is the very important thing that we can do for the Jewish people? (Pray for them.)

Carry-over activity

Prayer

See suggestions for prayer at the end of the lesson.

Carry-over activity

Grafting

You could show the pupils a little more about grafting. They could help cut a “V” shape in a branch and place a shoot of another tree into the “V”.

If it is easier for you, a slanted cut can be made in the branch. Then the joint should be made firm with a covering of bark and string.

Note: Grafting is quite an art and your new shoot may not grow, but at least the principle can be illustrated.

Lesson 5

The body of Christ

Scripture for teachers

Romans 12:1-13
Colossians 1:18-19
Ephesians 4:7-16
1 Corinthians 12:1-31

Central truth

Each Christian, as a part of the body of Christ, has some gift(s) to serve God and others

Application

Saved: Thank God for the gift(s) He has given you; give yourself completely to Him to be used to do His will; ask Him what He would have you do

Memory verse

“We, being many, are one body in Christ ...”
Romans 12:5

Visual aids

- ♦ Flashcards: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5, 5-6, 5-7 and 5-8
- ♦ Wordstrips: “Each Christian, as a part of the body of Christ, has some gift(s) to serve God and others” (central truth) and “Thank God for the gift(s) He has given you; give yourself completely to Him to be used to do His will; ask Him what He would have you do” (application for the saved child)

Carry-over activity

- ♦ Two sets of parts of the body cut out of paper or card, blindfold, pinboard and drawing pins

Lesson outline

Introduction

Keeping our bodies healthy

Progression of events

Flashcard 5-1 The athlete - our bodies are wonderfully designed by God
Every believer is part of the body of Christ, the church (Romans 12:4-5) **CT**

Flashcard 5-2 The head of the body directs, controls and gives orders

The Head of the body of the church is Christ (Colossians 1:18)

He guides, directs and gives the orders to believers, chiefly through His Word

CTS, CTU

Flashcard 5-3 Each part of the body has a particular ability and responsibility

God has given you some special abilities and some special job to do

CT, CTS

Flashcard 5-4 The gift of “teaching” (Romans 12:7)

The gift of “evangelism” (Ephesians 4:11) **CTS**

Flashcard 5-5 The gift of “serving” (Romans 12:7)

The gift of “ruling” (Romans 12:8)

The gift of “giving” (Romans 12:8)

Flashcard 5-6 Example: Mr Le Tourneau with the gift of giving

Mr Orr talking to Philip, Beth and Mark

Flashcard 5-7 Christian children also have gifts

The gift of “exhortation” or encouragement (Romans 12:8)

The gift of “showing mercy” (Romans 12:8)

The gift of “faith” (1 Corinthians 12:9)

Flashcard 5-8 God wants us to present ourselves as living sacrifices to Him (Romans 12:1) **CTS**

God does not want us to be proud (Romans 12:3)

Conclusion

Ask God what He wants you to do

CTS

Lesson

★ **Introduction: Keeping our bodies healthy.**

I wonder in what sports you boys and girls take part. How many of you play football? Rugby? Basketball? Tennis? Swimming? That's great! Why is it important to take part in sport? Yes, there are several reasons. One of them is so that we keep our bodies healthy and fit.

Flashcard 5-1

★ **Progression of events: The athlete - our bodies are wonderfully designed by God.**

Have you ever watched a famous athlete? You see him running for the finishing line; all the joints are working perfectly - elbows, knees, wrists and neck; all the muscles are doing their job of moving the limbs - the arms and legs. Our bodies are wonderfully designed by God - the brain directs the whole body; the heart pumps the blood through all the arteries and veins; every single part of our body is useful and necessary.

★ **Progression of events: Every believer is part of the body of Christ, the church (Romans 12:4-5).**

See if you can understand these two verses from Romans 12.

“For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function [job], so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another” (Romans 12:4-5).

CT

What does that mean? God tells us here that all those who love the Lord Jesus fit together like a perfect body. It is not a body that we can see, but a great invisible body made up of all true Christians. This body is called the church. I do not mean the building of brick and stone where you go on Sundays. The church the Bible talks about is made up of people, not stones. Every believer in Jesus Christ, every true Christian, is part of that wonderful body. Maybe you are like a finger to point the way, or like an ear to listen, or like a tongue to speak, or like a foot to run.

Flashcard 5-2

★ **Progression of events: The head of the body directs, controls and gives orders.**

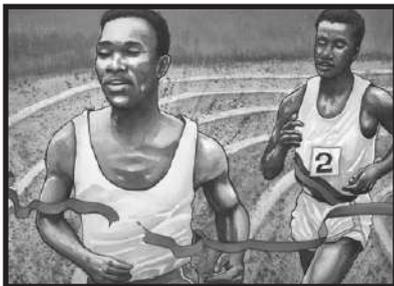
The head is the most important part of the body. That is where the brain is. For example, when we want to go for a walk, the brain gives the orders - it tells the muscles of our back and legs to make the body stand up; it tells the heart to pump harder, as we need more energy; it tells the lungs to breathe deeper and to take in more oxygen; it tells the eyes to guide us where we are to go.

Who do you think the Head of the church is? Paul tells us in another book that God guided him to write.

★ **Progression of events: The Head of the body of the church is Christ (Colossians 1:18).**

“And He is the head of the body, the church” (Colossians 1:18a).

PowerPoint 5-1



Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

PowerPoint 5-2



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

About whom do you think Paul is writing? Yes, the Lord Jesus. He is the Head of the body, the church. He is the One who controls and guides and gives the orders. What a terrible confusion there would be in our bodies, if there was no brain to plan and lead. Maybe the legs would decide that they were tired and wanted to sit down, but the feet would want to go for a walk. Or the eyes would want to close for a little rest, while the hands wanted to play basketball!

★ **Progression of events:** He guides, directs and gives the orders to believers, chiefly through His Word.

That is why it is so important that every believer, as a part of the great body of the church, obeys the Lord Jesus. As we listen to the Bible being taught in church, in Sunday school and Good News Club, or as we read His words for ourselves in the Bible, that is the Head of the body speaking to us, just like our brain guides the parts of our physical body. As a member of the body of Christ, it is important that you obey our Lord Jesus Christ and put into practice what He says.

If you have never trusted in the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, you don't belong to Him. You are not part of His body. You are still outside of Christ. In fact you are far away from Him. You are lost in your sin. But He is looking for you. He loves you so much that He died for your sins. Today if you trust in Him with all your heart and come to Him, He will receive you. He promises to receive you. In John 6:37b He says, "The one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out." Come to Christ today!

Flashcard 5-3

★ **Progression of events:** Each part of the body has a particular ability and responsibility.

If Christ is the Head of this great body and every person who is born again is a member of that body, then it is important for us to work together for our Lord. Everyone is needed, for we all have different jobs to do.

★ **Progression of events:** God has given you some special abilities and some special job to do.

