

The Plan of Salvation

Lesson 18a — All Have Sinned

Lesson 18b — The Blood of Jesus

Lesson 18c — A Clean Heart

Lesson 18d — Telling Others About Jesus

Lesson 18e — Our Heavenly Home

OVERVIEW

This unit of material will again use the Wordless Book theme to help the primary students understand the plan of salvation. The knowledge that all of us have sinned and need to be forgiven before we are ready for Heaven is undoubtedly one of the most important things we can teach the children. They are just beginning to reach the age where they grasp this thought, so the explanation needs to be done very gently, but thoroughly. Sometimes understanding this brings a simple desire to have their heart made clean, and even these little ones can have a real experience of salvation.

Teachers will find it helpful to review the materials and patterns presented for Unit 1, which also used this theme.

The lessons have been rearranged, placing the lesson on Heaven at the end of the unit rather than at the beginning. However, the ideas presented for each lesson can still be utilized.

The “Wordless Book Visualized” is a good basic teaching tool for this unit. It is available from CEF outlets or your local Bible bookstore.

The memory verses for this unit sum up the theme for each Sunday. They should be reinforced in some manner — either through use of the Memory Verse Visualized, the hand motions, or the songs.

GAMES FOR REVIEW

Use a plastic photo cube in which you have inserted squares of construction paper in the five Wordless Book colors. Review the meaning of each color by having each student take a turn shutting his eyes, taking the cube from a container or sack, and placing it on the table. He must then open his eyes and tell what the color on the top of the cube represents. Points could be given for each correct answer.

Make a game board and five-color spinner wheel (see Patterns). Use a paper clip as a spinner. Color both the game board and the wheel with the colors of the Wordless Book. (Keep colors in correct order: black, red, white, green, gold, black, red, white, etc.) To play a review game called “From Earth to Heaven,” give each student a marker (buttons work well for these) and let them take turns spinning the spinner. If a student can tell what the color his spinner stops on represents, he may move ahead on the game board to the next square of that color. If he cannot tell, he must move backward to the closest square of that color. The first one to make it to “Heaven” wins.

Play the Plan of Salvation memory game with your students (see Patterns). Make two copies of each of the game cards, including two each of the five Wordless Book colors (a total of 30 cards). You may wish to mount the sets on lightweight cardboard in order to make them more durable. To play the game, turn the cards over so the students can't see what the pictures or colors are and pin them to a large bulletin board. The students are allowed to turn over two cards at a time at their turn, attempting to make matching pairs. If they do not succeed, both cards are again turned over in the same spot and the next person takes a turn. If a pair is made, the student keeps that set and also gets another chance. If a student makes a pair from a color card, he must tell what that color stands for in the Wordless Book before he can keep the cards. When all the cards have been claimed, the student holding the most cards wins. (You may wish to make more than one set of the cards to make the game more challenging, or if your class is large.)

Divide your group into five teams. Send them to different sections of the room. Put the Wordless Book color page on the back of one child from each team. That child must guess the team color. Clues are given by teammates, but

they cannot use the words sin, blood, clean, grow, or Heaven.

CONTEST IDEAS

Stand a bare tree branch in a bucket of sand or make one from paper and attach it to a bulletin board. Cut a quantity of red hearts from construction paper. Tie a loop of thread through a hole in each heart so they can be hung on the tree branch. For each Sunday he attends, the student is allowed to write his name on a heart and hang it on the branch. Hearts should also be awarded for other things: bringing a friend, bringing their Bible, etc. For variation, award bright pink or white hearts for these other things. Or you may wish to use a different color of heart for each Sunday of the unit.

Cover a bulletin board with butcher paper, drawing on it a simple lake scene with a shoreline in the foreground (see Patterns). Each student makes a simple boat with a mast from red or green construction paper and prints his or her name on the boat with a felt tip pen. Cut a white sail for each boat. Attach all the boats along the shoreline. Then each time a child brings a friend, write the friend's name on the sail and move the boat out to sea. If the child brings another friend, he may "launch" another boat, but the only ones tied along the shore should be boats with the names of children who have not brought a visitor.

Cut strips of paper about 6" long by 1" wide from the Wordless Book colors. Let each student start making a paper chain from these strips. They should get one strip of each color when they can tell what that color means. Then they can add a loop for attendance, bringing friends, answering questions in class, doing their take-home paper, etc. Drape the chains around your classroom, or tack them on a board aiming at a large drawing of a trophy or the words THE WINNER. The first ones to make a chain long enough to touch the goal wins a prize.

BULLETIN BOARDS

Title your board CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART (see Patterns). Cut two large hearts out of construction paper, one red and one white. Cut a door through the red heart and glue or staple it on top of the white. Put a large picture of Jesus inside the door. Place it in the center of your bulletin board. On one side of the heart put a picture of the Bible; on the other side, two children talking to each other; and above, a picture of Heaven. Use Wordless Book colors.

Title your board, JESUS IS THE ONE WHO CAN FREE US FROM SIN! (see Patterns). From construction paper in the Wordless Book colors, cut out a large key and also a large heart with a lock on it. On the key write the name JESUS. Mount them under the title on your board.

On your bulletin board, display five hearts cut from the Wordless Book colors. In the center of each heart put an appropriate symbol to illustrate the lesson for that color. Idea: Use the symbols from the Primary Pals handouts.

CHART IDEAS

Give each child a copy of the Wordless Book heart (see Patterns). Cut the hearts from yellow paper and cut four strips from red, white, green, and black paper. Cut the slits on the hearts so the children will be able to weave in the four colors of paper strips. The four colors of paper should be cut into 5 1/2" x 7/8" strips.

Have a block (wood, paper, or whatever) for each child. For each lesson cover one side of the block with the color pertaining to that lesson. Example: Lesson 18a, black felt or construction paper, to cover one side of the block. (Since a block has six sides, you could begin with the child's name on an additional white side or a color not in the Wordless Book.

Placemats are a fun and easy way to remind children of Jesus. Prior to class time, make a stencil of children kneeling before the Cross, cutting away the shaded areas (see Patterns). Have your students place the stencil on a piece of white paper. They may outline each area and then remove the stencil and color in the outlined spots. Mount the finished picture on a piece of construction paper which is slightly larger, to form a border. To make the placemat more durable, cover the entire project with clear adhesive paper. (This is generally available where adhesive shelf paper is sold, and is an excellent product for making your pictures and Sunday school projects long lasting.)

Help each of your students make a banner depicting the main points of the Wordless Book colors. Provide each child with a large pale blue or cream colored piece of paper cut in the shape of a banner (see Patterns). On the first Sunday, help them cut out and attach a black heart in the position suggested by the illustration, and write in the appropriate words. On each succeeding Sunday, they will attach the next symbol and write in the words. On the last Sunday punch holes as indicated (you may wish to strengthen the holes by applying gummed reinforcements) and thread through a length of yarn by which to hang the banner.

Cut out five hearts (see Patterns), one of each color: red, green, white, black, yellow. Fold each heart in half lengthwise. Glue half of white to half of red heart and the other half of white to half of green; the other half of red to half of black, etc. This will give it a 3-D wheel effect.

