

A Saviour for you

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PLEASE NOTE!

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Introduction

These lessons are simple, straightforward Gospel presentations designed to help you teach unevangelised children. They are also very suitable for young children. They can be used in open-air 5-Day Clubs® where those attending have little or no Bible knowledge. What a challenge and a privilege to teach such children about the birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension and coming again of our wonderful Saviour! The early Christians “did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ” (Acts 5:42). And so may we!

I praise the Lord for using Tim Shirey to prepare such appropriate pictures for the flashcards. Each scene has been prayerfully illustrated to help children to learn the truth, as well as to glorify the Lord. My prayer is that through this series many boys and girls will come to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jennifer Haaijer

Prayer

Be much in prayer for the children. Unless God works in their hearts and lives, no spiritual work will be done. Pray that you will teach each lesson in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the secret of effective evangelism.

Memory verses

We suggest that, when these lessons are taught on five consecutive days, only three memory verses be taught. It is better that children really learn three, rather than partially learn five. This explains why memory verses are repeated for two of the lessons. Two other Bible verses are suggested, if you are teaching these as individual lessons.

Preparation

The detailed script is provided to help teachers, but should not be a substitute for careful, prayerful preparation. Study the passages in the Word of God before studying the script. Endeavour to know each lesson so well that you will be able to teach without notes, or at most, with a minimum of notes. Remember, it is almost impossible to use notes in an open-air 5-Day Club situation. Also, practise using the flashcards before you teach a lesson to the children.

Making yourself available for counselling

There may be children who long to be saved but are unsure how they can be. There may be children with questions about what you teach. At some time during every programme tell the children that you are available to talk with them after the meeting. Make it clear where you will be. Be careful, however, not to give the impression that children need to stay behind in order to be saved. They can trust Christ anywhere, anytime, without the presence of a counsellor.

You could tell the children about being available for counselling:

- ◆ at the time during the meeting when you give the announcements;
- ◆ or after teaching the memory verse which speaks about personal salvation from sin;
- ◆ or during the Bible lesson, preferably in the early part;
- ◆ or at another suitable time in the programme.

Example of what to say:

“If you want the Lord Jesus to forgive your sins and you are still not sure what to do, I will be glad to talk with you about it and help you. After the meeting is over, just go and sit over there under the tree. Then I will know you want to speak to me. I will come and explain to you how you can ask the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Saviour”.

As there are often children who trust the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour on their own (without having been counselled personally), it is good to say something like this towards the end of the week of 5-Day Club, “If you have trusted the Lord Jesus, and I don’t know about it, please tell me after the meeting so that I can be of help to you. I will be standing over there beside that bench (or some other place). Just come and tell me, ‘I wanted you to know that I asked Jesus to save me.’”

This would then allow you to enroll such a child in your follow-up programme, and be able to help him in the area of assurance and Christian growth.

At the back of this manual, you will find an outline of “Steps for counselling a child for salvation”.

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 special emphasis, 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 special emphasis for that lesson, thus allowing you to use the special emphasis at any stage in your teaching. Clicking on the arrow on the special emphasis slide will take you back to the slide you were previously showing.

Extra visual aids

On a piece of card print out the words of the special emphasis for each lesson; back it 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 special emphasis in the lesson.

Additional helps

Along the left and right 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.

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

Review questions

For each lesson 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	Special emphasis	Application	Memory verse
The birth of Christ Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:26-38 Luke 2:1-20	Jesus Christ is the only Saviour	Unsaved: Ask Him to rescue you from sin	“For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” Romans 10:13
Jesus heals a paralysed man Mark 2:1-12	Jesus Christ can forgive your sin	Unsaved: Ask Him to forgive you and He will do it	In a 5-Day Club repeat Romans 10:13 Or In a one-time meeting teach: “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins” Ephesians 1:7
The trial and crucifixion of Christ Matt 26:57 - 27:66 John 19 Luke 23:39-43	Jesus Christ took the punishment for our sin	Unsaved: Trust in the Lord Jesus and you will belong to Him always	“... Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures” 1 Corinthians 15:3
The resurrection of Christ John 20 Luke 24:1-12	Because Jesus Christ rose again, you can have peace with God	Unsaved: Ask Jesus to take away your sin and then you will have peace with God	“... [He] made peace through the blood of His cross” Colossians 1:20
The great King Matthew 28:16-20 Acts 1:1-11 Revelation 1:9-19 Revelation 22:20	Jesus Christ is King	Unsaved: Ask Jesus to save you from sin and be your King	In a 5-Day Club repeat Colossians 1:20 Or In a one-time meeting teach: “... Every tongue [should] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord ...” Philippians 2:11

Lesson 1

The birth of Christ

Scripture for teachers

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 2:1-20

Special emphasis

Jesus Christ is the only Saviour

Application

Unsaved: Ask Him to rescue you from sin

Memory verse

“For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” Romans 10:13

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7 and 1-8

Or

- ◆ PowerPoint slides: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7 and 1-8

And

- ◆ Wordstrip: “Jesus Christ is the only Saviour” (special emphasis)
- ◆ A picture of a boy, mounted on card

Lesson outline

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Flashcard 1-1 | An angel visits Mary
Jesus Christ is the Son of God |
| Flashcard 1-2 | Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem |
| Flashcard 1-3 | Jesus is born in a stable
Jesus Christ is the Saviour from sin |
| Flashcard 1-4 | The angels appear to the shepherds
Jesus Christ is the only Saviour |
| Flashcard 1-5 | The angels go back to Heaven
Jesus Christ never sinned but He died and rose again to take your punishment |
| Flashcard 1-6 | The shepherds decide to go into the city to see the baby
He can rescue you from sin today |
| Flashcard 1-7 | The shepherds find the baby lying in a manger |
| Flashcard 1-8 | The shepherds tell others the news
He will rescue you today |

Lesson

It happened only once and will never, ever happen again. Have you heard about it?

Flashcard 1-1

Long, long ago a lady lived in a town far away. She was not at all famous or rich. But one day an amazing, frightening thing happened to her. She heard someone come into her home and call, "Greetings!" She was not expecting a visitor and was startled when she saw him. It was not one of her neighbours. It was not Joseph, the man she was going to marry. This visitor was different, very different. He was one of God's messengers, an angel sent from Heaven, where God lives. We do not know what he looked like, but when the young lady saw him she was afraid.

"Do not be afraid," the angel said kindly. "God has chosen you for something special. You are going to have a baby and you should name Him Jesus. He will be very great; He will be the Son of God."

The young woman was puzzled and frightened. It was impossible for such a thing to happen.

"But how can that happen? I am not married," she asked.

The angel explained that the lady would be the mother of the baby, but God would be His Father. Every baby has a woman for a mother and a man who is his father. But this baby would be different - He would not have a man as a father, God would be the Father. Never before, and never again has this happened. I know this is difficult for you and me to understand. Even though we do not understand, we can believe it for this is what is written in the Bible. This baby would be the Son of God. God has only one Son and the angel said that soon He was going to become a baby.

The surprised young woman told the angel, "If this is what God plans to do, I am willing to be His servant."

Then the angel left.

Does anyone know the name of this woman?

Allow the children to answer.

It was Mary. As she sat alone in her home in Nazareth, her mind was full of all sorts of thoughts and questions. It was impossible for such a thing to happen ... but God could do impossible things. Would anyone believe the story? And whatever would Joseph, the man she was to marry, say?

At first Joseph was very upset, but God told him that Mary's baby was God's Son. Then Joseph was willing to marry Mary. It would be an honour to help care for this special child.

PowerPoint 1-1



Flashcard 1-2

There must have been a lot of excitement in Mary and Joseph's home as they got ready for the birth of the baby. The months passed quickly; very soon the baby would be born.

But one day Joseph said, "Mary, we have to travel to Bethlehem."

"It's a long journey, Joseph. Do you have to make it now?" Mary may have asked anxiously.

"I'm afraid so. The Emperor wants to count how many people live in his empire. So we have to go to Bethlehem to sign our names in a book there."

They prepared for the long journey and soon left home. Probably Mary rode a donkey. They were tired when they reached the town.

"Let's find somewhere to stay," they thought.

But that proved very difficult. The town was crowded.

One after another, the innkeepers (who were like hotel owners) shook their heads and said, "Sorry, we have no room for you."

Mary was exhausted. They needed somewhere to rest soon. When one innkeeper suggested, "If you wish you may sleep in the stable," they agreed. It was not what they wanted, but it was better than nothing. They were glad to get inside, and they made themselves as comfortable as possible. Perhaps there were animals sleeping there, too.

