

MRS WHITE

PLEASE NOTE!

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Introduction

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 at a later date tell you 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.

In all cases you should not make yourself available at the same time as giving the Gospel invitation, so that the children never get the impression 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 to live for the Lord Jesus, 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.”

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, 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.”

Lesson

Terry lived on a large farm in South America. The land around the farm and the endless wide fields were an ideal place to play. You would never have run out of adventures there. Terry really loved animals and his parents knew that.

Flashcard 1 - Terry with the chick in his hands

They surprised him with a little chick for his birthday - a real, living, fluffy chick. From the first day the two of them were inseparable. Terry looked after it on his own. Morning and evening he fed it regularly.

Gradually the chick became a hen. The yellow fluff became white feathers, so Terry called his hen "Mrs White".

Terry had a lot of fun with Mrs White. When he called her and brought her her food, Mrs White quickly came to him. It looked funny when she followed him everywhere.

Mrs White got bigger and also very useful. What does a hen do? Of course, she lays eggs - one per day.

Flashcard 2 - Mrs White beside the basket

Terry fetched the old basket from the shed, put some straw in it and built a really special nest in the barn. Each time Mrs White laid an egg in it, she announced it by clucking loudly.

In the meantime, summer arrived. The grain grew high in the fields. It promised to be a good harvest. But something about Mrs White seemed strange.

"Mummy, what's wrong with Mrs White? She isn't laying any more eggs and often disappears into the cornfield."

Laughing, his mother replied, "Just wait and see, Terry."

That's what he did and kept on faithfully feeding his hen. One, two, three weeks went by.

One evening Terry took the chicken feed and ran across the yard.

"Mummy! Mummy, look!"

Flashcard 3 - Mrs White with her chicks

Mrs White was coming out of the cornfield - but she wasn't alone. Behind her marched a whole brood of tiny chicks. So that was the answer to the puzzle! Outside in the cornfield where it was quiet, Mrs White had laid her eggs and they had hatched undisturbed. She now proudly presented her children.

Tip for using the flashcards:

To make the flashcards easier to turn, before using the lesson open the book in the middle and carefully fold the pages in the opposite direction. Then do the same with the other pictures. You will find that the pages are now much easier to turn.

Terry was so pleased with “his” family of chicks. From then on he needed much more grain so that the hungry little family had enough to eat.

One day the siren wailed. Terry’s father had sounded the fire alarm!

Flashcard 4 - Burning grain field

He had seen the clouds of smoke first. They were coming towards the farm. Somehow the cornfield had caught fire. No wonder, as it was so dry!

Everyone had to help to bring the fire under control. The harvest was destroyed. There was a lot of damage, but it could have been worse. Fortunately, the water ditch had stopped the flames reaching the farm.

It wasn’t until evening that Terry became concerned about Mrs White and her little chicks. Hopefully they weren’t ... - he didn’t want to think about it. He went out and searched the bare field. He called and called, but there was no sign of Mrs White.

What was that? At his feet was a thick, black lump. Terry didn’t want it to be true, but his suspicion was right. Mrs White was dead! There she lay charred in front of him. With his foot he carefully moved the lifeless body. There ... ! Something moved! Terry could hardly believe his eyes.

Flashcard 5 - Terry in front of the scorched hen

All the frightened chicks nestled fearfully together under the dead hen. When they saw that the danger was past they responded timidly to Terry’s call. They cheeped as they followed him across the yard.

Remove flashcard 5.

“How is it possible?” Terry asked his father later. “I just can’t believe it.”

“You know, animals quickly sense danger. When the fire came, the chicks looked to their mother for protection and security. She could have flown away, but the chicks weren’t old enough yet. Mrs White loved her chicks. So she stretched out her wings over them and let the fire pass over her. She sacrificed herself so that her children could live.”

“Yes, that’s what she did. It’s hard to believe it,” marvelled Terry, shaking his head.

It was quiet in the farmyard. All you could hear was the soft cheeping of the chicks. Terry was still standing in the same spot.

His father interrupted his thoughts.

“Terry, there is One Who sacrificed Himself for us. Do you know Who I mean?”

Flashcard 6 - Terry with his father

Terry nodded. He knew. But he wasn't ready to speak yet. He just stood there sadly.

His father guessed what he was thinking and continued. "The Lord Jesus must have suffered so much as He sacrificed Himself on the cross. He did it willingly. He died for you and me, so that we could live, so that we could have everlasting life - with Him. Terry, that's love."

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*).