UNIT SUPPORT MATERIAL

The Wordless Book Visualized — Christian Evangelism Fellowship

TEXT	Romans 5:12; Genesis 3:1-6; Psalm 38:18
OBJECTIVE	The students will be able to explain that all have sinned. They will be able to tell what repentance is and why it is necessary.
MEMORY VERSE	For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. — Romans 3:23

All Have Sinned

MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

FOR ALL — Move open right hand from left to right.

HAVE SINNED — Make fists with index fingers pointing to each other and then to self.

AND COME SHORT — Shake head No.

OF THE GLORY — Hold left palm out, facing up. Have right finger tips touch left palm; raise right hand while wiggling fingers.

OF GOD — Point up.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

The visual representation of our memory verse for this week features four children on a puzzle. (See pattern at the end of this lesson.) Cut along the heavy black lines to separate the four pieces of the puzzle. Reassemble the puzzle with your group, a piece at a time, as they learn the verse.

BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Show your class some pictures of people taken from catalogs or magazines. On the chest of each figure cut a small hinged door which opens to reveal a sin-spotted heart.

Progression of events:

1. God's creation, man, was without sin in the beginning.
2. The serpent tempted Eve to sin. She yielded, and gave of the fruit to Adam also.
3. Because of their disobedience, sin came into the world.
4. Identify behavior which is sin: lying, stealing, cheating, disobeying, etc.
5. Talk about what repentance is.

Climax: Since that time, every person has been born with sin in his heart. Use the black page of the Wordless Book.

Conclusion: The sins which we commit reflect the darkness of sin with which everyone is born.

Response: Each student should be able to tell why we are born with sin in our hearts, to identify some sins which are committed, and explain the meaning of repentance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The original sin is very simply recorded in the third chapter of Genesis, and its implications for mankind are expounded in Romans 5:12-21. Man was created with a holy, godly nature in fellowship with God. He lived in an environment which was "very good," and yet when he was tempted by Satan, he deliberately chose the path of self-corruption and enmity against God.

The fact that every person has a sinful heart until that sin has been forgiven is a difficult one for the young child to grasp. You may even find rejection of the fact that a baby has sin in his heart. You will need to explain that God knows the baby is too young to understand about sin, but when he becomes older and learns about right and wrong, he will need to ask God to take the sin away.

You will wish to spend some class time being sure your students really understand the meaning of the word *sin*. As adults, we recognize that sin is a violation of divine law. But to young children, sin can be defined simply as "doing something which you know is wrong." To older children, it might help to explain that there are really two kinds of sin. The first kind is the sin nature we are born with — since Adam sinned, all people born thereafter have the sin nature in their hearts. The second kind of sin is the wrong things we do even when we know they are wrong.

Although succeeding lessons deal with God's plan or remedy for sin, it will be necessary to bring out the fact that there is a way the sinful heart can be cleansed. If a child misses a Sunday, or is just visiting for this one week, it is very important that he is not left with a feeling of hopelessness about his sinful nature or condition.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS LESSON

Refer to Lesson 1b for additional ideas.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Prior to class time, cut out a number of catalog or

magazine pictures of people, old and young of different races. Do not use figures that are well known; i.e., movie stars, singers, leaders. On the chest of each figure, cut a small hinged door. Underneath the opening, paste a piece of paper on which you have drawn a heart with sin spots. During class, show figures to the students. Allow the children to open the hinged doors, pointing out that each person has a heart with sin in it until he repents and is forgiven.

Make a large pocket-heart of black construction paper by taping or stapling two hearts together and leaving an opening at the top. Inside the pocket, put pictures of different kinds of wrong behavior: a child saying mean words, stealing, cheating, not sharing, etc. As an alternative, if you do not have pictures on hand, put in slips of paper with the words on them. Have each child pull out one slip, then have him illustrate on another piece of paper the word he drew out. When everyone has finished his drawing, let each student show the other students his illustration and explain what behavior is taking place.

Puzzle squares are a fun way to make your students aware of certain words and ideas in the lesson. Prepare a set of puzzle squares for each child in your class (see Patterns). Copy the puzzles onto heavy paper, cover them with contact paper, and cut them into squares. Store each puzzle in a plastic Ziploc bag. On this puzzle is the memory verse (when read in one direction) and also six sets of words that are opposites. Have the children match up the squares in the correct order. Talk about what a wonderful difference Jesus makes in a person's life.

Make a copy of the memory verse work sheet for each child (see Patterns). Have them circle the right word in each space so they will complete the memory verse correctly. When they have finished their work sheets, go through the verse together. Stop at each of the chosen words and talk about what it means.

QUESTIONS

Can snakes talk? Who really was the serpent that talked to Eve?

Satan talked to Eve when she was alone, instead of when she and Adam were together. Why do you think he did this?

Satan told Eve that eating the fruit was not wrong. Do we usually know when a thing is right or wrong? How?

Why was it wrong for Eve to eat the fruit since it was good for food?

Satan tried to make Eve think that God was selfish and that He did not want to share. Why do you think God or parents tell children not to do certain things?

Eve ate the fruit because it looked good and she wanted to try it for herself. Do your friends ever do something that

they have been told is wrong, just because they want to find out for themselves what it is like?

Why did Eve want Adam to try the fruit also? Do friends ever try talking you into doing something that is wrong? Why?

How do you think Adam and Eve expected to feel after they had eaten the fruit?

How do you feel in your heart when you have disobeyed or done something else that is naughty?

Who knows when we sin?

Who has sinned? How do we know?

PRESCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Have several paper cups and the same number of little dolls or Fisher Price people. Cover each figure with a cup. As you lift each cover, explain that no matter who you are you can't hide from Jesus — grandpas, grandmas, moms, dads, teachers, children, etc. He loves everyone and wants them to have clean, white hearts.

For each child, make a face which can be turned upside-down — frowns from one direction and smiles from the other.

Say or sing the Wordless Book chorus, with children turning the pages of their own books.

Give each child a copy of the Before and After Sin coloring picture (see Patterns). Let the children color their pictures as you talk about how happy Adam and Eve were before they disobeyed God. Explain to the children that nobody is really happy if he has sin in his heart.

REVIEW IDEAS

This is a good lesson for utilizing an overhead. Make a series of people (trace color book characters onto transparencies). Make overlays or draw in something on each one illustrating some type of sinful behavior. Some suggestions: add a cookie (disobeying Mom), add a sassy mouth (saying bad words), add a small toy (stealing), add a bandaid on hands or face (fighting). Bring out that every person has sinned. As you make this point, draw a sin-spotted heart on each character. Be sure to conclude this lesson by looking ahead to next week's and saying that Jesus made a way for us to have our sins taken away. You might wish to use a coloring book picture of Jesus, in conclusion.

On an overhead transparency make a copy of the WHY IS THERE SIN? story (see Patterns). Tell the students to read the words in the oval at the bottom of the page. Then, as you read the story, ask them to help you choose the correct words to write on the blank lines. When the story is complete read it through again with special emphasis on the last half. We want the children to realize that God really

does love them, and that is why He sent His very own Son, Jesus, to be their Savior.