Flashcard 1-3

Sssh!

Make sound like a baby's cry.

That was the cry of a baby - a new baby. Yes, right there in the stable, Mary's baby was born. Can you remember Who was the baby's Father?

Allow the children to respond.

Yes, it was God! This is what we remember at Christmas - God's only Son coming to Earth.

Lovingly and gently Mary and Joseph cared for Him, wrapping Him snugly in strips of cloth. But of course they had no bed or cot for Him.

"Let's use the manger!"

Perhaps it was Joseph's idea. They used the manger, out of which the animals usually ate their food. Probably they put in fresh straw to make it comfortable for the tiny, newborn baby.

Mary and Joseph gazed in wonder at the little baby boy. Yes, He was a real baby. Such little feet and toes, such tiny hands and fingers. He needed to be fed and cared for just as any other baby. But this baby was



PowerPoint 1-2



PowerPoint 1-3

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

It would be good to have a picture of a boy, mounted on card, and to use that as your visual at this point.

From Exodus 20:16 and Ephesians 6:1.

Show card with special emphasis: "Jesus Christ is the only Saviour".

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

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

PowerPoint 1-4

different - He was God's one and only Son. Before becoming a baby He had lived with God His Father. His life with God had no beginning; He was always there. He was there when the world was made. He even made the world - "all things were made through Him" (John 1:3). But now He had become a tiny, helpless baby, and was spending His first night in this world sleeping in a stable. How different from Heaven where He had always lived!

"His name is Jesus," Mary and Joseph whispered.

God had told both of them what His name should be. The name Jesus has a wonderful meaning. Jesus means "Saviour" - that is someone who rescues or saves people. God sent His only Son, because you and I are in big trouble and we need to be saved.

Let me tell you about a boy called Alexander who was in the same trouble ...

"No, I didn't do it, honest," Alexander told his Mum. "Michael did it."

Michael was only two and could not explain how the plant had been toppled. Mum believed Alexander, and he was glad. She did not know that he had been kicking the ball in the living room - something he was not allowed to do. His quick lie had got him out of trouble.

Have you ever told a lie to get out of trouble? Have you ever disobeyed your parents? When you do, you disobey God. In the Bible God commands us, "Do not lie," and, "Obey your parents." When you disobey God, you are in big trouble. Those things that displease God are called sin. God is so good, pure and right that He must punish all sin. That punishment comes after you die, when you meet God and have to answer to God for the way you disobey Him. The Bible says that "all have sinned" (Romans 3:23), so everyone here is in this big trouble. You need to be rescued, otherwise you will be punished for ever for the wrong you have done. But you can be rescued, for God's Son came into the world to be the Saviour. An angel had told Joseph, "Call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

It seemed as if only Mary and Joseph knew about His coming. The busy people in Bethlehem knew nothing of what was happening in the stable.

Outside the city it was a quiet night. On a hillside some shepherds were looking after their sheep. For them it was just like any other night, until ...

Flashcard 1-4

... suddenly a great bright light lit up the whole sky. It was one of God's messengers, an angel, again. Like you and me, the shepherds

had never seen an angel. They were terrified and covered their faces with their hands.

“Do not be afraid,” the angel’s voice rang out. “I have good news. A Saviour for you has been born in Bethlehem. You will find Him wrapped in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”

Suddenly the sky was filled with angels, all praising God.

The angels were so thrilled at what God had done that they said, “Glory to God!”

Never before had so many angels been seen on Earth. God was doing something very wonderful. He loved people like you and me very, very much. He knows that we are in big trouble because we have disobeyed Him. But He sent His only Son to save us. The Lord Jesus can rescue you from the punishment you deserve. He saves you from sin and changes you. He will help you to live in a way that pleases Him. That was the good news the angel told the shepherds.

The shepherds were amazed and afraid, excited and puzzled as they watched and listened.

Flashcard 1-5

All at once the sky was dark again. The coming of the Saviour had been announced, so the angels went back to Heaven. But how could a tiny baby boy save these shepherds from their sin? How could He do anything to rescue you and me from God’s punishment?

The little baby was also God, so He was very special. He grew just as you do. He learned to walk and talk. He played with his friends. He went to school. But He never got into that big trouble that you are in. He never told a lie. He never disobeyed God. He was perfect. Then, when He was over thirty years old, He was killed. He was nailed to a cross. As He hung there and died God punished Him for our sin. He suffered dreadfully, as God punished Him for our lies, cheating, disobedience, mean thoughts, selfishness, anger, envy, ... and every wrong thing. The Bible says that the Lord Jesus “gave Himself for our sins” (Galatians 1:4). He loved you and me so much, that He was willing to be punished in our place.

Nobody else loves you as much as He does. Yes, He still loves you, for He is not dead today. He died and was buried, but after three days He came alive. He is still alive and will never die again. He is back in Heaven now, but He can see you and hear you. If you ask Him to rescue you from your sin and change you, He will do it. God promises, “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13). He is the only Saviour there is. Perhaps you really want Him to be your Saviour, but you are not sure how to “call on the name of the Lord.” Perhaps you have questions about it. I will be glad to talk to you and help you from the Bible. After club, when the others leave,



Show card with special emphasis.

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

PowerPoint 1-5



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

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

Make yourself available for personal counselling.

PowerPoint 1-6



please come and talk to me. I will be (*designate place*). The Lord Jesus is the Saviour you need. He is the One the shepherds needed too.

Flashcard 1-6

“We must go to Bethlehem,” they said to each other.

“Yes, let’s see for ourselves what God has told us about.”

For them, just hearing about the Saviour was not enough; they wanted to go and see Him for themselves. For you too, it is good to hear about the Lord Jesus, but you must ask yourself, “Is this Saviour for me?” You must trust the Lord Jesus Christ for yourself. That means that you know you are in big trouble with God and you are sorry you have sinned. That means you know that the Lord Jesus died for you and you ask Him right now to rescue you from your sin. Then He will be your Saviour and He will change your life. Don’t just say, “I liked the story.” Do something about what you heard. You cannot go to Bethlehem, but you can ask Jesus Christ to save you now. The shepherds would have missed so much if they had only listened to the good news. But they left their sheep and set out for the city.



PowerPoint 1-7

Flashcard 1-7

They did not know to which house to go in Bethlehem. The angel had given them a clue. Can you remember it?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, the baby would be wrapped in strips of cloth and He would be lying in a manger.

They looked here and there until they found a stable near an inn. They peeped in and saw people, a man and a woman. Close to them was a manger.

“This must be the place,” they thought.

Their hearts must have thumped with excitement.

Quietly they went in and gazed in wonder at the little baby. Probably they knelt beside the manger, for they knew that the baby was their Saviour. They did not yet understand that one day He would die for their sins, for Mary’s, for Joseph’s and for ours.

The shepherds told Mary and Joseph what the angel had said. They told about the great crowd of angels. Perhaps it helped Mary and Joseph to understand how wonderful this baby boy was.

PowerPoint 1-8

Flashcard 1-8

Soon it was time for the shepherds to return to their sheep. They said goodbye and took a last look at the baby. As they walked back to the hillside, they stopped to tell the news to others.

“God has sent the Saviour He promised.”

“We saw Him in a stable in Bethlehem.”

“Rejoice! God has been good to us. The Saviour has come.”

“An angel told us about Him. Oh, we’ll never forget that great crowd of angels!”

And so the news spread. Since then, many, many people have heard it. Today you have heard it too. If you just listen, but do nothing about it, you will still be in big trouble. All the wrong you do will keep you away from God, and you will be punished for ever and ever.

Jesus Christ can save you today. Do you know that you have disobeyed God and deserve God’s punishment? Are you sorry for the wrong you have done? Do you want to be different? Then tell the Lord Jesus about it, just quietly, where you are sitting. You may say something like this: “Dear Lord Jesus, I am sorry for all the wrong I have done. I want to be different. Thank You for coming into the world and dying for me. Please save me now.” That is how you “call on the name of the Lord.” When you do that, you will be saved. God promises, “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13). He will save you too. God said that the Lord Jesus “will save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21).