"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another" (Romans 12:5).

We all have special abilities, or gifts, that God has given to us, just like parts of the body. Let's think again about what the parts of our bodies do. For example, what is the special ability that God has given to the eye, which the ear hasn't got? Yes, it can see. What can the ear do that your hand can't? Yes, it can hear. What can your nose do that your eye can't? It can smell. What can your hand do that your ear can't? It can hold and grasp things. You see, every single part of the body is important. We cannot do without any of them. Even the ones inside us that we cannot see (like our liver and lungs) are very important.

CTS

CTU

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 5-3

CT

Show card with central truth: "Each Christian, as a part of the body of Christ, has some gift(s) to serve God and others".

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CTS

Show card with central truth.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

PowerPoint 5-4



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

PowerPoint 5-5a



Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

Did you know that as a Christian, you are very, very important to God? And all the rest of us Christians in the body need you too. We could not do without you, because God has given you some special abilities and some special job to do. What kinds of jobs? God told Paul to write down what kinds of jobs He meant. We find them in Romans 12.

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness” (Romans 12:6-8).

We have not time to think about them all, but let’s take a few.

Flashcard 5-4

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “teaching” (Romans 12:7).**

For example, he mentions those who teach. Did you know that God has given to certain Christians a special ability to teach the Bible? All believers can share with others what the Bible says. But for the church, the body of Christ, to grow as it should, God knew that people with the gift of teaching were needed. These are pastors, Sunday school teachers, Good News Club teachers, etc who through God’s gift can understand especially well the Word of God. Then they present it to other believers in a way that helps them to grow more and more in the Christian life. How good God is to care for us in this way. Have you thanked Him for sending people with the gift of teaching to help you?

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “evangelism” (Ephesians 4:11).**

Elsewhere Paul wrote about those with the gift of evangelism (Ephesians 4:11). All Christians should bring the good news of Jesus Christ to others who are not yet saved. But some believers are especially gifted by God to present the good news, so that people come to Christ. The Bible speaks, for example, about Philip, the evangelist (Acts 21:8). God used Him in Samaria to bring many to Christ and in the desert to lead an Ethiopian man to the Saviour (see Acts 8). Aren’t you glad that God has given to His church such people with this special gift?

Flashcard 5-5

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “serving” (Romans 12:7).**

Paul also mentioned those who minister or serve (Romans 12:7). Christians should help others - the poor, the sick, widows and orphans. Those with this gift of service are especially kind and caring. They make sure that the church looks after the needy. The Bible speaks, for example, of a man called Stephanas, who had given himself to serve other Christians (1 Corinthians 16:15-18). Paul wrote about how much this man had helped him. This is an important gift and perhaps one of you has received it from God. Perhaps you are already using it for our meeting, by helping to put the seats in line, making sure that the flannelboard is in the right place and putting out the chorus books.

That's great. Keep on doing that. Maybe all your life you will be a real helper to these who are working for the Lord.

★ **Progression of events: The gift of "ruling" (Romans 12:8).**

But there is also a need for those who lead in service, who have a special role in organising the activities of the church. We read about this gift in Romans 12:8.

Isn't it wonderful how God provides for every need in His church?

★ **Progression of events: The gift of "giving" (Romans 12:8).**

Also in Romans 12:8, God mentions those who give. Every Christian should give to the Lord, but some seem especially to love giving, and that is the special ability that God has given to them.

Flashcard 5-6

★ **Progression of events: Example: Mr Le Tourneau with the gift of giving.**

Mr Le Tourneau was a man who lived in America. He built huge bulldozers and machines for making roads. Have you ever seen some of these big monsters on the roads?

Well, Mr Le Tourneau loved God and when he sold a machine he gave a part of the money to God. The Lord blessed him and he began to sell more and more machines. So he became very rich, but at the same time he kept giving more and more money to God's work, to missionaries and preachers in his own country and in other lands as well. Soon he was giving almost all his money to God. I believe God gave him a special ability to make money and also the willingness in his heart to give it to God. Of course God wants us all to give to His work, but we cannot all give as much as Mr Le Tourneau did. God gave him great abilities as a businessman and a special way of helping other Christians by his generous gifts. He really was a useful member of the body of Christ, because he used the gift God had given to him.

But maybe you are thinking, "That's all right for older Christians, but what special abilities or gifts could I have? I know I am a Christian, but I'm not sure what I can do to help in God's work."

★ **Progression of events: Mr Orr talking to Philip, Beth and Mark.**

I am going to tell you a story about two brothers and a sister who had the same problem. The older boy was called Philip, his sister was called Beth and the younger brother, who was nine, was called Mark. They had heard at Bible camp that all Christians have special gifts from God, but they did not know which ones God had given to them. So they decided one afternoon to talk to Mr Orr, one of the camp counsellors, and ask him for his help.

Flashcard 5-7

★ **Progression of events: Christian children also have gifts.**

Mr Orr said, "This question of our gifts and abilities is something that each of us should think about. We should ask God to show us our

PowerPoint 5-5b

PowerPoint 5-5c

PowerPoint 5-6



PowerPoint 5-7



See Acts 9:36-43.

abilities and help us to use them to serve Him and other members of the body, but I would like to make some suggestions to you.

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “exhortation” or encouragement (Romans 12:8).**

“I have watched you, Philip, since you became a Christian two years ago. You are twelve years old now, aren’t you? I think I see something that God has given you to do. In Romans 12:8 God tells us about the gift of ‘exhortation’. That’s a big word, but it really means ‘to encourage others in a firm but friendly way’. I have seen you encourage other people. For example, the other morning when some of the boys did not want to leave the football to go to the Bible hour, I heard you encourage them to come in. Then when some of them were lazy and did not want to learn the Bible verse, I noticed how you set a good example and helped them to learn. I think that Beth and Mark can remember times too when they were about to give up on their homework, but you prayed with them and asked God to help them finish, and they did. I think that maybe you have the gift of exhortation, or encouragement. You keep working at it and God can help you to really develop that gift.”

Philip smiled shyly, but Beth and Mark could see that he was glad that perhaps he had that special ability from God. He was an encourager in the body of Christ.

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “showing mercy” (Romans 12:8).**

“And what about us?” chorused Beth and Mark.

“Well,” answered Mr Orr, “You are a little younger and you have not had so much time to show your gifts, but I know that God has certainly given you some. In the same verse, Romans 12:8 it talks about the gift of ‘showing mercy’. Do you remember reading about Dorcas in the Bible? She was full of acts of mercy for others in Joppa. I wonder if you have that gift, Beth. It means ‘being really kind and forgiving, especially to people who don’t deserve it’. The other day when Ann was so nasty to you after the netball match and called you names, I was really happy that you did not call her names too. You were sad, but you kept on being kind to her when no-one else wanted to be friends with her. It helped all the other girls and especially Ann. It could be that God has given you the gift of being especially kind and loving, even to people who are not nice to you. That’s something that God can use in a wonderful way to help the whole body of Christians.”