For this demonstration you will need two fairly soft apples. Before the review use a hypodermic needle to inject one of the apples with some food coloring. Talk to the children about how good some people seem to be. Then show the children that both apples look good on the outside, but cut them open and see that one apple has "sin spots." God can see the heart even though we may try to make others think we are good.

SUPPORT MATERIAL

- Garden of Eden — (2' x 3' Bible Mural, 8 pictures that fit together to form a poster), Concordia
- A Garden and a Promise — Arch Book, Concordia
- The Crucifixion and Resurrection — Panorama, Standard Publishing
- Crucifixion and Resurrection — Pict-o-graph, Standard Publishing
- My Bible Story Card — Series II

MEMORY VERSE SONG



For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of



God.

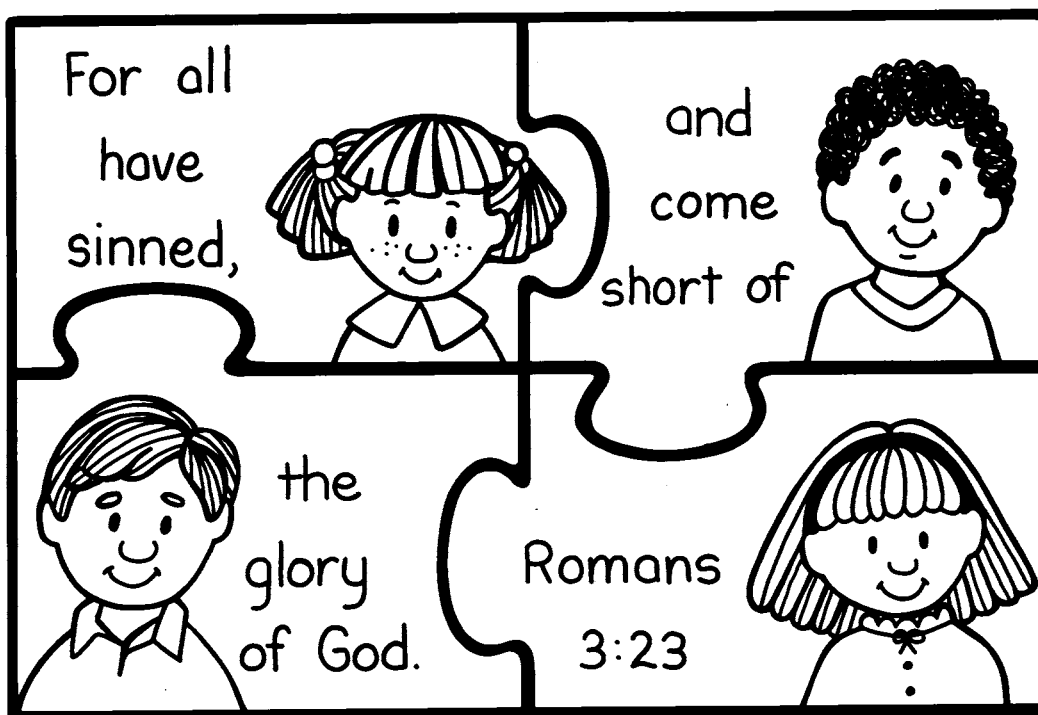
For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

Ro - mans three: twenty-



three.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED



TEXT John 19:16-18,31-34; Romans 5:8,9

OBJECTIVE The students will be able to describe how and why Jesus shed His Blood on Calvary. They will be able to explain that it is through Christ's Blood that we are saved.

MEMORY VERSE The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. — I John 1:7

The Blood of Jesus

MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

THE BLOOD OF — With your hand cupped, draw a cross in front of you.

JESUS CHRIST — With right middle finger, touch left palm. With left middle finger, touch right palm.

HIS SON — Point up.

CLEANSETH US — Hold left palm facing up. Pass right palm over left palm as though brushing off dirt.

FROM ALL SIN — Make fists with index fingers pointing to each other and then to self.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

A cross is the focal point in the visual display of the memory verse for this week. (See pattern at the end of this lesson.) Cut apart the four pieces on the heavy black lines and place them on your board in the correct sequence as your students recite the verse.

BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Prepare the In-Class Activity using a transparent overlay as the opener for your lesson. Do not wipe the marks from the heart until later in your presentation.

Progression of events:

1. All have sinned.
2. Good works, going to church, paying tithes, etc., will not save us.
3. Jesus died so that His Blood could wash away our sins. (Wipe off the marks in sinful heart with a damp red cloth.) He had not sinned, and because of this He could die for our sins.

Climax: Only the Blood will cover sin. Use the red page of the Wordless Book.

Conclusion: Forgiveness comes through the cleansing power of Jesus' Blood.

Response: The students will be able to explain how and why Jesus' Blood was shed.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In Christian theology, atonement is the central doctrine of

our faith and includes all that our Lord accomplished for us on the Cross. However, the primary child may find it difficult to understand the figurative aspect of this lesson. How could the Blood of Jesus wash sin spots from the heart? As adults, we understand that the remedy for sin, according to the Bible, is based upon the representative principle, in which we have hope through Christ's substitutionary atonement. But the child may have difficulty understanding why Christ died for us and how that act could have anything to do with our sins being forgiven.

Try to keep your language very simple in teaching this lesson. You will need to begin by explaining that God's Law says the wages (or result) of sin is death. Because we were born with sin in our hearts, and because when we were older we chose to do wrong things, we should die. But Jesus came into this world, and — unlike every other person born into this world — He had no sin of His own that He should be punished by death. Because of His great love for mankind, He was willing to pay the penalty. He agreed to die in the place of man. When He died and shed His Blood on the cross of Calvary, He died in our place. Though it is true that "without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22), God accepted the Blood of Christ instead of ours.

But there is one condition. That sacrifice needs to be **accepted**. You may want to lead into next week's lesson by pointing out that a person could say, "No, I don't want to accept Christ's dying for me. I reject His offer to take my death penalty and pay it Himself." Christ's offer to them would then be to no avail.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS LESSON

Refer to Lesson 1c for additional ideas.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Draw a heart on a piece of white paper. On top of it, tape a sheet of overhead transparency or clear plastic overlay. Talk to the class about the different things that are sin, and as you do, mark on the plastic with a black felt pen so that

when you're finished you have a black heart. As you explain that only the Blood of Jesus Christ can wash away our sin, wipe the black off with a damp red cloth, leaving the heart clean and white.

Cut a cross out of cardboard. Have the class write on paper strips some sins for which they think Jesus died. Let the children nail them on the cross with tacks. Then tape a picture of Jesus over the sins. Jesus died for all these and more, and Jesus was the only One who could die for us because He was without sin.

Take a bottle of turpentine to class. Have a splotch of black paint on one hand. Show your class the paint and tell them that it represents sin. Remind them that last Sunday they learned that all have sinned. Tell them that some people try to cover up their sins. (Close hand tightly.) But that does not make the sin spots go away. (Open hand.) Others may try to get rid of their sins themselves. (Wash hand with a damp washcloth.) They may accept Christ, get baptized, or join a church. But the Bible tells us there is only one way to remove the stain of sin — that is by the application of the Blood of Jesus. (Wash hand with turpentine.) Jesus' Blood is available to cleanse our sins, but we must allow it to be applied to our hearts.