Review questions

- 1 Who were the parents of the baby in our lesson? (Mary was His mother and God was His Father.)
- 2 Where did Mary and Joseph live? (Nazareth.)
- 3 Why did they have to travel to Bethlehem? (The Emperor wanted to count how many people lived in his empire, so Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem to sign their names in a book there.)
- 4 What special thing happened while they were in Bethlehem? (The Lord Jesus was born.)
- 5 The angels told Joseph to give the Baby the name “Jesus”. What does “Jesus” mean? (Saviour - someone who rescues or saves people.)
- 6 From what does Jesus want to save us? (The punishment we deserve for our sin.)
- 7 How can Jesus become your Saviour? (Tell the Lord Jesus that you have sinned and ask Him to forgive you.)
- 8 What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus? (They told others.)



Show card with special emphasis.

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

Read the verses from your Bible.

Lesson 2

Jesus heals a paralysed man

Scripture for teachers

Mark 2:1-12

Special emphasis

Jesus Christ can forgive your sin

Application

Unsaved: Ask Him to forgive you and He will do it

Memory verse

In a 5-Day Club repeat Romans 10:13

Or

In a one-time meeting teach: "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" Ephesians 1:7

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-7 and 2-8

Or

- ◆ PowerPoint slides: 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-7 and 2-8

And

- ◆ Wordstrip: "Jesus Christ can forgive your sin" (special emphasis)

Lesson outline

- Flashcard 2-1 The news spreads quickly -
"He is back in the city"
Jesus is God the Son
- Flashcard 2-2 The paralysed man is lying on
his mat-bed
We all have sinned
and deserved
God's punishment
- Flashcard 2-3 His friends tell him about
Jesus
- Flashcard 2-4 The friends lower the paralysed
man down through the roof
He is God's
only Son and He
can do anything
- Flashcard 2-5 Jesus talks to the paralysed
man
The Lord Jesus
died so that He
can forgive our sin
- Flashcard 2-6 Not everyone is happy! -
"No-one but God can forgive
sins. Who does He think He
is?"
He knows all
about your sin
- Flashcard 2-7 The paralysed man stands up
He can forgive
your sin
- Flashcard 2-8 The man's sins are forgiven,
and he is healed
Ask Him to
forgive you now

PowerPoint 2-1



Lesson

Flashcard 2-1

The news spread quickly.

“He is back in the city. Come on, let’s go and see Him.”

“He’s the best teacher I ever heard.”

“He might even heal a sick person. I don’t want to miss that.”

“My neighbour told me about Him; I want to see Him for myself.”

They were talking about the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you remember that in our last lesson we learned how He was born? By this time He was a grown man. He was back home in Galilee, in Capernaum, and many were hurrying to listen to Him. Others were not so enthusiastic. They were rather grumpy and jealous.

“Who is this fellow anyway? Look at all the people who crowd to hear Him. We’d better go and check up on what He’s telling them,” they grouched.

These men were very religious and often talked about God. But they did not like His Son, Jesus Christ.

The house, where the Lord Jesus was teaching, was crammed with people. Those who could not squeeze in, gathered around the door. Everyone listened intently as the Lord Jesus taught about God and how to belong to Him. He was such a good teacher; nobody else could teach so well. Not many people in the crowd knew that every word the Lord Jesus said was from God. They did not know that He was God, God’s only Son. He looked like a man; He was a man; but He was also God. That is why it was so wonderful to listen to Him, even if there was hardly room to move!

But let’s leave that crowded house and go to another house in the same town.

PowerPoint 2-2



Read (or have an older child read) Mark 12:30 from your Bible.

Flashcard 2-2

Probably it was a quiet, sad place. Lying on a mat-bed was a very sick man. He was paralysed. That means that he could not move. The doctors could not help him. There was no medicine that could make him well. How hard it would be to lie in bed all day. Imagine not being able to run around, jump or climb.

But that was not the only problem this man had. There was something else wrong, something which people could not see so easily. Many, many times this man had disobeyed God. God commands, “Do not covet” (from Exodus 20:17) but he had envied other people and wanted what they had. God commands, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart” (Mark 12:30 and Deuteronomy 10:12). But many times the man did not love God at all. If all the wrong things this man had done were written in a book, it would have to be a huge book.

Supposing there was a book like that for you and me. What would be in it? Perhaps your brother got a remote control car for his birthday. It was a beauty. You were so jealous, that you could not be nice to him, even though it was his birthday. God commands, “You shall not covet” (Exodus 20:17). You disobeyed God, so “coveted brother’s car” would go in your book. Many, many other things that you have done against God would be there too.

- ◆ Did not turn off the TV, when Mum said you should.
- ◆ Quarrelled with your sister.
- ◆ Slammed the door in bad temper.
- ◆ Thought mean thoughts about a girl in school.
- ◆ Told a lie to get out of trouble.
- ◆ Cheated in a school test.
- ◆ Didn’t even think about God today.

On and on it would go. There is no need for a book like that, for God knows every wrong you have done. He even knows every wrong you will ever do. God sees these things as a big problem. He calls wrong “sin.” He cannot ever say, “Oh, it doesn’t matter about sin.” He is good and right, so when we disobey Him, He must punish that disobedience. That punishment happens when you die. In the Bible we read, “It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). When you die, God will punish you for every wrong you have done against Him. God’s punishment for sin will last for ever and ever. This is what I deserve, it is what you deserve, and it is what this man deserved too.

Flashcard 2-3

Suddenly there was a noise in his doorway. Four of his friends burst in.

“Come quickly!” they told him excitedly. “Jesus is back in town.”

Jesus? Probably the man had heard of Him.

“He is the teacher, the One Who makes sick people well in a moment. Perhaps ...”

He didn’t have much time to think, for his friends lifted his bed and hurried out into the street.

“We are sure He can make you well,” they must have assured him, as they hurried along the streets, carrying him on his bed.

They did not care if people stared at them; they believed that the Lord Jesus could help their friend.

Soon they arrived at the door of the house where the Lord Jesus was teaching. Although it was crowded, they tried to get in. But it

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

PowerPoint 2-3



was impossible, nobody would move to let them through. What a disappointment!

Flashcard 2-4

But the four friends were not ready to give up. Quickly they talked together and came up with another idea. They carried their friend on his mat-bed to the side of the house, where there were steps leading to a flat roof.

Up they went - ever so carefully. The roof was probably made from mud mixed with chopped straw, spread over the beams and dried out. The men gently placed the mat-bed on the roof and set to work. They began to make a hole in the roof. They were determined to get their friend to the Lord Jesus; they were sure He could help. He is indeed God's only Son and He can do anything. Nothing is too difficult for Him. These men were right to trust Him. But would they be able to get their friend to Him?

The hole in the roof became quite large. The four friends gently eased it through the hole and lowered their friend into the house!

Imagine the surprise of the people in the house when they saw the men make the hole. Perhaps some mud fell on people's heads! Surely the Lord Jesus stopped teaching, as the sick man was lowered and set right in front of Him. Everyone could see that this was a very sick man. Could the Lord Jesus help him? Would He help him? All the people watched and listened.

Flashcard 2-5

What do you think the Lord Jesus said?

Allow the children to respond.

He said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Perhaps some people were disappointed that the Lord Jesus had not healed the man. But the Lord Jesus saw the two problems the man had, his sin and his sickness. He dealt with the biggest problem first. If something was not done about the man's sin, he could never live with God in Heaven; he would be punished for ever.

So at that moment the Lord Jesus forgave all his sin. It was as if all his sins, written in that huge book, were wiped out and all the pages were clean. God would never remember this man's sins anymore (Hebrews 8:12). God would love him and care for him and, when he died, he would live with God for ever in Heaven. He would not be given the punishment he deserved. That is what it means to be forgiven.

It would have been impossible for this man or anyone else to be forgiven, if God had not planned a wonderful way for sin to be forgiven. We have learned that God cannot say, "Oh it does not matter about



PowerPoint 2-4



PowerPoint 2-5

the wrong you do. I'll just forget about it." God must punish all sin. So God sent His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be the One Who would be punished for our sin and for the sins of the sick man. He never did anything wrong; He always obeyed God. Then, about two years after this paralysed man met Him, the Lord Jesus was nailed to the cross and died. As He hung on the cross, God punished His own dear Son for our sins. "Christ died for our sins" (1 Corinthians 15:3). If God had not done this, nobody could have ever been forgiven. God loved us so much that He gave His Son to die for us. The Lord Jesus willingly suffered and died, taking the punishment we deserve. Nobody else loves you like that. I am sure that this sick man could see that the Lord Jesus loved him too. It was wonderful to have that biggest problem of all taken care of. How glad he was that the Lord Jesus had forgiven his sin.

Flashcard 2-6

However, not everyone was smiling as they looked on. Some men were very unhappy. They did not say anything, but they thought many things!

"Why does this fellow talk like this?"