★ **Progression of events: The gift of “faith” (1 Corinthians 12:9).**

“And me?” piped up Mark, who was two years younger than Beth.

“Well, Mark, there is a gift that we have not mentioned yet. In another book that Paul wrote, he mentioned the gift of ‘faith’. It means ‘to trust God, even though you cannot see the results’. In the prayer time of our Bible hour yesterday, I heard you pray especially for the missionary in West Africa. I know that you believe the Lord can help him learn the new language. It’s good you want so much that the people there hear

the Gospel in their language. You remind me of Stephen, who was a man full of faith. He prayed for those who were stoning him to death. God answered his prayer and later saved Saul of Tarsus, the man who had made sure that Stephen was put to death. Maybe all your life you will be a man of faith, like Stephen.”

The three children were smiling as they set off to play. They really wanted to be busy members of the body and to do the job that God had chosen for them.

Flashcard 5-8

But what did God want Philip, Beth and Mark to do now? And even more important, what does He want you and me to do? Let's read the first verse of Romans 12.

★ **Progression of events: God wants us to present ourselves as living sacrifices to Him (Romans 12:1).**

“... Present your bodies a living sacrifice ... to God” (Romans 12:1).

That means that God wants us to offer to Him all that we have and are, for Him to use. Did you notice that it said “a living sacrifice”, not a dead one. He wants you alive, to live for Him and serve Him, because you love Him.

Christian boys and girls, do you love Him? When you think of all that the Lord Jesus Christ suffered for you on the cross to give you eternal life, does it make you love Him and want to please Him? If it does, you could tell Him so in a prayer like this, “Lord, thank You that I belong to You. I want to serve in any way that You choose for me. Help me to obey You, the Head of the body. I want to be like an eye to see the needs of others, or like a mouth to speak for You, or like a foot to go in Your way. Amen.”

One more thing, God says through Paul.

★ **Progression of events: God does not want us to be proud (Romans 12:3).**

“For I say ... to everyone ... not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly ...” (Romans 12:3).

God does not want us to be proud. God wants us to be more interested in Him and what He wants us to do, than in thinking about the specific gift(s) we have.

★ **Conclusion: Ask God what He wants you to do.**

The great men and women of God have prayed, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” and, “Lord, here am I, send me.” This is better than asking, “Lord, what am I good at?” We want especially to do God's will and to honour His name, rather than think a lot about ourselves. Thank God that He has given you some special ability, or perhaps more than one. Ask Him what He wants you to do as part of His body. His gifts will enable you to do it. So obey Him. Develop and use the abilities God has given you. Use them for helping others.

See Acts 6:8 and 7:54-60.



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

PowerPoint 5-8

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: “Thank God for the gift(s) He has given you; give yourself completely to Him to be used to do His will; ask Him what He would have you do”.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child.

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Verses for lesson 5

- Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”
- Romans 12:3 “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”
- Romans 12:4 “For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function.”
- Romans 12:5 “So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.”
- Romans 12:6-8 “Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”
- Colossians 1:18 “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”

Review game

Draw a face

Divide the class into two teams with a captain for each.

The captains get a piece of blank paper or card and a felt pen each.

Tell them you want them to draw a picture of your face (it can be funny).

Each time a child answers a question correctly for their team, the captain can add a part to the face - head, eyes, nose, mouth, ears.

The first team to have their face complete is the winner.

Review questions

- 1 Who makes up the great body of the church? (Every believer in Jesus Christ, every true Christian.)
- 2 Who is the Head of the body, of the church? (The Lord Jesus Christ.)
- 3 What does the head do? (Directs, governs, gives commands.)
- 4 What do the other parts of the body do? (Follow the directions of the head.)
- 5 How does the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the church give His orders to us the members of His body? (Through His Word, principally.)
- 6 What has every Christian been given as a part of the body of Christ? (Some gift or special ability - perhaps more than one.)
- 7 Name two special gifts that God has given to Christians, so as they can serve Him. (Answers will vary. Examples in the text include teaching, evangelism, serving, ruling, giving, exhortation, showing mercy and faith.)
- 8 Name two other special gifts.

- 9 What do you call the man who lived in America who had the special gift to make money and give it to the Lord? (Mr Le Tourneau.)
- 10 What does God ask us to do first of all, so that we will know and do His will? (To present our bodies a living sacrifice; give ourselves to Him.)

Carry-over activity

Game

This could be used in an earlier part of the programme, as a relaxed introduction to the lesson.

Cut out of paper or card the basic parts for two “bodies” - a head, two eyes, two ears, a mouth, a body, two arms and two legs.

The class is divided into two equal teams and each member of the team is given a part of the body. In turn each one is blindfolded and goes to the board to put on a part of the body, fastening it with a drawing pin.

The team that makes the best body is the winner. No-one should speak to guide the child who is putting on the part of the body. Also that child cannot feel with his hands to position the piece.

Carry-over activity

Prayer time

You should use this activity after the lesson.

Choose three Christian children to take the following topics and lead the group in prayer:

- 1 Thank God that each of us is important in the body of Christ.
- 2 Thank God that each Christian has some special job to do and God-given abilities to do it.
- 3 Ask God to help us to discern little by little what the job is and what our gifts are, so that we can be used for Him and others.

Lesson 6

How much we owe

Scripture for teachers

Romans 1:14-16

Romans 13 - 15

Central truth

As Christians, we owe so much to God and others

Application

Saved: Love and obey God in every situation; respect and obey authorities; be friendly and loving to others; be considerate and set a good example for weaker Christians; bring the Gospel to the unsaved

Memory verse

“Owe no one anything, except to love one another ...” Romans 13:8

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5, 6-6, 6-7 and 6-8
- ◆ Wordstrips: “As Christians, we owe so much to God and others” (central truth) and “Love and obey God in every situation”, “Respect and obey authorities”, “Be friendly and loving to others”, “Be considerate and set a good example for weaker Christians” and “Bring the Gospel to the unsaved” (application for the saved child)

Lesson outline

Introduction

Flashcard 6-1 Sandra owes Pauline 12 cents
All believers are debtors, owing something to others

CT

Progression of events

Flashcard 6-2 To God we owe our love and obedience, because of all His grace and goodness to us (Romans 14:7-9) **CTS**

Flashcard 6-3 To several authorities we owe respect and obedience (Romans 13:1,5) **CTS**

Flashcard 6-4 Story 1: Suzanne and payment of duty to customs authorities
Story 2: Neil and respect for the police force

Flashcard 6-5 Story 3: The gang and the phone booth

Flashcard 6-6 To everyone we owe love and friendship (Romans 13:8) **CTS**

Flashcard 6-7 To weaker Christians we owe consideration and a good example, so that we do not cause them to stumble (Romans 14:13 and 15:1-3a)
Story 4: Jack and Bob and the video games **CTS**

Climax

Flashcard 6-8 To the unsaved we owe the Gospel at home and abroad (Romans 1:14-15a and 15:19-20) **CTS**

Conclusion

Challenge to be missionaries

You may prefer to use the wordless book.