For each child make a visual depiction of the memory verse (see Patterns). Impress upon your students the true significance of Jesus' shedding His blood on the cross. He died so that all can be saved from sin. Cut out and follow the six steps for folding each cross so it becomes one square. Then have each child unfold his cross in the reverse order as you say the verse together. Talk about what each section of the verse means.

QUESTIONS

Why did Jesus have to shed His Blood and die so that we can be forgiven of our sins?

For how many sins did Jesus die?

How do you think Jesus could have died for you when you weren't even born yet?

What day is set aside to especially remember the death of Jesus on the Cross?

How do you think you would have felt if you had been there when Jesus died?

What is the penalty for sin?

How can you get sin out of your heart?

What is the meaning of the word *repentance*?

What sins do we keep after we are saved? Why?

If something is dead, it is no more. Explain how, when we ask God to forgive our sins, they are "dead" — gone forever.

How can we ever repay Jesus for all that He's done for us?

PRESCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Use two hearts of the same size cut from felt, one from white and one from red. Draw sins spots on the white heart. Glue strips of Velcro on each heart (on the front of the white and back of the red), so the two hearts will stick together. Let each child have a turn covering the white heart with the red. (They love putting Velcro together and pulling it apart!)

Using red construction paper, prepare a red crayon for each child (see Patterns). Cut out the crayon and fold along the dotted line. Cut out the two ovals and glue them to the inside of the crayon. Show the children a real red crayon and then give each of them their copy of the pretend crayon. Talk about the color red: how pretty it is, how God made the color, etc. Name some things that are red. Then have them open their red crayon and tell them that red can remind them of one more thing, a very important thing — Jesus died for us. Point to the cross on which Jesus died. Point to Jesus who is now alive and in Heaven. Red is a very good color!

Give each child a JESUS DIED FOR ME answer wheel (see Patterns). Cut out the bottom circle and the top piece. On the top piece, cut along the heavy lines to the right of the boy and then fold that flap on the dotted lines. Attach the two parts together in the center. Show the children the sad heart in the left space and then let them lift up the right section to reveal the cross. Tell them that Jesus died so that everyone who had sin in his heart could pray and be happy. Then turn the wheel so the sad child is in the left space. Let the children look under the right section to see Jesus. Tell them that Jesus loves all the children of the world and wants them to love Him. He is their very best Friend.

REVIEW IDEAS

Fill the inside of a large flashlight (minus batteries) with slips of paper that say "Lying," "Stealing," etc. Scraps and other "garbage" could also be in the flashlight along with the "bad" things. Open the flashlight and pull out the slips and discuss these bad things. Put batteries, which represent Jesus, into the flashlight. Have plain paper wrapped around the batteries that have good things written on them — "Sharing," "Love," etc. This is what makes the flashlight work.

Have your review feature the bloodline of Christ in song. Sing one verse of "Father Abraham." He had the promise of a family, one member of which would save the world from the sin Adam and Eve started.

Sing one verse of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing." God and sinner reconciled (become friends again). Jesus was the answer to God's promise to Abraham.

Sing "The Old Rugged Cross." After Jesus grew up, He died on the cross for our sins.

Sing "There is Power in the Blood." It still works today to save sinners.

Enlarge the picture of Jesus on the cross, and also make a black heart large enough to completely cover the picture (see Patterns). Cut the heart into several pieces, and attach a different question about the lesson on the back of each piece. Cover the picture of Jesus with the pieces of the heart (in the right order) so the questions do not show. Let each child take a turn choosing a piece of the heart. If the child can answer the question correctly, that piece of the puzzle can be set aside. If the answer is incorrect, the piece of the puzzle should be put back over the picture. Continue the questions until the picture is uncovered, and then explain to the children that Jesus is the answer for cleansing all sin. He is the Savior that God promised to the world.

COORDINATING SONGS

- "Jesus Is Knocking" — CEF
- "L-O-V-E" — CEF
- "There Is Victory for Me" — CEF

SUPPORT MATERIAL

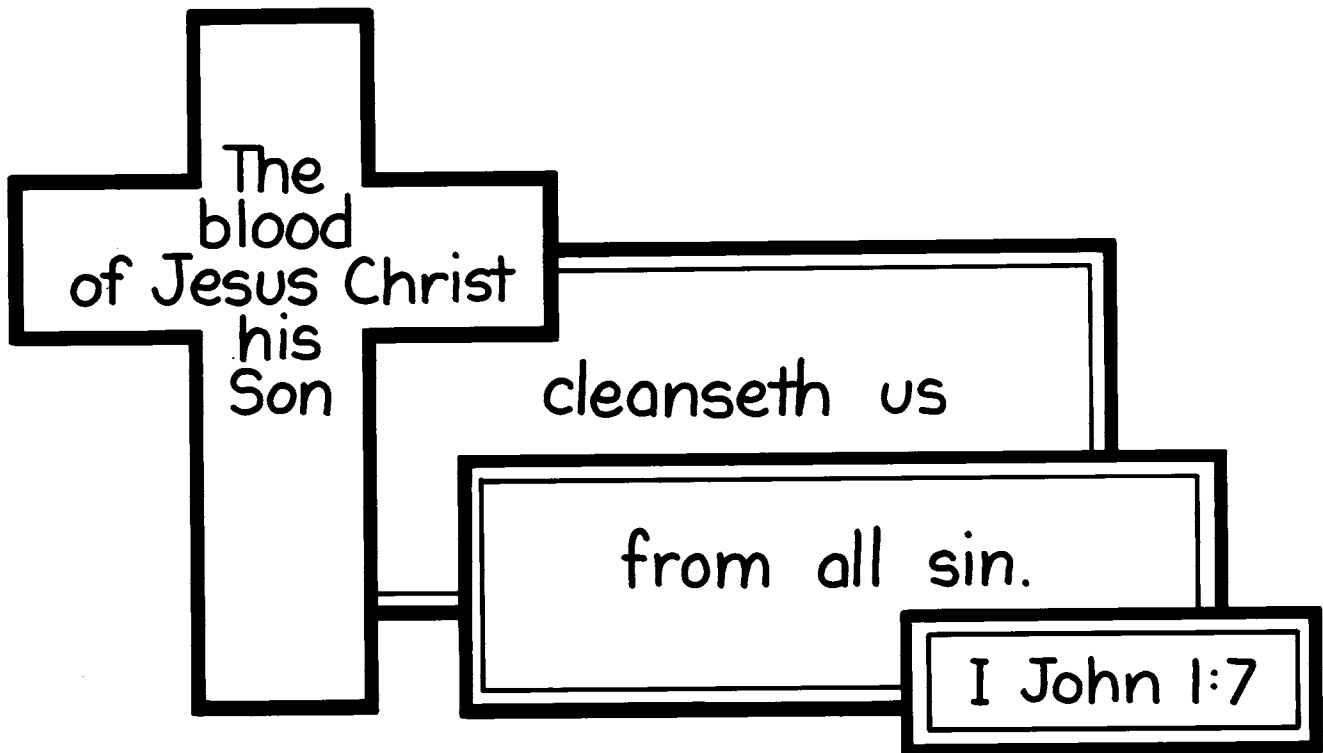
- A Garden and a Promise — Arch Book, Concordia
- The Crucifixion and Resurrection — Panorama, Standard Publishing
- Crucifixion and Resurrection — Pict-o-graph, Standard Publishing
- My Bible Story Card — Series II

MEMORY VERSE SONG

The blood of Je -- sus Christ his Son cleans - eth us from all sin.