"No-one but God can forgive sins. Who does He think He is? After all. He's only a man!"

"Why didn't He heal the man, then we could see if it happened? Nobody can see whether or not his sins are forgiven. That was an easy way out."

The angry thoughts of the men were interrupted when the Lord Jesus spoke to them.

"Why are you thinking these things?" He asked.

They must have gasped in surprise. What? Did He know their thoughts! Yes, because He is God. God knows everything. "He knows the secrets of the heart" (Psalm 44:21). He knows every sin of yours that would have to be written in that huge book, if we had one. So, of course, the Lord Jesus knew the thoughts of these men.

He asked them a question, "Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up and walk?'"

But they did not answer. Why not?

Allow the children to respond.

Not one of them could forgive sins or heal the man. Only God could do these things.

"I will show that I can forgive sins," the Lord Jesus continued. He looked down at the sick man. "Get up, take up your mat and go home," He said.

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

Show card with special emphasis: "Jesus Christ can forgive your sin".

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PowerPoint 2-6



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

PowerPoint 2-7



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

Show card with special emphasis.

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Flashcard 2-7

Every eye watched. The paralysed man moved. He sat up, got off his mat and rolled it up. All the people were amazed. They could see that he was completely well. They could be just as sure that he was also completely forgiven. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, had done it.

He can do it for you too. You have the big problem of sin. You know you have often disobeyed God. Perhaps you are very sorry and you want to be forgiven. Listen to these wonderful words from the Bible: "In Him [Jesus Christ] we have ... the forgiveness of sins" (Ephesians 1:7).

That means if you depend on the Lord Jesus to forgive your sins, He will do it. He died so that you could be forgiven; but He came back to life. He is alive and, although you do not see Him, He sees you.

Perhaps you are puzzled about how to believe in the Lord Jesus. Think of a boy, we will call him Anthony. He climbed a high wall in an old tumbledown house, his favourite hideout. When he tried to get down, he couldn't make it. It grew dark and he was alone. Then he heard footsteps and his father's voice.

"I'm stuck, Dad," he called.

His dad came closer and spoke gently, "Just jump, Anthony, and I'll catch you."

Anthony knew his father was a strong man, so he jumped. His father caught him. Anthony believed in his father and trusted himself to him. You believe in the Lord Jesus, when you trust yourself to Him. He will hear you as you talk to Him quietly in your heart. Tell Him something like this, "Lord Jesus, I am sorry for all the wrong I have done. Thank You for dying, so that I could be forgiven. Please forgive me now." If you trust in Him, you receive forgiveness of sins. It will be as if every sin is wiped out from that huge book. None will ever be written there any more, for the wrong you do tomorrow, next week or next year is also forgiven, but of course you should tell Jesus you are sorry when you do sin. You will never be punished for your sin. You will be ready to live with God for ever and ever. It is just wonderful to be forgiven.

Flashcard 2-8

PowerPoint 2-8



The man who had been brought by his friends was so happy. His sin was gone and his sickness was gone. He could move his arms and legs. He could walk. The people, who would not move to let him and his friends through when they arrived, now moved aside to let him walk through. I am sure his friends hurried down the outside steps to meet him. Everyone was excited and thrilled.

"We have never seen such a thing!" they exclaimed. "This is something only God can do!"

Walking home that day was very special for this man. He was completely healed and completely forgiven. How good and kind the Lord Jesus had been to him.

The Lord Jesus loves you too. He wants to forgive your sin, right now. If you are truly sorry that you have disobeyed God, won't you ask the Lord Jesus to forgive you this very moment? Then all your sin will be forgiven and forgotten by God. Remember the promise in the Bible, "In Him [Jesus Christ] we have ... the forgiveness of sins" (Ephesians 1:7).

Review questions

- 1 The man in our lesson today had two problems. Can you tell me one of them? (He was paralysed - he could not walk.)
- 2 What was the other problem he had? (He had disobeyed God - he was a sinner.)
- 3 The four friends decided to take their friend to Jesus. What was the problem when they got to the house? (There were so many people there that they could not get into the house.)
- 4 How did they get into the house? (They made a hole in the roof and lowered their friend down into the house.)
- 5 What was the first thing that Jesus said to the paralysed man? ("Son, your sins are forgiven.")
- 6 Why were some men angry when Jesus said this? (Jesus had claimed to be able to forgive sins and only God can forgive sins.)
- 7 How did Jesus know what they were thinking? (He is God and knows everything.)
- 8 Can you give me an example of a sin which could be in our lives? (Answers will vary. Examples in the text include not turning off the TV, when Mum said you should; quarrelling with your sister; slamming the door in bad temper; thinking mean thoughts about a girl in school; telling a lie to get out of trouble; cheating in a school test; not thinking about God today.)
- 9 Can you give me another example? (Answers will vary.)
- 10 What else did Jesus say to the paralysed man? ("Get up, take up your mat and go home.")

Show card with special emphasis.

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

Read the verse from your Bible.

Lesson 3

The trial and crucifixion of Christ

Scripture for teachers

Matthew 26:57 - 27:66

John 19

Luke 23:39-43

Special emphasis

Jesus Christ took the punishment for our sin

Application

Unsaved: Trust in the Lord Jesus and you will belong to Him always

Memory verse

“... Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures” 1 Corinthians 15:3

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7 and 3-8

Or

- ◆ PowerPoint slides: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5, 3-6, 3-7 and 3-8

And

- ◆ Wordstrip: “Jesus Christ took the punishment for our sin” (special emphasis)

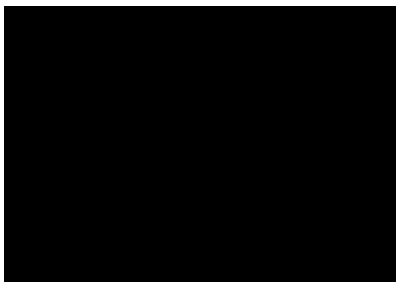
Lesson outline

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Flashcard 3-1 | Black flashcard (representing sin)
We are sinners but the Lord Jesus Christ never sinned |
| Flashcard 3-2 | Jesus appears before the high priest
The Lord Jesus Christ is God's son |
| Flashcard 3-3 | Jesus appears before Pilate
The Lord Jesus never sinned |
| Flashcard 3-4 | The soldiers beat Jesus
God loves us and He sent the Lord Jesus Christ to take our sin away |
| Flashcard 3-5 | Jesus is given a wooden cross to carry and He is crucified
The Lord Jesus Christ was crucified for our sin |
| Flashcard 3-6 | Jesus - “Today you will be with Me in Paradise”
The Lord Jesus can take away your sin today |
| Flashcard 3-7 | Jesus dies
The Lord Jesus has done everything needed to take away our sin |
| Flashcard 3-8 | Jesus is buried
Trust Him now |

PowerPoint 3-1

As you tell the following story, either you or a helper should show the black card (flashcard 3-1) at parts in the lesson marked ✨.

Before telling the story, explain to the children that you want them to think why the black card was shown at particular points.



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



Lesson

Flashcard 3-1

Alice curled up under the blankets and tried not to think of school.

“Alice, are you out of bed? We’re late already,” called her Mum.

“Yes, Mum, I’m up,”[✨] she replied and pulled the blankets tighter around her.

After a short time she heard footsteps on the stairs, so she quickly leapt out of bed. Everything was such a rush. She dressed quickly, gobbled her breakfast, forgot to clean her teeth, bundled her school books together and dashed off, forgetting her lunch. At the school gate she met Susie - “Smarty Susie”.

“Did you get all your homework done?” asked Susie.

“Of course, it was easy,” lied Alice[✨] and hurried ahead!

“Hi, Alice!” called Phil. “You came with Smartie Susie, I see,” and he grinned wickedly.

“She’s a pain. Actually, I hate her,” muttered Alice.[✨]

Soon they were all in class. Some of Alice’s work was wrong. Angrily, she thumped her books on the desk,[✨] because she had to do it over again as the others started craft time. At last she could join the others, as they painted models. This was something Alice did very well. All too soon the paints and brushes had to be put away.

“Is everything in the cupboard?” asked the teacher.

“Yes,” replied Alice, pretending not to see the brush lying on the floor.[✨]

She hurried out with the others.

Discuss with the children why the black card was shown.

The black card was shown every time Alice displeased God. She told lies, she was mean and angry. All of these are disobeying God’s commands. If someone were to show a black card every time you or I disobey God, it would be seen very often. Not one of us lives the way God wants us to live. The Bible says, “There is none who does good, no, not one” (Romans 3:12b). Nobody lives a perfect life, doing only good.