Both the *Gospel flipper-flapper* and the *wordless book* are produced by Child Evangelism Fellowship® and are available from your CEF® National Office. If you need an address, contact the European Headquarters (address at the front of this book).

Gospel presentation

The Gospel flipper-flapper

As this lesson is about living the Christian life, it is therefore applicable principally to the saved children. It would be good in an earlier part of the programme to include something for the unsaved. They need to hear the Gospel clearly explained.

For example you could share briefly with them the message of the *Gospel flipper-flapper*, basing it on Romans.

Explain that in Romans 1 - 3 Paul presents our great need of salvation represented by the black heart.

In Romans 4 - 5 Paul explains how Jesus Christ died for our sins (red cross).

There was nothing that we could do to save ourselves, so the Lord Jesus died and rose again for our sins, so that we could have forgiveness (the white heart) when we turn from our wrongdoing and trust in Him.

Explain that the lesson today is about the green background - growing in the Christian life. Challenge the unsaved children that they need to receive this life before they can begin to grow.

Alternatively, instead of using the Gospel flipper-flapper, you could teach a short evangelistic object lesson. However, be sure to separate the two blocks of teaching by having some choruses or the review time in between. The object lesson especially addressed to the unsaved should be presented first and this lesson "How much we owe" later.

Lesson

Flashcard 6-1

★ **Introduction:** Sandra owes Pauline 12 cents.

Sandra and her friend Pauline had gone shopping on Saturday morning. They enjoyed looking around the shops. The two girls saw some lovely notelets that they really liked and they decided to buy them. But then Sandra discovered that she had not quite enough money, as she had already bought a new watch strap. She was just 12 cents short.

“Don’t worry,” said Pauline, “I’ll lend it to you. You can pay me back on Monday.”

“Okay,” agreed Sandra, “I’ve got some more money at home.”

She was relieved that her friend was going to help her out. That weekend she kept thinking, “I have to pay that money back to Pauline. I musn’t forget. I don’t want her to have to ask me for it.”

Have you ever owed some money to a friend? Maybe you have and of course you know that you should pay it back as soon as you can.

★ **Progression of events:** All believers are debtors, owing something to others.

God teaches us in Romans that all of us who have received the Lord Jesus into our lives are in a way debtors. That means we owe something to others. Maybe this is a surprise to you. Of course I am not talking about money this time. Let me explain it to you.

Flashcard 6-2

First of all we owe something to God. He has given us so much. Can you think of some of the wonderful things that God has given us and which we can see in our daily lives?

Allow the children to answer. They may suggest things like parents, family, toys, food, health, the Bible, the beauties of nature, etc.

Yes, that’s right. Now let’s think of some wonderful blessings that God has given to us that are not seen by the human eye.

Allow the children to answer. They may suggest Christ dying for us, forgiveness of sin, eternal life, assurance of going to Heaven, the Holy Spirit living in us, the Lord Jesus praying for us, etc.

Yes, those were good answers. We could never repay the blessings God has given us. His love and kindness to us is so great that we could never pay Him back for all He has given us. But we can give something to God, to show that we really appreciate all His goodness to us. What then do we owe to God?

★ **Progression of events:** To God we owe our love and obedience, because of all His grace and goodness to us (Romans 14:7-9).

We owe Him our love and obedience.

Paul wrote, “For to this end Christ both died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord” (Romans 14:9a).

PowerPoint 6-1



CT

Show card with central truth: “As Christians, we owe so much to God and others”.

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PowerPoint 6-2



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: "Love and obey God in every situation".

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)

PowerPoint 6-3

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.

CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: "Respect and obey authorities".

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom left of screen)



What does it mean for Christ to be "Lord"? Yes, it means that we should obey Him in all things. God wants you to obey Him because you love Him and not just because you have to. Tell Him every day that you love Him and that you want to do the things that are right. He will help you to learn what is right as you read the Bible and listen to others teaching it. You will want to obey Him because He is your Lord.

Flashcard 6-3

★ **Progression of events:** To several authorities we owe respect and obedience (Romans 13:1,5).

But we also owe something to others. Let's read two verses and see if you can work this out.

"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities ... Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake" (Romans 13:1a,5).

Who do you think these higher powers ("governing authorities") are? They are the authorities in our city and in our land, who make the laws and who expect us to keep them. God teaches us that we are to be subject to them; that means we are under them and should obey them.

Let me tell you three short stories. You will need to listen carefully, because at the end of each we are going to have some quiz questions. We will work out together if the people in the stories were obeying the authorities as God said they should, or if they were not.

★ **Progression of events:** Story 1: Suzanne and payment of duty to customs authorities.

Suzanne and Marjorie had just gone back to school after the summer holidays. They were waiting in the playground before the classes went in. Suzanne was telling her friend Marjorie about the wonderful holidays her family had enjoyed in another country.

"We had a terrific time," said Suzanne. "We went by plane and while we were there we bought a fantastic video player. They are much cheaper abroad than here. When we were coming back through the airport in London, do you know what we did? When we came to the customs (where you have to say if you bought something valuable while you were abroad), we didn't go through the red gate as we were supposed to. The customs officials would have asked us to pay extra money to the government for bringing in the video player. No, we slipped through the green gate, where you go if you have not bought anything valuable and you have nothing to declare. Nobody stopped us and we got our video player 30 euros cheaper, because we didn't pay the duty."

Adapt place names, currency, imported item, etc to suit your own situation.

Now let's have our quiz questions and think for a few moments about our first story.

- 1 Which authorities (higher powers) did Suzanne's family disobey? (The customs authorities.)
- 2 Why is it wrong to do that? (Because God says in Romans 13:1 that we are to obey them.)
- 3 What should a Christian family do at the customs? (Declare when they have bought something valuable and, if necessary, pay the duty.)

Flashcard 6-4

★ **Progression of events: Story 2: Neil and respect for the police force.**

It's fun working out the answers, isn't it?

Neil was staying with his aunt one weekend and he took a walk in the town. As he turned a corner on to the main street he saw something very frightening. There was a crowd of men and older boys marching down the street, carrying banners and flags. They tried to march into a big building, but the police would not allow them to pass.

Suddenly the men began to throw stones and bottles, breaking windows and doing damage to the building. They also threw stones at the police and shouted at them, calling them "animals" and "pigs".

The policemen had their shields up and they began to move forward to drive the men away. But the crowd attacked them and kicked them. One policeman got hurt quite badly.

Neil laughed to himself and thought, "Serves him right for trying to stop them."