The blood of Je -- sus Christ his son cleans - eth us from all sin.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED



TEXT John 3:1-7,16,17

OBJECTIVE The students will realize that they must have Jesus living in their clean hearts in order to make Heaven their home. They will be able to explain how one can be born again.

MEMORY VERSE Create in me a clean heart, O God. — Psalm 51:10

A Clean Heart

MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

CREATE — Strike fists together, one on top of the other.

IN ME — Point to self.

A CLEAN — Hold left palm facing up. Pass right palm over left palm as though brushing off dirt.

HEART — With index fingers draw a heart shape over your own heart.

O GOD — Point up.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

This week's memory verse is illustrated with two children holding a heart. (See pattern at the end of this lesson.) Cut the four pieces apart on the heavy black lines and display them as your students learn their verse.

BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Bring two glasses to class, one smudged and dirty, and one clean. Ask your students which one they would like to put away in the dish cupboard. What needs to be done to the dirty glass to make it ready to go into the cupboard? Compare these with a clean and a sin-spotted heart. The sin-spotted heart needs to be cleansed before it is ready to go to Heaven.

Progression of events:

1. Nicodemus came to Jesus saying that Jesus was a teacher come from God.
2. Jesus told him he must be born again.
3. Nicodemus questioned how this could be possible.
4. Jesus explained the difference between being born of the flesh and of the Spirit.

Climax: When we are born again our hearts are washed clean. Use the white page of the Wordless Book. Talk about the good feeling (clean feeling) we have when we have asked Jesus to take away our sins.

Conclusion: We must have the sin taken out of our hearts in order to be ready for Heaven.

Response: Your students will be able to explain what it means to be born again and how this new birth occurs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart" (Psalm 24:3,4). In order to enter Heaven it is imperative that our hearts are purified by Jesus' Blood (I John 1:7). Without experiencing the cleansing of His Blood the heart of man is "desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:9-18), but through the provision of the sacrifice of His Son on the cross, He can wash "us from our sins in his own blood" (Revelation 1:5).

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS LESSON

Refer to Lesson 1d for additional ideas.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Bring a suitcase filled with some things you would take on a trip. Talk to the class about the trip you are taking, the places you are going, what you will see, etc. Show them the things in your suitcase, stating that you will need them. We are all going on a trip, hopefully to Heaven. We all have sinned (show picture of Adam, Eve, and the serpent). What are some sins? (Show black heart with sins written on it.) We all need to prepare: We come to Sunday school and learn how Jesus died for our sins. (Show Bible, lesson paper, and picture of Jesus on the cross.) We learn that we can pray and ask Jesus to forgive us. (Show picture of someone who is praying.) We ask Jesus to come into our hearts and He takes out all the sin. (Show white heart with picture of Jesus.)

Use a red magnet to pick up black steel pins from a heart-shaped sheet of white paper.

Use the same catalog and magazine people that you used for the activity described in lesson 18a. This week, carefully peel off the old backing behind the hinged door and replace it with a paper on which you have drawn a clean heart. Talk about how every person can experience a change which takes away the sin-spotted heart and puts in a clean heart.

Put some water in a clear glass. Add a tiny bit of food coloring (not black — use green or blue). Then add some strong bleach which makes the water clear again. (Be sure to hold jar in front of a white background so students will see the contrast. Practice this at home before you try it for your students!)

For each child, cut out two five-inch hearts, one black and one white, from construction paper. On the black hearts, use a white pencil and write the words, “Born into this world.” On the white hearts, write the words, “Born again!” Glue each black heart back-to-back with a white heart. Let the children use these as visual reminders that being born again is just as important as being born into this world.

Make a copy of the Letter From Nicodemus for each child in your class (see Patterns). Tell them to fill in the missing words in the letter using the words in the box at the bottom of the page. Talk about what Nicodemus learned when he visited Jesus that night.

Review the memory verse with your class. Give each student a copy of the verse hearts (see Patterns). Have them circle the right word in each heart so they will correctly finish the memory verse. Go through the verse together and talk about what each of the correctly chosen words means.

QUESTIONS

What did Nicodemus hope to learn from Jesus?

What does being born again mean?

Describe how sweet and precious a newborn baby is. Talk about when a person is born again, how fresh and new he feels with all his sins forgiven.

Why is it necessary to be born again?

What should we say when we pray to Jesus and ask to be born again?

Do we need to be sorry for any sin in our lives? Why?

Can just a little bit of sin be in a clean heart? Why or why not?

How did Nicodemus know he needed to be born again? How do we know that we need to be born again?

A person with a clean heart is a special person. Tell how that person acts. (Bring out the positives from the Ten Commandments.)

Tell some ways we can keep our hearts clean.

Will there be any sin in Heaven? Why or why not?

PRESCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Make two heart-shaped books out of white paper. One cover is pure white with pictures inside showing children doing good things like sharing, obeying, etc. The second

book has smudges on it and has pictures inside showing children doing things that cause smudges — lying, fighting, etc. As an alternative, instead of books you could use heart-shaped boxes and put the pictures inside.

Prepare some paper hearts; crumpled, torn, etc. Try to repair them with bandaids, string, Scotch tape, or whatever. Show that you can't mend a broken, sinful heart, but God can. That is why He sent Jesus to this world.

Make a heart from white paper, then one from cellophane the same size to fit over the white one. Talk about different sins and put black spots on the cellophane with a felt pen. Then the child repents and God forgives and forgets the sins. Wad up the cellophane and toss over shoulder to illustrate that God forgets. The white heart remains.

Make a Happy Heart book for each child (see Patterns). Cut out the two pages. Lay the sad-face page on top of the happy-face page. Staple them together along the left margin. Talk to the children about how sad you would feel if Jesus was not in your heart. People are always happier if they love Jesus and have a clean, white heart.

REVIEW IDEAS

Hit the Bull's Eye by going to the Cross of Calvary. Divide the class or department into two teams. Prepare 15 to 25 questions. Using cardboard, make a target with six rings. Color each circle a different color using the colors of the Wordless Book. In the center make Jesus' cross. Make two flags from triangles of paper (using two colors not used in Wordless Book) and glue each around a straight pin (see Patterns). Ask one team a question. If answered correctly move their pin with their flag color onto the outer circle. If they miss, they don't move and the other team gets a chance. The first team to reach the Cross wins.