Only once was there a Person Who could never have had a black card shown about anything He did. That was the Lord Jesus Christ. He lived a perfect life. He never lied. He was never mean or hateful. People watched Him very, very closely to see if they could discover something they could blame Him for.

Flashcard 3-2

One night His enemies arrested Him. They were going to bring Him to a kind of court. Their problem was that they could find nothing

to blame Him for. They even paid men to tell lies about Him; but as these men told their story in court, no-one believed it. Everyone knew they had made it up.

At last the judge, who was also a priest, turned to the Lord Jesus Christ and asked, "Are You the Son of God?"

The Lord replied, "I am."

"This is all we need!" exclaimed the judge angrily.

"He must die for saying such a thing," the others agreed.

Was it wrong for Jesus Christ to say He was God's Son? No! He was telling the truth. The Bible tells us many times that He is God's only Son. He had lived forever in Heaven with God the Father, before coming to Earth. God had even spoken aloud from a cloud and said, "This is my dearly loved Son" (from Matthew 3:17).

But the Jewish leaders would not believe this. They hated Him when He said, "I and My Father are one" (from John 10:30-31). They were determined that He should die for saying such things. So they passed the death sentence on Him. They knew that the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, would have to agree. Before sending Him to Pilate, they punched Him and spat in His face.

Flashcard 3-3

In Pilate's hall, the Roman governor looked at the man before him.

"The Jews are envious of Him; that is why they bring Him here," he thought.

Then Pilate asked the Lord Jesus questions, but the Lord remained silent. Pilate knew He was a good man and He did not deserve death. As the Roman governor was thinking about what he should do, he received a message from his wife.

"Have nothing to do with this good man!"

Pilate knew his wife was right, but he also knew that he would be very unpopular, he might even lose his job, if he let the prisoner go free.

"What wrong has He done?" he asked the Jewish leaders.

They could not mention any wrong, for Jesus never sinned. In the Bible we read that He had no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21). That means He never thought a wrong thought. He never said a wrong word. Everything He did pleased God. He was not guilty.

But the Jews were chanting, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

(When someone was nailed to a cross and died like that, it was called being crucified.)

Pilate was too scared to do the right thing, so he took a basin and washed his hands to show that he would not take the blame for the death of this man.

PowerPoint 3-2

PowerPoint 3-3



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



PowerPoint 3-4

“I find no fault in this man,” he said. “You take Him and crucify Him.”

Flashcard 3-4

That was all that the Jewish leaders wanted to hear. Their hated enemy would die.

Meanwhile Pilate allowed the soldiers to beat the Lord Jesus. Then they put a scarlet robe and a crown woven out of sharp thorns on Him.

They mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

They spat on Him and beat Him again. The Lord Jesus did not shout at them or hit back. He took it all quietly. He could have destroyed all His enemies, for He is God; but He did not. He went through all that suffering, because He loved you and me. He knew that, just like Alice about whom we heard at the beginning, we displease God many, many times. He knew that we could never live with God, because of our sin. Even before God made the world, He planned to send His Son to take away our sin (1 Peter 1:18-21). The Lord Jesus knew He had to go through the mocking and beating if He was going to carry out God’s plan.

PowerPoint 3-5



Flashcard 3-5

The soldiers roughly took off the scarlet robe and gave the Lord Jesus a large wooden cross to carry. This was the cross to which He would soon be nailed. It was heavy, and He was weak from the beatings, so He stumbled and fell. The soldiers then forced another man to carry the cross to Calvary Hill.

There the soldiers laid the cross on the ground and nailed the Lord Jesus to it. They hammered big nails into His hands and feet. Then they lifted the cross and set it upright in the ground. There hung the perfect Son of God, and His precious blood poured out.

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

Show card with special emphasis: “Jesus Christ took the punishment for our sin”.

How cruel and unfair! How painful for the Lord Jesus! The Bible tells us that “He was wounded for our transgressions” (Isaiah 53:5). “Transgressions” means disobedience to God. Those wounds the Lord suffered were because of our disobedience. He, the Son of God, was taking our blame and our punishment.

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Flashcard 3-6

PowerPoint 3-6



The people who were watching there at Calvary Hill did not understand that His friends were broken-hearted that such a good, dear friend should be treated so cruelly. His enemies were glad. They would not have to worry about His miracles or teaching any more.

Two other men, thieves, were being crucified also. They were being punished for doing very bad things. They looked at the Lord Jesus as He hung on the cross between theirs. One of them spoke very roughly to Him.

“Come on, get us out of this trouble!”

They were not sorry for the wrong they had done; they just wanted the Lord Jesus to get them out of this terrible punishment and death. He did not answer them.

Then one of the thieves stopped cursing and speaking roughly. Suddenly he began to understand. He spoke to the other thief.

“Be quiet! Can’t you see that we deserve what we are getting? This man does not.”

This thief must have understood that very soon he would die. Then he would meet God. How dreadful to meet the great, pure, good God, if you have sin and wrong in your life. But who could help him? At that moment he was very sorry for living in such a bad way.

Somehow he knew that the Lord Jesus could help him. So turning to the Lord Jesus, he said, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom” (Luke 23:42).

Even though He was suffering so much, the Lord Jesus loved that thief. He answered, “Today you will be with Me in Paradise,” that is where God is (Luke 23:43).

The Lord Jesus was being punished for all the thief’s sins too. So He could take away all his sin and make him ready to meet God.

The Lord Jesus can do the same for you today. If you too are really sorry and ask the Lord Jesus to take all your sin away, He will do it. Perhaps you want to do this, but you are not sure how. I would be glad to show you again from the Bible. When the others leave, please stay in your seat. Then I will know that you want to talk about this. I will be happy to show you what God says in the Bible. You need the Lord Jesus to take away your sins, just as the thief did. How wonderful it was that he could die, knowing he would live forever with God.

Think of how the Lord Jesus was suffering for that thief, and for us. But worse was still to come.

Flashcard 3-7

At twelve o’clock in the middle of the day the sky became dark. Normally, at that time the sun was high in the sky. Now there was a strange, thick darkness for three long hours. There in the darkness God punished His only Son, as if He had told lies, hated people, murdered people, thought jealous thoughts, stolen, used bad language and every other wrong. We know that the Lord Jesus Christ had never done anything wrong. He took our punishment - “Christ died for our sins” (1 Corinthians 15:3). The punishment was so dreadful that we cannot even understand it.

Suddenly a cry was heard in the darkness, “My God, My God, why have You left me?” (From Matthew 27:46.)

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

Show card with special emphasis.

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Make yourself available for personal counselling.

PowerPoint 3-7



Show card with special emphasis.

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It was the Lord Jesus calling out to God. His Father had left Him, because the Lord Jesus was taking our sin on Himself. God is so good that He cannot even look on sin. This was the only time He had ever left His Son. At last the suffering was over.

The Lord Jesus called out, "It is finished!" and then He died.

He had done all that was needed to take away our sin. Does that mean that everyone's sin is taken away and everyone will live with God in Heaven? No! The Bible makes it very clear that you must trust the Lord Jesus to take away your sins. Only then will your sin be taken away, and only then will you be ready for Heaven.

Supposing you were very sick and a doctor gave you medicine. He said, "Take this medicine and you will soon be better." If you put the medicine beside your bed and look at it, will you get better? Of course not! You must take it. It is the same with that big problem of your sin. You have heard today of what the Lord Jesus has done for you. But hearing about Him will never take away your sin and save you from God's punishment. You must ask the Lord Jesus to take away your sin, if you are truly sorry and want to be different. He can do that for you, because He did not stay dead. He is alive today. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish [that means to be away from God and punished for ever] but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). If you trust or believe in the Lord Jesus, you will not be punished for ever for your sins. Rather you will have eternal life - you will know God and belong to Him always. This is why God's only Son suffered and died.

Flashcard 3-8

His friends did not yet understand this. Sadly a few of them took His dead body from the cross. Carefully they wrapped up His body and put it into a tomb.

"We will never see Him again," they thought.

They did not know that a wonderful surprise was awaiting them! The Lord Jesus came back to life! He is alive today. So you can ask Him to take away your sin. He can live in your life and help you to live for Him. He is alive and you can know Him.

In the Bible we read that anyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16). What will happen to those who do not trust Him? They will perish, they will be punished for ever and ever.