Now let's think about our quiz questions for this story.

- 1 Which authorities (higher powers) were the men and boys disobeying? (The police.)
- 2 Why is it wrong to do this? (Because the Bible tells us in Romans 13:1 to obey them. It says that those who make us keep the laws were put there by God.)
- 3 Do you think that policemen sometimes make mistakes? (Yes, of course - but we should be very careful not to disobey them nevertheless.)
- 4 Do you think policemen have an easy or a difficult job? Why? (It's a difficult job, especially in our day.)
- 5 What other unpleasant jobs have the police to carry out? (The children will probably mention catching criminals and making sure that drivers do what they should. You should bring out that fining people for driving too fast, driving when drunk, parking in the wrong places, etc is an unpleasant job for the police, but it is their duty for the safety and good of all the road users.)

PowerPoint 6-4



- 6 If Neil had been a Christian, how should he have behaved? (He should have felt sorry for the policeman who was hurt and should not have laughed about it. It would be good to warn the children to stay away from riots.)
- 7 What do we owe the police? (Our respect and prayers.)



PowerPoint 6-5

If the children in your club are not familiar with coin telephone boxes, you might want to change the illustration to that of a chocolate vending machine or a parking meter, and teach this section without the flashcard.

If you are using the PowerPoint visuals you will find two versions on the CD. "Option A" includes all the visuals from this lesson, but "option B" omits this picture.



PowerPoint 6-6

Flashcard 6-5

★ **Progression of events: Story 3: The gang and the phone booth.**

One night four young people went out after dark to wander around the streets. They really had nothing to do and they wondered how to spend their time.

"I know," said Henry. "Let's get some money out of the telephone boxes."

They walked a little way until they came to the first phone booth. Henry got out a big screwdriver that he carried in a pocket in the leg of his jeans and began to drive it into a crack in the telephone box. He jabbed and rattled and punched the apparatus until at last 70 cents came rattling out onto the little metal tray.

"Is that all?" he shouted in disgust.

As his three friends watched, he pulled the telephone cord with all his strength and broke it. Then the four of them kicked at the glass of the door and broke it, leaving bits of glass all over the pavement.

"Let's try another phone box and see if we get some more," said Henry, the leader of the gang, as they sauntered up the street.

As they went, they broke the little trees that had been planted along the roadside not long before.

Now let's try to answer the quiz questions for this story.

- 1 Which authorities (higher powers) were the four young people disobeying? (The telephone company that requires that we pay for the use of the phones. Also the local town council, who had the trees planted and require that we do not damage public property.)
- 2 Why is it wrong to do this? (Because God tells us in Romans 13:1 to submit to authority over us.)
- 3 These four young people were robbing the telephone company of its money. Can you think of other authorities that people try to cheat? (The train and bus authorities by not paying the fares. Government authorities by not paying licenses for dogs, TV, etc.)

Flashcard 6-6

We are "debtors" to others. We owe God our love and obedience. We owe respect and obedience to the authorities. And we read something else in Romans.

★ **Progression of events: To everyone we owe love and friendship (Romans 13:8).**

“Owe no one anything except to love one another” (Romans 13:8a).

Do you understand what God is saying here? He says that we owe our love and friendship to everyone. Does God expect us to be loving and friendly to everyone? Yes He does! He says that we owe it to them. It is not always easy, is it? It is not too difficult to like others who are nice to us; but what about those who are not nice to us? God tells us to love them too.

It's not always easy to love and be friendly to someone who has just come to your class. He is not one of your special friends and you just don't want to bother to be nice to him. It's not always easy to be kind to someone of a different colour of skin or of a different nationality. But God wants you to. If you are a Christian, you should be one of the first people to make a new person welcome in a class. Let's think! How would you make a new child feel welcome in your class?

Allow the children to answer. Possible answers: have lunch together; play together; invite him to your home or to a party; do homework together; show him around the school; explain the rules to him.

It's sometimes difficult to be kind and loving to someone who is more clever than you and gets better marks at school. You feel jealous and mean, but God tells us that we owe our friendship and love to everyone. How could you get over the jealous feelings?

Allow the children to answer. Possible answers: confess your jealousy to the Lord and ask Him to take it away, because it is sin; pray for the other person; look for ways to show kindness and to compliment him on his good points; ask him to help you, if he can, in the subject in which he excels.

Ask God to help you be loving to everyone. Remember that the Holy Spirit lives in you, to help you to please God. You will also find that you will make new friends as you obey God.

Flashcard 6-7

Perhaps you have been a Christian for quite a while, maybe even a year or more. There are many people watching you with great interest, to see how you behave as a Christian. Unsaved people are watching you and, of course, God Himself watches you lovingly. However, I am thinking especially of Christian boys and girls who have not known the Lord for so long, and even those who have not had so much Bible teaching as you in their homes and Good News Club.

★ **Progression of events: To weaker Christians we owe consideration and a good example, so that we do not cause them to stumble (Romans 14:13 and 15:1-3a).**

God tells us to be careful “not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way” (Romans 14:13).

Do you understand that all right? We are to be careful, by the things we do or say, not to make another Christian do wrong and fall into sin. Paul told the Christians at Rome, for example, that if they ate the meat of an animal which was sacrificed in front of a heathen idol, it

Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with application for the saved child: “Be friendly and loving to others”.

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CTS

PowerPoint 6-7



Read (or have an older child read) the verse from your Bible.

Show card with application for the saved child: “Be considerate and set a good example for weaker Christians”.

PowerPoint hyperlink
(bottom left of screen)

might cause a weaker Christian to be confused and stumble. Of course the meat was the same as the other meat, but by their eating it, a new Christian might think it was all right to worship idols. So the older Christians should avoid eating that meat. Now of course we do not have that problem today, but let me give you another example. At the end of the story there will be some more quiz questions.

★ **Progression of events: Story 4: Jack and Bob and the video games.**

Jack was a fine Christian boy. He had been saved at camp three years before, when he was eight years old. He was growing well in the Christian life, as he read the Bible at home and also studied God's Word in Sunday school and Good News Club. He was doing well too at his schoolwork. But every day after school, he went to the place in town where they had the video games. He would play on the machines for half an hour before starting his homework.

One day Bob saw Jack going to play at the video games. Bob was eight years old and had just received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour two weeks before. He was not doing too well at school. But when he saw Jack going into the place where the video games were, he thought to himself, "Well, if Jack, who is such a fine Christian, can do that, I can do that too."

So Bob started to go every day; but he was not able just to stay for a short time, like Jack. He stayed one and a half hours every day. Because of that he got into trouble with his parents. He also had to rush through his homework and often did it badly. Because he had so little time and also wasn't always in agreement with his parents, he neglected to read his Bible and to pray as he should.

Now here are the quiz questions.