This lesson lends itself well to an overhead presentation. Begin with a heart with several “sin spots” drawn on it. (Be sure you use a non-permanent pen for the sin spots — the heart should be drawn with permanent ink.) Explain that everyone is born with sin in his heart, and everyone does naughty things. Show simple line-drawings illustrating sins which a primary child would identify with; for instance, disobeying, lying, being unkind. After each naughty behavior, put the heart back on the overhead and add another sin spot. Talk about how sad sin makes you feel. Show a sad face and draw in some tears as you talk about repentance. Then use a damp cloth to wipe the sin spots out of the heart. End by showing a happy face to represent how good a clean heart feels.

Use a hot-air popcorn popper and pop some corn to illustrate what a complete change takes place when a person is born again. Show the children the kernels. They are hard and certainly wouldn't be much fun to eat. But when they are popped, they are white and soft and good to eat. They don't look anything like the kernel of hard corn. God makes a complete change in us too, when we

are born again — old things pass away and all things become new.

On a large sheet of posterboard, copy the What Does It Mean...? review quiz (see Patterns). Read each of the questions and have the children help you find the answers. Stop after each answer and talk about it to make sure the children really understand. You can even give them their own copies, after the review, to take home so

they can talk about it with their families. Note: This would also do well as an overhead review.

COORDINATING SONGS

"In My Heart to Stay" — Salvation Songs No. 4

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" — Salvation Songs No. 4

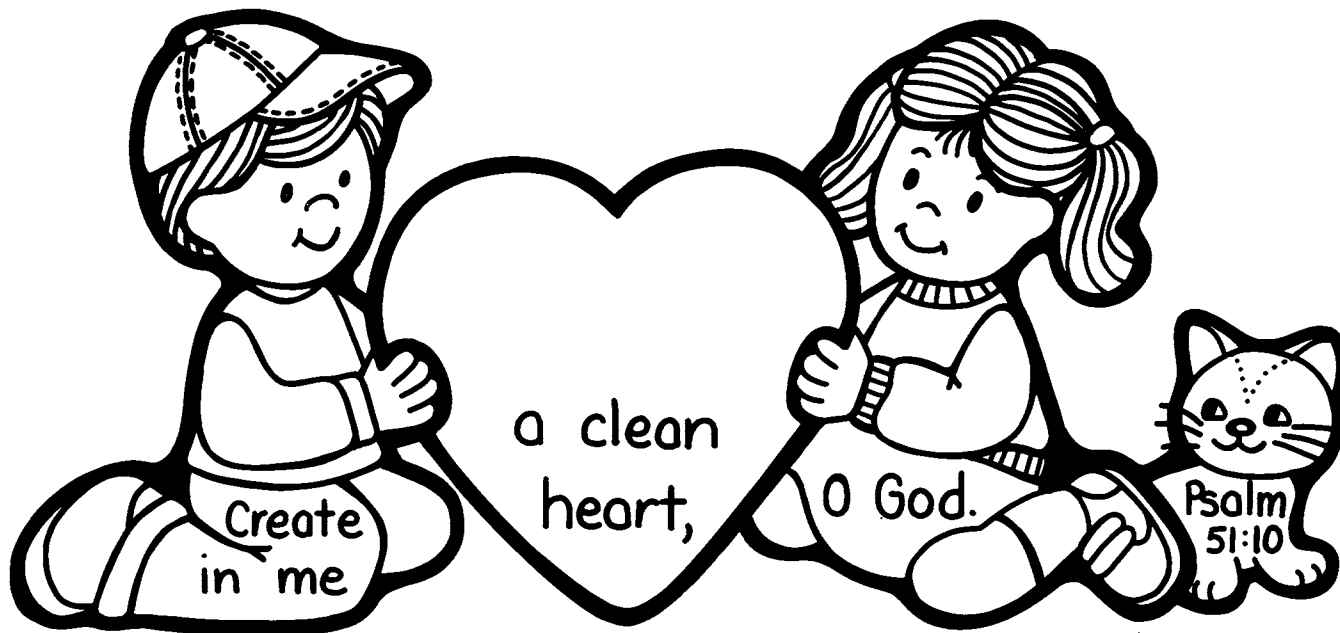
"Into My Heart" — Salvation Songs No. 1

"Is My Name Written There?" — Salvation Songs No. 3

MEMORY VERSE SONG



MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED



TEXT	II Timothy 2:1-4; 3:14,15
OBJECTIVE	The students will be able to explain that telling others about Jesus is part of their growing in Christ.
MEMORY VERSE	Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ — II Peter 3:18

Telling Others About Jesus

MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

GROW IN GRACE — Arms extended, palms down, hold hands low and gradually raise them.

AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE — Tap finger tips on temple.

OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR — Point up.

JESUS CHRIST — With right middle finger, touch left palm. With left middle finger, touch right palm.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

Our memory verse this week is illustrated by a ruler being viewed by two children. (See pattern at the end of this lesson.) Cut apart the five sections on the heavy black lines and reassemble them, one piece at a time, as your group recites each portion of the verse.

BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Adapt the In-Class Activity using dominoes as your opener. Explain to your group that if we tell people we come in contact with about Jesus, we will not only grow spiritually, but we are helping to spread God's Word to all the world.

Progression of events:

1. When we tell others about Jesus, that helps us grow spiritually. This is vital.
2. New life begins when we are born again.
3. That new life must be nurtured to grow. Use the green page of the Wordless Book.
4. Timothy is an example of one who grew.
5. Studying God's Word and praying are other things that help us grow spiritually.

Climax: We should learn by the account of Timothy that it is possible to grow spiritually.

Conclusion: Spiritual growth is necessary if we are to be "healthy" Christians.

Response: Your students will review the steps to salvation as suggested by the Wordless Book, concluding by naming specific ways we can help our spiritual growth.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Lord's last words to His followers were, "Go ye

therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19). The Lord wants all people to know how to be saved, for He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9). Because of their position of great privilege, the Jews began to get the mistaken idea that salvation began and ended with the Hebrew race. They had forgotten that the promise God had given to Abraham had stated that they would be a blessing to all people (Genesis 12:3). Under the New Covenant not just physical Jews but any who have the same faith as Abraham are heirs to that promise (Galatians 3:26-29). Because of this, we, as spiritual descendants of Abraham, have the great privilege and responsibility to be a "blessing to all people" by sharing the good news that they, too, can become the children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. This is the most important task of the church in general and the believer individually.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS LESSON

Refer to Lesson 1e for additional ideas.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Bring some dominoes to class. Line them up so that as each one falls, it will cause the next one in line to fall. When we tell one person how to get saved, he will share the good news with the next one (have dominoes fall). In this way we not only grow spiritually but we are helping to spread God's Word throughout all the earth.

Make a number of telephone and receiver sets from different colors of construction paper (see Patterns). Have enough sets so each child in your class will receive one piece. For example, if there are eight children in your class — make four sets. (If you have an odd number of children in your class, you be a partner to one of them.) Have each child draw one piece from a sack or box, and find his partner who holds the other piece in the same color. Explain that this week their assignment is to call their telephone partner and discuss how to invite a friend to church, or lead a friend to Christ. Have each student write his name and phone number on his telephone part and exchange it with his partner.