What are you going to do? Won't you trust the Lord Jesus now? If you are sorry for the wrong in your life and want it all taken away, tell the Lord Jesus about it now just quietly where you sit. You might say something like this: "Dear Lord Jesus, I know You suffered and died for me. Thank You so much. Please take away my sin. I want to belong

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

Show card with special emphasis.

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PowerPoint 3-8



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

to You for ever. I want to live in a way that pleases You.” If you trust Him, you will “not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Review questions

- 1 When Jesus’ enemies arrested Him, what did Jesus say that made them determined that He should die? (They asked, “Are You the Son of God?” and He answered, “I am” - He claimed to be God.)
- 2 What message did Pilate’s wife send him? (“Have nothing to do with this good man!”)
- 3 When Pilate asked the Jewish leaders what Jesus had done wrong, what did they answer? (“Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”)
- 4 Two thieves were crucified with Jesus. One mocked Jesus. What did the other ask Him to do? (“Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”)
- 5 What strange thing happened in the middle of the day? (Normally at that time the sun was high in the sky, but when Jesus was crucified there was a strange, thick darkness for three hours.)
- 6 What did Jesus cry out just before He died? (“It is finished!”)
- 7 What did He mean? (He had done all that was needed to take away our sin.)
- 8 Does that mean that everyone’s sin is taken away and everyone will live with God in Heaven? (No - first you must trust the Lord Jesus to take away your sins.)

Lesson 4

The resurrection of Christ

Scripture for teachers

John 20

Luke 24:1-12

Special emphasis

Because Jesus Christ rose again, you can have peace with God

Application

Unsaved: Ask Jesus to take away your sin and then you will have peace with God

Memory verse

“... [He] made peace through the blood of His cross”

Colossians 1:20

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8

Or

- ◆ PowerPoint slides: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8

And

- ◆ Wordstrip: “Because Jesus Christ rose again, you can have peace with God” (special emphasis)

Lesson outline

- Flashcard 4-1 Jesus' body is in a sealed tomb
Your sin makes you
at war with God
- Flashcard 4-2 The women bring Peter and
John the news that Jesus' body
has been stolen
- Flashcard 4-3 Peter and John go into the
tomb
The resurrection shows
Jesus is the Son of God
- Flashcard 4-4 Jesus meets Mary Magdalene
in the garden
Those who trust the Lord
Jesus Christ will live
with Him for ever - those
who have not trusted
are still God's enemies
- Flashcard 4-5 Jesus' friends meet together
- Flashcard 4-6 Jesus - “Peace be with you”
God will punish sin
but the Lord Jesus
Christ died to bring
us peace with God
- Flashcard 4-7 The disciples tell Thomas that
they have seen Jesus
- Flashcard 4-8 Jesus shows Thomas the
wounds in His hands
Believe in Him
today and you will
be at peace with God

Lesson

“What’s wrong?” asked Martin when he met Stephanie, who looked very sad.

“Old Mr. Bartholomew who lived in the flat above ours is dead,” she told him.

“Oh!” Martin didn’t know what to say.

“He used to be very kind to me. He always gave me money on my birthday,” Stephanie murmured sadly.

“Cheer up! You can’t change it by being glum,” said Martin.

“But I am sad. I’ll never see him again. What does it mean to be dead anyway?” continued Stephanie.

Martin was not sure of the answer to that question. He had heard his big brother talk about it.

“When you die, that is the end of you,” he answered.

But that made Stephanie even sadder. Neither she nor Martin knew what God tells us in the Bible about death. God tells us that when someone dies, that is not the end of that person. The person’s body may be buried, but the part of the person that thinks, loves, is happy or sad, lives on. The Bible calls that part your soul. Your soul, the real you, lives on after you die.

PowerPoint 4-1



Show card with special emphasis: “Because Jesus Christ rose again, you can have peace with God”.

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Flashcard 4-1

The friends of the Lord Jesus knew that His soul was not dead. But they were very, very sad. He was dead; they were sure of that. His body had been wrapped up in cloth and put in a tomb, or a cave. A huge stone had been rolled over the entrance of the tomb.

They had never felt so upset or so puzzled.

“How could the Son of God die?”

“He was so good, but He suffered the worst death of all. It is unfair.”

“We will never see Him again. He is dead.”

Probably they were thinking like that. They did not yet understand that the death of the Lord Jesus was something God had planned. Every person - you, you, you and you, and me too - fights against God. God commands, “You shall not covet” (Exodus 20:17). Your friend got a brand new bike, you got a second-hand one and you are unhappy and jealous. God commands, “Love others as much as yourself” (from Leviticus 19:18 and Mark 12:31). But you think mean thoughts about others, you bully others, or you quarrel with others. By disobeying God, you are saying to God, “No! I won’t go your way!” You fight against Him. Of course God is displeased with all who fight against Him. But God loves us so much that He planned that His only Son would die, so that there could be peace between us and God.

His friends would never forget that awful day. The next day was sad and lonely. It seemed like every day would be just the same. They had hoped for so much, but their hopes were shattered.

Flashcard 4-2

Early on Sunday morning two of the Lord Jesus' friends, Peter and John, were very surprised when some women ran to them. The women were very upset.

"They have taken away the Lord's body out of the tomb," they gasped. "We don't know where they have put it."

"We went to the tomb very early to put some spices on the Lord's body. The great stone was rolled away. The body's gone. You must help!"

John and Peter were sad to think that the enemies of the Lord Jesus would do such a thing. They hurried off to see for themselves. John got there first. He stooped at the entrance and looked in. He was amazed at what he saw. Then Peter arrived. He brushed past John and went right into the tomb. He too was amazed.

Flashcard 4-3

There, before their very eyes, were the cloths that had been around the Lord's body. They were neat and in order. The body of the Lord Jesus was not there. It was clear to Peter and John that enemies had not stolen it. Something else had happened.

The Lord Jesus Christ had come back to life. He was not in the tomb, because He was alive! Nobody had ever done this before. It is something only God could do. By making Him alive again, God was showing everybody that the Lord Jesus truly was His Son.

John and Peter left the tomb, no longer sad or upset. As they walked home, they must have been very happy. Probably they remembered what the Lord had told them many times - that, after His death, He would live again. Yes, He was alive. He was not in the tomb. But where was He?

Flashcard 4-4

Peter and John did not know that the Lord Jesus was actually in the garden where His tomb was. Someone else was in the garden too. It was Mary Magdalene, another friend of the Lord Jesus. She was heartbroken, for she still believed the story that His body had been stolen. Through her tears she saw a man who spoke kindly to her.

"Woman, why are you crying?"

She replied tearfully, "Sir, if you have taken His body, please tell me where it is."

The man said, "Mary!"

PowerPoint 4-2



PowerPoint 4-3



PowerPoint 4-4



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

She knew that voice. She looked at Him again. It was the Lord Jesus.

“Master!” she cried.

It was the real Lord Jesus Christ. The body had not been stolen. He was right beside her, talking and alive!

“I am going back to my Father,” He told Mary.

Soon He was going back to Heaven. He would never die again. In the Bible the Lord Jesus says, “I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore” (Revelation 1:18). Those who have trusted the Lord Jesus to take away their sins will live with Him for ever. Life with the Lord Jesus never ends, for He will never die again. But those who do not trust Him to take away their sins, are still God’s enemies. They will not live with Him. They will go to a place called Hell, a place of punishment.

Mary Magdalene was one of those whom the Lord Jesus had forgiven. She was excited to talk with Him again.

She ran to tell His friends, “I have seen the Lord!”

PowerPoint 4-5



Flashcard 4-5

Sunday was not the long, sad day they had expected. Little by little they discovered what had happened. Very early in the morning an angel had come and rolled the stone away so that the people could see that the Lord Jesus was not in the tomb. Soldiers had been on guard and they fled in terror when that happened.

On Sunday evening the friends of the Lord Jesus gathered together. They had a lot to talk about. Some had seen the Lord, others had not. Some had heard an angel speaking to them, others had not. They made sure, however, that the doors were securely locked. The Jewish leaders might try to arrest them too. That thought made them very afraid.

PowerPoint 4-6



Flashcard 4-6

Suddenly an amazing thing happened. The Lord Jesus was there in the room. He had not opened a door, yet He had come in. There was something different about Him now. He could come in and go out without opening the door. But His body was real. Some had already touched Him, others had watched Him eat. Now all of them could see Him. They must have gasped in surprise.

Then He spoke to them. “Peace be with you,” He said.

Did He mean that they should not quarrel with each other? No, He meant that they did not need to worry or be afraid. He was there.