- 1 Should Jack continue to go to play at the video games, even though he enjoys it and it does him no harm? (Let the children answer. At the end it would be good for one of them to read Romans 14:13 and someone else to read Romans 15:1-3a - "Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way ... We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself." Doesn't that teach us that Jack should be prepared to give up something he enjoys, for the good of Bob?)
- 2 Would it be hard for Jack to give up his video games in the afternoon? (Yes it would, but the Lord would help him.)
- 3 What would he feel like when he gave up going to the video arcade? (He would probably feel sad, but at the same time God would make him feel really happy that he could help Bob in this way. God always makes it up to us in some way, if we do what is right.)

- 4 Can you think of anything else that an older Christian might be doing that he enjoyed, but something that he could stop if it was being a problem or a stumbling block to a weaker Christian? (This is a very hard question and you may not get any answers. They could suggest things like looking at TV, listening to pop music and reading comics.)

Flashcard 6-8

- ★ **Climax:** To the unsaved we owe the Gospel at home and abroad (Romans 1:14-15a and 15:19-20).

In the first chapter of the book of Romans, Paul wrote these words.

“I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel” (Romans 1:14-15a).

As Paul comes near the end of his letter he writes something else.

“I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named” (Romans 15:19b-20a).

Paul said that he owed the Gospel to the unsaved. He was willing to go to places where people had not even heard the name of Christ. He longed that through the Gospel they would be converted and receive eternal life. He knew that he owed the Gospel to the unsaved. Do you and I feel that way? It is like Sandra who kept thinking, “I owe some money to Pauline.” Do you ever think, “I owe the Gospel to my friends at school. I owe the Gospel to those who live in the street where I live”? Do you try to invite them to Good News Club to hear the Gospel? Do you ever hand them a Gospel tract? Do you pray for them, that they may come to know Jesus?

- ★ **Conclusion:** Challenge to be missionaries.

I hope that today, as we have thought of owing things to others, that you will think a lot about owing the Gospel to the unsaved - to friends near home and also the people in other lands. It could be that one day God will call you to be a foreign missionary, like Paul. He may show you that He wants you to preach the Gospel “not where Christ was named” (Romans 15:20) - to people who do not know and love the name of Jesus. Think about that and ask God to show you His will for your life. What a privilege it would be to take the Gospel to needy people in other lands!

Verses for lesson 6

Romans 1:14-15a “I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel.”

Romans 13:1,5 “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed

PowerPoint 6-8

Read (or have an older child read) the verses from your Bible.



CTS

Show card with application for the saved child: “Bring the Gospel to the unsaved”.

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- by God ... Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.”
- Romans 13:8 “Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.”
- Romans 14:7-9 “For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.”
- Romans 14:13 “Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother’s way.”
- Romans 15:1-3a “We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself.”
- Romans 15:19-20 “In mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation.”

Review questions

A lot of discussion is included in the lesson, and quiz questions are worked into the text, so no review questions are given here.

Carry-over activity

The judge’s verdict

Continue to prepare the sketch, which you plan to present in the next meeting.

Carry-over activity

Role-play

Several in the group could act out with your help one of the following illustrations given in the lesson:

- 1 The scene at the customs, only this time Suzanne honestly declares the value of the goods (see page 58 - flashcard 6-3).
- Or
- 2 A policeman stopping someone for bad driving (see question 5 on page 59 - flashcard 6-4).

Sketch

The judge's verdict

This short play or sketch is based on the illustration of Jack and Kevin used in the first three lessons of the series on Romans.

There are four short scenes. It is written for nine actors and a narrator, but this can be adapted. For example,

- ◆ Instead of two policemen, you could have one or three.
- ◆ You could have more than one accomplice.
- ◆ Other children could be spectators at the trial, or witnesses, etc.

Children love play-acting and will remember vividly the scenes that they act out. The play could be used:

- ◆ For a special programme in which you invite the parents - to get to know them and also to present the Gospel to them in an interesting way. If their child has a part in the sketch, it is more likely that a parent will come to the special programme.
- ◆ As an extra lesson in the series (it could be performed for week 7). The best way is for the children to learn their lines and dress up in simple, but appropriate costumes for their roles. Of course this involves time to learn and rehearse.

You would also need a few extra "props" - a couple of chairs, a table, a gun for the assault on Mr Todd, a telephone, a cash box, handcuffs or rope, a bag, some bank notes, etc.

If you do not have time for the children to learn their roles, they could read the parts, but of course this is not so interesting or exciting for those who listen, or even for those who take part.

When choosing the characters, make sure that "Mary" is a Christian, so that her testimony at the end rings true.

Roles

Jack	13 lines
Kevin	15 lines
Narrator (could be a girl)	5 lines
Mr Todd	6 lines
Mrs Stewart	4 lines
First policeman	3 lines
Second policeman	2 lines
Secretary of court (a girl)	1 line
Jenny	9 lines
Mary	9 lines

Scene 1

Two boys sitting studying.

- Kevin Let's go out and play football, Jack. I'm fed up with this old studying.
- Jack Sorry, Kevin, I simply can't go out tonight. I have an exam coming up next week and I still have so much to revise. But tell the boys to count on me for the match on Saturday. I can't miss that!
- Kevin Oh, you and your studies! You work too hard! I like to enjoy myself. What does it matter about passing exams anyway? There are easier ways of living than by working, you know! If you can't earn your own money, you can always help yourself from others who have plenty to spare.
- Jack Oh Kevin, don't ever start helping yourself from others. That's wrong and if you begin that way, it'll lead to worse.
- Kevin Don't worry about me. I can take care of myself!

Both boys go out.

- Narrator Years passed by after this conversation. Jack worked hard and passed his exams in school and university, and became a famous judge. But Kevin continued on the wrong road. He did as little work as possible. He left school without doing his exams. He couldn't keep a job, because he behaved badly. Then he got involved with a gang. With them he began to steal and get into trouble with the police.

Scene 2

Mr Todd is at the counter, with a telephone and a cash box beside him. Two ladies are over at the side looking at some cards. Kevin walks in, pulls a nylon stocking over his face and takes out his gun.

- Narrator The scene takes place in a sub-post office, part of a shop belonging to Mr Todd.
- Kevin This is a hold-up. Hand over all your cash or you'll be shot.
- Mr Todd You'll never get away with this! And anyway I only have a little money for some old age pensioners.
- Kevin I want everything you've got. Put in those postal orders too. You two ladies get back against the wall and put your hands up.
- Mr Todd Don't hurt those ladies! Take everything. I don't want anybody shot - for any amount of money.
- Kevin Here, put it in this sack.

Kevin runs out.

- Mr Todd *(Lifting telephone.)* Hello! Is that the police? This is Mr Todd at Hillside Crescent. There's been a robbery here at the sub-post office. Can you come quickly? ... Okay! We'll wait.

Two policemen run in.

- First policeman Mr Todd, how much money did the thief get away with?
- Mr Todd Just over 500 euros and some postal orders.
- Second policeman Did you recognise who he was?