Help each of your students make an "invitation puzzle" to give or send to a friend. If your church has an invitation dodger, use this. If not, sketch your church or fill in the Special Invitation puzzle (see Patterns) and have the children sign this. Be sure to include your church name, address, and service schedule. Have one copy for each student. Copy or mount the invitations on heavy paper or light cardboard. Help each student draw light curving lines over the invitation, marking it into puzzle pieces. Then cut apart, place the pieces in an envelope, and mail to a friend. (To speed up the process, have the invitations mounted prior to class time.)

Fill a large pan or bowl with green-colored water. Drop in pebbles and watch the ripples spread wider and wider. This typifies a Christian's witnessing going from one person to another, and on and on.

QUESTIONS

What is a witness?

Do we have to go to a foreign country to tell others about Jesus? Why or why not?

When we witness to someone about what Jesus has done for us, we are actually introducing them to Jesus. How do you feel when you do this? How do you think Jesus feels when you do this?

If Christians did not witness to people about Jesus, how would people find out about Him?

Why do we need to witness to others? (Be sure the students know that others need Jesus too, and that witnessing helps us to grow.)

Do all people you witness to want to know more about Jesus? Why or why not?

How does telling others about what God has done for us help us to grow spiritually?

Talk about how you or your family learned about Jesus.

How old do you have to be to tell others about Jesus?

Tell of a time when you told someone about Jesus or gave an invitation to Sunday school.

What is a testimony? Does everyone have a testimony? Why or why not?

Talk about the church magazine and tracts and how they include printed testimonies that witness to people all over the world.

PRESCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Make a paper doll chain to illustrate telling others about Jesus or Sunday school.

Give each child a piece of paper on which you have traced or copied a little hand, the size of an infant's (see

Patterns). Explain that this is probably the size their hand was when they were born. Then have them place their hand over the top of the little hand and trace around it. Compare the difference in size, and point out how their hand has grown. Jesus wants us to grow as Christians too, as well as physically.

Have several candles. Light one candle and continue to light the other candles with the lighted candle. Have the children sing, "This Little Light of Mine."

For each child prepare a yellow construction-paper bus (see Patterns). Put happy face stickers in all the windows except one. Leave that one empty. Show the children how they can add another happy face if they tell a friend about Jesus and invite him to Sunday school.

Make a Witnessing paper chain for each child. Precut plenty of paper strips. Start with each child's name on a strip of paper which you have taped together to make a ring. Ask that child for the name of someone they would like to tell about Jesus, then write that name on a strip and add it to the first ring. Do this with each name the child gives to you until he has a good length of chain, to show he wants to tell someone of Jesus. This should be done for each child. You may prefer to make just one long paper chain to hang up in your class rather than have each child take his home with him.

REVIEW IDEAS

Fill a very tall, clear jar or vase about half full with colored water. Pour some into another vase to indicate witnessing, but add more to it by Jesus' giving us blessings. Repeat until the jar is full.

Do a puppet skit. Have one puppet really down at the mouth, grumpy, and sad. Have another puppet, Mr. Christian, come along telling the Gospel story to the sad puppet, ending with an invitation for him to come to Sunday school and having him accept the invitation.

Prepare a Learning to Witness overhead review (see Patterns). Help the children by giving them ideas on how to tell others about Jesus. Write these after each number on the sheet. (Hint: Prepare them beforehand and attach them to the transparency as overlays.) Use ideas; such as, Jesus is God's Son, Jesus came to earth as a little Baby, Jesus loves us, Jesus died for our sins, Jesus will forgive you if you ask Him to. Impress upon them the importance of witnessing and how this will help them to grow for Jesus.

COORDINATING SONGS

"Bring Them In" — Salvation Songs No. 1

"This Little Light of Mine" — Salvation Songs No. 2

"Stop and Let Me Tell You" — CEF

"Sunday School Sure Is Fun"

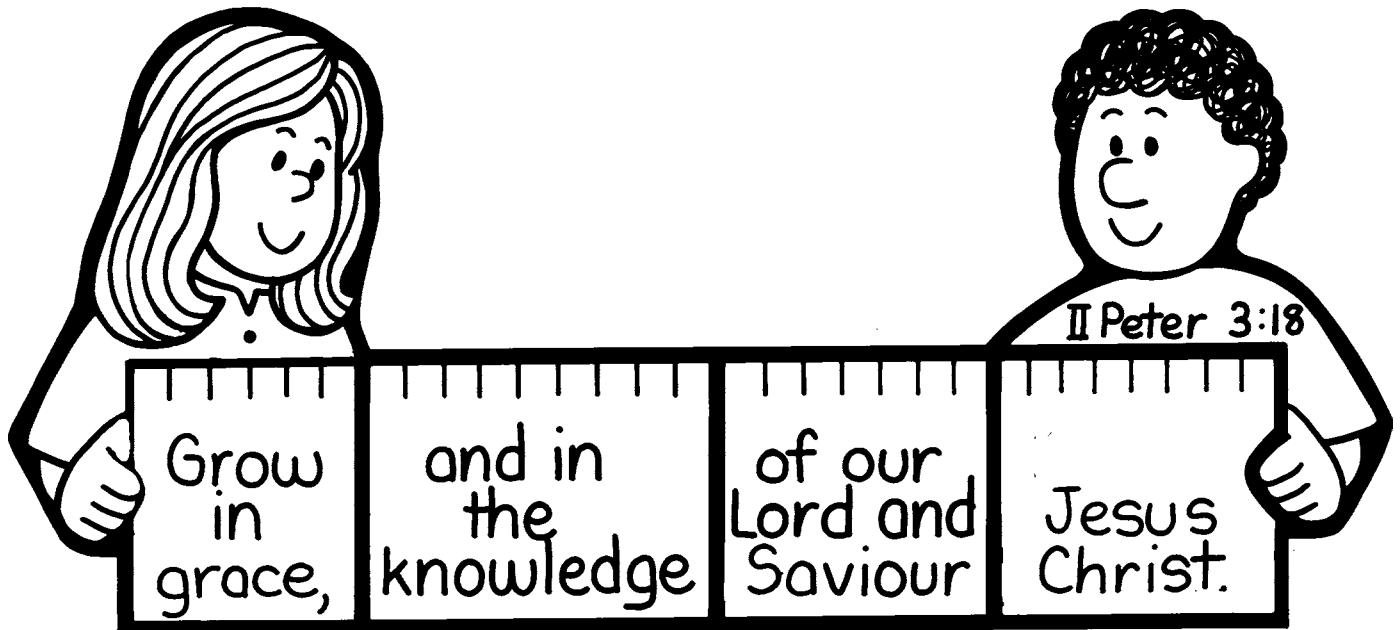
SUPPORT MATERIAL

Bible Children — Classroom Story and Activity Book,
Standard Publishing
Bible Pictures — by Frances Hook, Standard Publishing

MEMORY VERSE SONG



MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED



TEXT	John 14:2, 3; Revelation 21:10-12,18-23
OBJECTIVE	The students will realize that Jesus is in Heaven now waiting to come back and receive us unto Himself. They will be able to give some details of what Heaven is like.
MEMORY VERSE	In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. — John 14:2

Our Heavenly Home

MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE — Point up.
ARE MANY MANSIONS — Make pointed roof shapes, while tapping finger tips of both hands together.
IF IT WERE NOT SO — Shake head No.
I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU — Touch fingers to mouth, move arm down and away from face until palm faces up.
I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU — Strike fists together, one on top of the other.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

A display of Heaven in a cluster of clouds is the visual representation of this week's memory verse. (See pattern at the end of this lesson.) Cut the five pieces apart on the heavy black lines. Put the arrangement back together, one section at a time, as your students learn the verse.

BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Open your class session by showing your group a poster depicting Heaven. Have hinged windows which open to show glimpses of things in Heaven. Discuss the beauty of Heaven and how we all want to go there. (Do not open the windows yet.)

Progression of events:

1. Jesus went to Heaven to prepare a place for us.
2. Give a description of Heaven, using the gold page of the Wordless Book. Allow students to open windows of the poster as you discuss the various things which will be found in Heaven.
3. Tell who is in Heaven.
4. Tell who is not in Heaven.
5. Describe how long Heaven will last.

Climax: If we love Jesus we will spend all eternity in that beautiful place called Heaven. (Show gold page here.)

Conclusion: Heaven is a wonderful place; we don't want to miss it.

Response: Have each student describe some of the characteristics of Heaven.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The hope of Christ's return should cause the Christian to examine his life, but it should not become a point of argument in regard to the interpretation of specific prophecies. II Peter 3:11 states, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness."

Following Christ's discourse on the end of the age, He gave several parables, all of which have the same basic message: "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 25:13). The word *watch* connotes "preparedness and diligence about one's spiritual condition." Being prepared is essential because at the coming of Christ the ungodly will be judged. The righteous will be rewarded with an eternal home in Heaven with Christ. Matthew 13:41-43

When Christians are perplexed or suffer they are to comfort each other with the hope of Christ's soon return when He will set right all the wrongs and evils of this world. I Thessalonians 4:18

SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS LESSON

Refer to Lesson 1a for additional ideas.

When dealing with the subject of Heaven, be prepared to answer a child's questions concerning death: How do I get to Heaven? Will I have to die? How can I know that if I die I will wake up in Heaven? Where is Heaven? Is Heaven far away? Can I leave Heaven if I want to? Will I meet Jesus when I get there?

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Have the class pretend they are getting their home ready for a special loved one from out of town. Bring some things to illustrate it. What are some things they would do to prepare for the visit? Possibly put fresh sheets and blankets on their bed (laundry soap). Wash dirty dishes (dish soap). Dust and vacuum (dust cloth). Make cookies

and pick flowers (cookies and flowers). Jesus is preparing a home for us, but we have to have our sins washed away by the Blood of Jesus in order to be prepared for that home. Review Wordless Book colors with heart shapes cut out of construction paper or posterboard.

Bring a wedding invitation to class and talk about the wedding, where it will be, who will be there. Bring some clothes and let the class help you decide what to wear. Jesus holds out an invitation to those who will come and be His Bride. We need to wear proper wedding clothes, which means we need to have a heart that is washed in Jesus' Blood and to live a life above sin. Jesus has prepared a place for us and all we need to do is get ready to go there. Review the Wordless Book.

Make a "Book of Life" from foil with paper pages or draw the outline of a book on chalkboard. Put the children's names in the Book.

Use the symbols of Heaven: Streets of gold — yellow cellophane; pearly gates — pearlized nail polish brushed on cardboard gates; best food — cookies; a picture of Jesus with arms stretched wide.

Give each child a copy of the dot-to-dot Heaven scene (see Patterns). As they complete their picture of the mansions in Heaven talk to them about what Heaven will be like. Jesus is preparing a special place for each of us. When do they think Jesus will be ready for us? Are they excited?

Have the children pretend they are in a race for Heaven — a race where everyone can be a winner. Give each of them a copy of the Heavenly Goal questionnaire (see Patterns). Help them to circle the right answers to the questions. These should help them see why they need to start the race and how they can finish.

QUESTIONS

What do you think Heaven will be like?

What do you expect to find in Heaven?

Who are some people you think will be in Heaven?

Where is Jesus right now? What is He doing?

What do you have to do to be ready for Heaven?

How can we help people get ready for Heaven?

How do we know that Jesus will come again?

How many of Jesus' promises are true?

Who will go up to meet Jesus when He comes?

Why will we be happy when Jesus comes again?

How do you suppose the disciples, who loved Jesus, felt when He died? Why is it so hard for us when someone we love dies?

Talk about how the disciples got to see Jesus again when He arose and how we will get to see our loved ones again when we get to Heaven.

PRESCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Write a letter from Jesus, using the Rebus method (see Patterns), telling all the things that Jesus is preparing for us in Heaven — the tree of life, golden streets, living water, mansions, etc. Read the letter to the children. They could probably "help" you with a few words.

Let each of your children complete their Heaven picture by drawing clouds (see Patterns). Copy this pattern onto blue paper and let the children scribble on clouds around Heaven.

Give each child a Heaven lacing card (see Patterns). Copy this onto heavy white paper and punch out the holes where indicated. Let the children color in Heaven and then give each of them a length of white yarn and let them lace through the holes in the clouds around Heaven.

REVIEW IDEAS

Draw a large circle on cardboard. Divide it into five pie shapes (See pattern in Unit 18, Games for Review). Color or put construction paper into the five wedges, using the colors of the Wordless Book. Use a paper clip as a spinner. Put five clear containers on a shelf and inside each put five to ten questions written on slips of paper in the colors of the Wordless Book. A child comes up and spins the spinner. If the spinner stops on red, for example, he would take a question from the container with red slips in it. If he answers correctly he receives a small prize such as a balloon or pencil in the corresponding color. Then another child gets a turn, and so on until all questions are answered.

Have some air-filled and some helium-filled opaque balloons. On the helium ones draw a happy face, and a sad face on the air-filled ones. Attach strings to each one and tie to a base. When the base is removed or the balloons are cut loose the happy ones go up and the sad ones go nowhere. Ad lib the story about clean hearts and sin-filled hearts.

Tell a story about some friends or relatives coming for a visit (by plane, bus, or train). We are so excited to see them we can hardly wait to show them our house, room, toys, and sights around town. Compare this to Jesus in Heaven and how He wants us to go there so He can show us what He has made for us.

Use the Heavenly Goal questionnaire from the In-Class Activities and prepare an overhead review for the children. Circle the answers they choose.

COORDINATING SONGS

"Heaven Is a Happy Place" — Salvation Songs No. 4

"The Happy Day Express" — Salvation Songs No. 1

MEMORY VERSE SONG



In my Fa - ther's house are ma - ny man - sions: if it were not so, I would have told you.



In my Fa - ther's house are ma - ny man - sions. I go to prepare a place for you.

MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