There are things that you and I should worry about. You should worry about the way you disobey God; you are fighting against God. You should be afraid of what will happen when you die, if you go on

disobeying God. The Bible says that when you die, the real you must meet God (Hebrews 9:27). How frightening to meet God if you are still His enemy, still fighting against Him. God would have to punish you for ever and ever for that.

But the Lord Jesus was saying "Peace" to His friends. Then He showed them something to help them understand why they could have peace. He pulled back the robe so that they could see the sword wound in His side. He held out His hands so they could see the marks of the nails.

He had died for them, and for us. He died to make peace between us and God. Sometimes when there is a war someone tries to get the two sides to stop fighting. The only way there could be peace between us and God was if God's only Son died for all our wrongdoing. He did that. He gave His blood to bring you and God together. He "made peace through the blood of His cross" (Colossians 1:20). When God brought Jesus back to life, He showed that the death of His Son did make peace between us and God. When you are sorry that you have been fighting against God and ask the Lord Jesus to take away your sin, then there is peace between you and God. You are no longer God's enemy. Then you do not have to worry about what happens when you die. God will take you to Heaven to live with Him forever. It is wonderful that the Lord Jesus is alive.

Flashcard 4-7

All His friends in that room were very excited. But there was one who was missing - Thomas. Of course the others told him, "We have seen the Lord." They told him what they had seen and heard.

But Thomas exclaimed, "I cannot believe it, not until I see the marks of the nails, not until I touch them."

Do you think Thomas had peace inside? No! For eight long days he watched the others who were joyful and happy. But, for Thomas, their story seemed too wonderful to be true. Perhaps he thought, "If it is true, I don't want to miss Him again." He did, however, make sure that he was often with the other disciples.

Flashcard 4-8

Eight days passed and the same thing happened. The Lord Jesus came through closed doors.

Once more He said, "Peace be with you." Then He said, "Thomas, put your finger in the wounds. Do not go on doubting - believe."

The Lord Jesus wanted Thomas to believe too. That one man was important to Him. You too are important to Him, just you. He wants you to stop fighting against God. He wants you to believe that He died to make peace between you and God. He is alive today. Although you cannot see Him, you can be just as sure as Thomas was at that moment.

Show card with special emphasis.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

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

PowerPoint 4-7



PowerPoint 4-8

Show card with special emphasis.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

Thomas said in awe and wonder, "My Lord and my God."

Thomas believed. That day changed his life. Now he had the peace the others had. He knew for sure that the Lord Jesus was alive.

You cannot see the Lord Jesus today, for He is in Heaven, but you too can believe in Him. Do you want to stop fighting against God and disobeying Him? Do you know that Jesus Christ died to bring peace between you and God? Won't you believe in Him now? You can speak to Him just where you are sitting. You don't need to speak aloud. Tell Him something like this, "Lord Jesus, I am sorry for disobeying God and fighting against Him. Please let there be peace between us now. Thank You for dying to make that peace." God promises that, if we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, "we have peace with God" (Romans 5:1) and when we die, we will live with Him for ever and ever.

Review questions

- 1 What message did the women bring after they had visited Jesus' tomb? ("They have taken away the Lord's body out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put it.")
- 2 Which two disciples went to the tomb to see for themselves? (Peter and John.)
- 3 Who met the risen Jesus in the garden? (Mary Magdalene.)
- 4 Why did Jesus' friends lock the doors when they met together? (They were afraid that the Jewish leaders might try to arrest them too.)
- 5 What strange thing happened while they were together? (Jesus was suddenly there in the room with them - he had not opened the door, yet He came in.)
- 6 Which disciple was not there when Jesus appeared? (Thomas.)
- 7 When Jesus appeared to the disciples eight days later, what did He say to Thomas? ("Thomas, put your finger in the wounds. Do not go on doubting - believe.")
- 8 What is the memory verse we learned today? ("... [He] made peace through the blood of His cross" Colossians 1:20)

Show card with special emphasis.

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Read the verse from your Bible.

Lesson 5

The great King

Scripture for teachers

Matthew 28:16-20

Acts 1:1-11

Revelation 1:9-19

Revelation 22:20

Special emphasis

Jesus Christ is King

Application

Unsaved: Ask Jesus to save you from sin and be your King

Memory verse

In a 5-Day Club repeat Colossians 1:20

Or

In a one-time meeting teach: "... Every tongue [should] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord ..."

Philippians 2:11

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5, 5-6, 5-7 and 5-8

Or

- ◆ PowerPoint slides: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-5, 5-6, 5-7 and 5-8

And

- ◆ Wordstrip: "Jesus Christ is King" (special emphasis)

Lesson outline

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Flashcard 5-1 | The disciples are talking together
The Lord Jesus is alive |
| Flashcard 5-2 | Jesus - "You must go everywhere in the world, telling people the good news"
The Lord Jesus is alive and wants to be King of your life |
| Flashcard 5-3 | Jesus goes back to Heaven
The Lord Jesus rules from Heaven |
| Flashcard 5-4 | The disciples spread the Gospel and many believe
Only the Lord Jesus Christ can cure the problem of sin |
| Flashcard 5-5 | Stephen is arrested and stoned to death
The Lord Jesus is King over all |
| Flashcard 5-6 | John is arrested and becomes prisoner on an island |
| Flashcard 5-7 | John sees Jesus
The Lord Jesus Christ is a wonderful King and can change lives |
| Flashcard 5-8 | One day Jesus will come back
The King is returning - be ready |

Lesson

“That was the tree we had our tree-house in!” exclaimed Simon.

He and his brother were visiting the farm where they used to live.

“And look, that is the pond we raced our boats in,” said Patrick.

“Remember the day you fell in, Patrick, and then tried to sneak indoors without Mum seeing you?” said Simon.

“Isn’t it fun to come back and visit the farm - there is so much to remember!” replied Patrick.

PowerPoint 5-1



Flashcard 5-1

The friends of the Lord Jesus Christ had lots to remember too, as they spent time together around Galilee. They remembered how with just five loaves and two fish, the Lord Jesus had fed more than 5,000 people on the hillside. They would never forget the night they had been caught in a storm on the lake. The Lord Jesus had commanded the storm to stop, and it obeyed Him! Often they had sat by the lake shore listening to Him teaching. The place was full of memories! It was so thoughtful of Him to send a message, that He would meet them in Galilee again.

“There’s the Master,” someone said and pointed to a person in the distance.

“No, that’s not Him,” another may have replied.

As the figure came closer and they could see Him more clearly.

“It is the Lord!” they exclaimed.

They were thrilled that their Master and Teacher had not stayed dead. He had died on a cross, but had shown that He is even more powerful than death by coming back to life. They had seen Him and talked with Him several times already, but every time they saw Him, they were excited. He had been dead, but He was alive again! Now He was coming to tell them something very important.

PowerPoint 5-2



Flashcard 5-2

“All authority [power] in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me,” He told them.

What? All power? Yes, God the Father had given His only Son the right and the power to do whatever He pleased. He could make any king, any government, any army, any person do what He wanted. His friends could hardly take it in. But He had more to say.

“So, you must go everywhere in the world, telling people the good news.”

What “good news” did the Lord Jesus want told to people all over the world? He wanted everyone then and now to know that He is God the Son, and that He died on the cross, taking the punishment we deserve for our sin. Of course He wants people to know that He is alive and

can be King of people's lives and take away all their sin. God loves you and wants you to hear this good news too. But hearing alone will make no difference - you must trust the Lord Jesus to save you from sin and to be your King. This was the good news which the disciples were to tell. They wanted to tell it, but some of them may have been afraid.

"What will happen to us? Maybe we will be arrested, or even killed."

But the next thing the Lord Jesus said helped them not to be afraid.

"I will always be with you," He promised.

He had all power, so wherever they were He could care for them.

Flashcard 5-3

Not long afterwards, however, it seemed as if He could no longer be with them. The Lord Jesus and His followers climbed a mountain just outside the city of Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives. There He talked with them, but did not sit down as He usually did. Rather, He stood and talked.

Once again He said, "You must go everywhere telling people about Me. I will always be with you."

Then it happened! Slowly He started to go up, up, up. His friends were amazed and watched open-mouthed, until a cloud hid Him from their view. He had gone back to Heaven to His Father. His followers just kept on gazing up into the sky until they were surprised by two angels speaking to them.

"Why do you stand there looking up into the sky?" they asked. "This same Jesus will come back to Earth in the same way as you have seen Him leave."