- Mr Todd No, but one of the ladies caught a glimpse of his face, as he came into the shop.
- Mrs Stewart Yes, I saw him before he pulled the stocking over his face. He reminded me of a boy who used to go to school with my oldest son, Mike.
- First policeman If we get pictures of the pupils who were at school when your son Mike was there, do you think you would recognise him?
- Mrs Stewart Yes, I would.

Scene 3 - Courtroom

- Narrator Through a school photograph Kevin was identified. The police found the postal orders and some of the money in his room. Kevin was taken to the police station and some time later he was brought to court accused of assault and robbery.

Jack (the judge) enters and sits down. Kevin enters, accompanied by two policemen.

- Kevin *(Looks up and says to himself.)* I can't believe it! That's my brother Jack. I wonder does he recognise me. Will he be easy on me because I'm his brother? I don't suppose he can, since he is the judge.
- Jack (the judge) *(Looking up, startled, says quietly to himself.)* It's not possible! That's Kevin my brother. This is terrible! I was afraid that one day he would end up in trouble with the law.
- Secretary of court The case in hand concerns a robbery which took place on Monday 11 March at approximately 9.30 am at the sub-post office in Hillside Crescent. The accused, Kevin Matthews, is here in the dock.
- Jack (the judge) Would the witness, Mrs Stewart, take the stand. Tell the court what you saw happen on the morning of 11 March in the sub-post office.
- Mrs Stewart This man came into the post office. He pulled a nylon stocking over his head, but I got a good view of his face. He held up Mr Todd and asked him to hand over the contents of the cash box, which he did.
- First policeman Mrs Stewart recognised the accused as having been at school with her son and later identified him as the thief, when we arranged a line-up of men, at the police station.
- Second policeman When we went to the home of the accused with a search warrant, we found 230 euros in notes and change hidden in a box, along with the postal orders which were stolen.
- Jack (the judge) Has the accused anything to say in his defence?
- Kevin Nothing, your Honour. This is my first time to be brought to court.
- Jack (the judge) *(Thinking out loud.)* What should I do? Will I let him go free, because he is my brother.? No, I could not do that. I am the judge and I must be fair and true. I must punish wrongdoers.
- (Turning to Kevin.)* I declare you guilty. I order you to pay the fine of 500 euros or go to jail for five months.
- Mrs Stewart The judge is really handing out a stiff penalty, and yet he's his own brother.
- Kevin 500 euros! I can't possibly pay that! I'll have to go to jail.
- Jack comes down from his seat and goes to the secretary of the court.*

Jack (the judge) I have sentenced this man to pay 500 euros, but now I am going to pay it myself.
Jack pulls out his wallet and hands over 500 euros to the secretary.

Kevin I can't believe it! He was right to fine me, but now he has paid the fine for me.

Jack (the judge) Release the prisoner!

Kevin is released and begins to walk out of the court.

Mr Todd Hey, you just can't walk out of here! You haven't paid the fine.

Kevin I'm free. My brother, the judge, has paid the complete fine for me, you can't make me pay it again. I'm a free man. The fine is paid.

Scene 4

A table with a chair at each end.

Narrator The scene takes place that evening, at Jack's house.

Kevin knocks at the front door.

Jack *(Opening the door.)* Come in, Kevin. I'm glad you could come for dinner.

Kevin *(Sitting down.)* It's been a long time since we got together.

Jack *(Sitting down.)* Yes it's good to talk. It came as a shock to see you in court today.

Kevin Jack, I'm so grateful to you for paying that fine for me. I know I deserved a fine, but I could not have paid it.

Jack Well, Kevin, as the judge I had to make sure you were sentenced for your wrongdoing. But I am your brother too, and I wanted to show my love by paying your fine.

Kevin Thank you so much. From now on I want to live in a way that you will not be ashamed of me.

Jack I only want what is best for you.

Kevin Jack, I can never repay you, but maybe I could come round from time to time and wash your car for you, or cut your lawn. Would you let me do that?

Jack That would be fine, Kevin. But you know I didn't pay your fine so that I could be paid back. You're my brother you know. Let's eat and we can talk more about it.

Scene 5

The two ladies are sitting across from each other.

Narrator The final scene takes place a few days later in the home of some neighbours who had heard how good Jack had been to his brother.

Jenny Wasn't that wonderful what the judge did for his brother Kevin? I thought it was so kind of him, Mary.

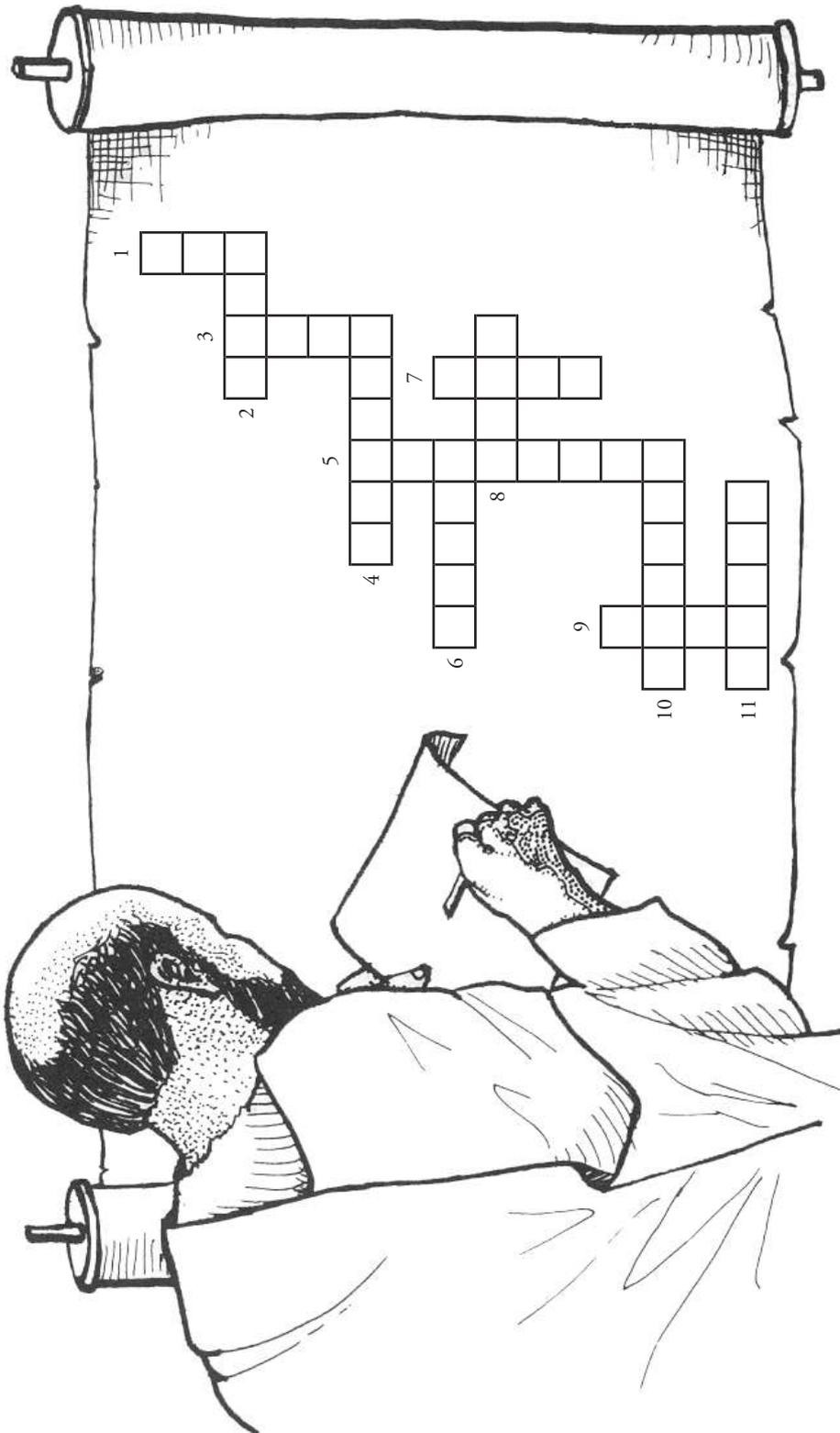
Mary Yes, it certainly was, Jenny. It made me think of what I heard last Sunday in church. The minister was talking about justification.