The Lord Jesus has not yet come back to Earth, but one day He will. Until then He rules from Heaven. Although the disciples could not see Him any longer, He would be with them all the time - of that they could be sure.

Flashcard 5-4

Can you remember what the Lord Jesus had told His followers to do? Yes, they were to go everywhere telling others about Him.

Supposing you came to a town where every person had a terrible sickness, a sickness that would kill them. If you knew of the only medicine that would make them well, what would you do?

Allow the children to respond.

Of course, you would tell them about the cure.

It was like that for the disciples. All around were people who had disobeyed God. These people told lies, quarrelled, were jealous or angry. They did not love God.

Show card with special emphasis: "Jesus Christ is King".

**PowerPoint hyperlink
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PowerPoint 5-3



PowerPoint 5-4



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

Make yourself available for personal counselling.

PowerPoint 5-5

Acts 7:57-60.

Eg Acts 8:3.



It is just the same today. All people go their own way instead of God's way. The Bible says, "We have turned, every one, to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). That is why you and your brother quarrelled and yelled at each other. That is why you ate all the chocolate yourself and did not share it. You too have this problem. It is a far bigger problem than the worst sickness. God must punish those who disobey Him. That punishment comes after you die, and it lasts for ever and ever.

The followers of the Lord Jesus knew the answer to this problem. They started to tell others about it. Some of them told their families and friends. Some spoke to large crowds of people in the streets. Listen to them and you will hear the answer to the problem of the wrong things in your life.

"Jesus Christ is the Special One Whom God promised to send. He is God's only Son. He died for our sin, when He was nailed to the cross. But God brought Him back to life and made Him Lord and King over all."

Many of those who listened knew they needed to do something about the problem of their sin.

They asked, "What must we do?"

The followers of the Lord Jesus answered, "Turn from your wrong ways to the Lord Jesus - depend on Him to save you. When you do, all your sins will be wiped out and gone for ever."

Hundreds of people did just that. How exciting it was for the disciples to see all these people turning from their sinful ways and depending on Jesus Christ to wipe out their sins. When God wipes out your sins, they are all gone forever!

Perhaps you too would like to trust Him, but you are not sure how, or you have questions. Don't leave when the others go, just stay where you are and I will be happy to show you from the Bible how to trust the Lord Jesus. The disciples, too, were glad to spend time explaining this to people.

Flashcard 5-5

Not everyone was happy to see these Christians preaching. Many of the leaders were angry that people believed in Jesus Christ. They began to make life hard for the Christians. A young man called Stephen was stoned to death because he told others about the Lord Jesus. Many were thrown into prison; others were killed with a sword. Surely the Christians should stop telling others about the Lord Jesus! But they did not. They knew that their Lord was King over all and He allowed these things to happen. It was part of His plan. They knew that if people did not hear about the Lord Jesus and trust Him to save them, they would never, never live with God. So they kept on telling others.

Things got even worse when the Emperor wanted people to worship him as if he were a god. The Christians refused.

“The Emperor is not Lord. Jesus Christ is Lord,” they said.

Many were thrown to the lions and others were burned alive.

If you trust the Lord Jesus to take away your sin and be your King, some difficult things may happen to you. You will not be thrown to the lions, but some of your family may laugh at you. Perhaps you will be the only one in your class who will obey the teacher, or not cheat. It is hard to be different. Like the disciples, you too can remember the Lord Jesus’ promise, “I will be with you always” (Matthew 28:20). He is the King over all and He is with each one who loves Him.

One of those who loved Him was John. He had been a very close friend of the Lord Jesus. He had seen many of his friends being killed and he himself had been imprisoned. But he did not give up.

Flashcard 5-6

When John was quite old, soldiers came once more. They roughly arrested John and took him on a boat. When he and the other prisoners were all on board, the boat sailed out to sea. Where were they being taken? After a time, away in the distance, they saw a tiny island. The boat headed towards the island and stopped there. John and the others were herded off and the boat sailed away. The island, called Patmos, was small - just 12 kilometres by 7 kilometres. This was their prison. No doubt there was a cruel master to make sure they did not escape and that they worked hard. Probably John’s work was chipping slabs of marble from the quarry. It was hot, hard work for an older man.

Often John must have thought, “The Lord is with me here; I know that, for He promised.”

I am sure he remembered that the Lord Jesus was King over all. His King could free John from the island, if He wished. The Lord Jesus must have had a reason for John’s being there. Yes, He had a wonderful plan.

Flashcard 5-7

One Sunday morning, John saw the Lord Jesus. Yes, he actually saw Him! He was great and mighty, shining and bright - the way He is now in Heaven. It was all too wonderful for John. He fell unconscious at the Lord’s feet.

The Lord Jesus is the greatest and most powerful one of all, but He is also very kind and loving.

He placed His right hand on John and said, “Do not be afraid. I am the One Who is alive. I was dead, but now I am alive for ever and ever” (from Revelation 1:17-18).

Show card with special emphasis.

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

PowerPoint 5-6



PowerPoint 5-7



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

John and his brother James had been called the "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17), suggesting that they were hot-tempered.

Show card with special emphasis.

PowerPoint hyperlink (bottom right of screen)

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

PowerPoint 5-8



Read the verses from your Bible.

This is the Lord Jesus - the One Who can take away all your sin. He can save you from the punishment you deserve. When you turn from your own wrong way to Him, He will help you live the way God wants. He had done that for John. He had helped John to live for Him. John had been a very hot-tempered man, and the Lord Jesus made him kind and patient. He can change you too. If you are a bully, He can make you gentle. If you tell lies, He can make you honest. You need the Lord Jesus to take away all your sin and to change you. He is a great and wonderful King - He can save from sin; He can change lives; He rules over everything; and He knows all that will happen in our world.

He showed John some of the things that would happen. John even saw what Heaven would be like - a place full of joy and happiness. He saw a huge crowd singing to the Lord Jesus, the great King. John also saw the dreadful punishment that would come to those who do not trust the Lord Jesus to save them. John wrote down what he saw, and we can read it at the end of the Bible. The last thing John wrote is very, very important; something about the King, the Lord Jesus. John heard Him say, "I am coming quickly" (Revelation 22:20). The Lord Jesus has not yet come, but He will. He told John He would; and remember, the angels said He would return to Earth.

Flashcard 5-8

One day - nobody knows when - He will come suddenly in the sky. He will come as quickly as it takes you to blink. His coming will not be announced beforehand in the newspapers or on TV. But when He comes, everyone will know it. Those who have trusted Him to save them will be caught up into the air to meet Him. They will live with Him for ever and ever. All the people who have not trusted Him will be afraid and will try to hide. But each one will have to meet Him, and He will be their judge. He will have to punish them for ever and ever. It will be too late to trust Him as Saviour.

When the Lord Jesus talked about His coming, He said, "Be ready!" (Luke 12:40). How can you be ready? Do you remember what the followers of the Lord Jesus told the people? They said, "Turn away from the wrong in your life, trust Jesus Christ". Do you want to turn from the wrong in your life? Then right now tell the Lord Jesus that and ask Him to take away your sin. God promises that your sins will be wiped out (Isaiah 43:25). You will be ready when He comes back.

John really looked forward to His coming. He said, "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20).

Later John was set free and allowed to return to his friends. But he never forgot what he had heard and seen on the island. Best of all, he had seen his King.

Review questions

- 1 What command did Jesus give His disciples before He went back to Heaven? (“You must go everywhere in the world, telling people the good news.”)
- 2 What promise did Jesus give them? (“I will always be with you.”)
- 3 What “good news” did the Lord Jesus want told to people all over the world? (He wanted everyone to know that He is God the Son, and that He died on the cross, taking the punishment we deserve for our sin.)
- 4 What happened to Jesus as He was on the mountain with His disciples? (Slowly He started to go up, up, up until a cloud hid Him from their view - He had gone back to Heaven to His Father.)
- 5 Suddenly two angels appeared and spoke to the disciples. What did they say? (“Why do you stand there looking up into the sky? This same Jesus will come back to Earth in the same way as you have seen Him leave.”)
- 6 When John was quite old, he was taken prisoner. Where was his prison? (The tiny island of Patmos.)
- 7 What happened to John one Sunday morning? (He saw the Lord Jesus and Heaven.)
- 8 When will Jesus come back? (Nobody knows when, but we know that He **will** come back.)
- 9 When Jesus comes back, what will happen to those who have trusted Him to save them? (They will be caught up into the air to meet Him.)
- 10 When Jesus was here on Earth He talked about His coming again. What did He tell us to do? (“Be ready!”)

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*).