Jenny What on earth does "justification" mean, Mary? And what has it to do with the judge and Kevin?

- Mary Well, the Bible teaches us that we are all like Kevin in a way. We have not all done the same wrong things, of course, but we have all sinned against God by being selfish, not always telling the truth, disobeying God's commands.
- Jenny Yes, that's true, but at least we have not been taken to court by the police, accused of some crime.
- Mary Well, in a way God is like a judge; He is completely fair and good; but at the same time He loves us. As God the great Judge of all the world looks at us He declares that we are all guilty of breaking His commands and that the punishment of our sins is death.
- Jenny That's like Jack the judge declaring that Kevin was guilty. Isn't it? But did God do what Jack did in paying the fine for us?
- Mary Yes, He did much more. He gave His only Son to die for us. The Lord Jesus didn't pay for us with money, but He gave His life-blood to take the punishment of death we deserved.
- Jenny But where does justification come in?
- Mary "Justification" means that God can now declare us "not guilty and right with the law" because Jesus paid for our sins and took our punishment. The minister on Sunday read from the book of Romans, that we are justified by His blood.
- Jenny I'm beginning to see now why the story of the judge and Kevin reminded you of the sermon on justification.
- Mary Yes, Jenny, and there is another verse in Romans that says that we are justified by faith. That means if we trust Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, then we will go free and don't have to suffer for our sins.
- Jenny That's really beautiful, Mary.
- Mary Yes, it certainly is. I asked Christ to be my Saviour some years ago and I know that I am free from the punishment of my sins. I'll not be separated from God forever.
- Jenny I suppose you feel a bit like Kevin did, after Jack paid the fine for him.
- Mary I do Jenny. I am so thankful to God for giving His Son for me, and for declaring me not guilty. I want to let Him know that I love Him and want to live for Jesus.
- Jenny You have certainly made me think, Mary. I would like to know that before God I have also been declared not guilty. Could we talk some more about this tomorrow? Right now I have to run and do my shopping.
- Mary Of course, Jenny. Come round whenever you want and have a chat. I'll be glad to explain what I can to you and I'll be praying for you too.

Crossword

Review game - lesson 1



Showing God our love and gratitude

Carry-over activity - lesson 3

If God has justified us, we should show Him our love and gratitude.		With our friends
		At school
		At home

Bible verses

Lessons 1 - 3

“Guilty,” says the judge

Romans 1:20

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”

Romans 1:21

“Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Romans 2:13

“For not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified.”

Romans 2:16

“In the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.”

Romans 2:17

“Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God.”

Romans 3:9

“What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.”

Romans 3:10

“As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one.’”

Romans 3:23

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 3:26

“To demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

The judge declares you right with the law

Romans 3:20

“Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Romans 3:28

“Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”

Romans 4:3

“For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”

Romans 4:5

“But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.”

Romans 4:22

“And therefore ‘it was accounted to him for righteousness.’”

Romans 5:1

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Romans 5:9

“Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

The very best friend

Romans 8:4

“That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

Romans 8:9

“But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”

Romans 8:14

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”

Romans 8:16

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

Romans 8:26

“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”

Bible verses

Lessons 4 - 6

God's chosen people

Romans 9:5

"Of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen."

Romans 9:15

"For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.'"

Romans 9:32

"Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone."

Romans 10:1

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved."

Romans 10:12-13

"For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Romans 11:18a

"Do not boast against the branches."

Romans 11:19

"You will say then, 'Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.'"

Romans 11:23-24

"And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?"

The body of Christ

Romans 12:1

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

Romans 12:3

"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."

Romans 12:4

"For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function."

Romans 12:5

"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."

Romans 12:6-8

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."

Colossians 1:18

"And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence."

How much we owe

Romans 1:14-15a

"I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel."

Romans 13:1-5

"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God ... Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience sake."

Romans 13:8

"Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law."

Romans 14:7-9

"For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living."

Romans 14:13

"Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way."

Romans 15:1-3a

"We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself."

Romans 15:19-20

"In mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation."

Copy, cut out and keep in your Bible



Summary of steps for counselling the child who wants to come to Christ

Make sure the child understands about

God

Who is God?
God made us. He speaks to us through the Bible.
God is holy and pure. He loves us.

Sin

What is sin?
Sin is disobeying God's commands. It is against God.
Speak about specific sins.
The child is a sinner by nature and act. (We sin because we are sinners.)
Sin deserves punishment.

The Saviour

Who alone can take away your sin?
God the Son died on the cross for sinners.
The Lord Jesus rose again from the dead.
He is Lord of all.

Explain how to be saved

Explain what the Lord wants us to do, and what He will do.
Use a Bible verse (*John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 6:23 or 10:13*).
What does the Lord want you to do?
What will the Lord do?
Warn about difficulties.
Ask: "Do you want to trust Christ, or would you rather wait?"
Encourage the child to pray audibly (if ready).

Speak about assurance of salvation

Go back to the Bible verse you used.
Speak about a changed life.
Tell him what the person who is truly trusting in Christ can know.

Give (later) some advice about the Christian life

Read and obey your Bible.
Talk to God, our Heavenly Father.
Tell others what the Lord has done for you.
Ask God to forgive you when you sin.
Meet with other Christians.
Remember the Lord promises: "*I will never leave you*" (*Heb 13:5*).