

# The Plan of Salvation

**Lesson 1A Our Goal — Heaven**

**Lesson 1B All Have Sinned**

**Lesson 1C The Blood of Jesus**

**Lesson 1D A Clean Heart**

**Lesson 1E We Must Grow**

The Plan of Salvation must be very plain when we are dealing with the primary child. In this unit, we are exploring some vital concepts which need to be brought down to the primary level of understanding.

By this age, children are beginning to understand what sin is. They know that certain things they do are wrong and deserve to be punished. However, they may not yet understand how the death of Christ is related to their wrongdoings. Even those from Christian homes may repeat, "Christ died for our sins," without understanding the phrase. Our aim for this quarter is to help them understand why they need forgiveness for their

sins, and, in a simple way, the steps to receiving salvation.

We have chosen to begin this quarter with a positive approach, so Heaven as our goal is the initial focus. By stressing the wonders of Heaven, you can establish a basis for the following weeks which will explain the way to be sure we are ready to go there. The quarter concludes with an emphasis on continuing with Christ. We want the students to realize that salvation doesn't stop when they are born again, but is a living, growing relationship with their Savior.

## GAMES FOR REVIEW

There are a number of reviews and object lessons that can be purchased through Child Evangelism Fellowship.

Play "Catch the Bean Bag" with your students. Bean bags are made in Wordless Book colors and one is thrown at a time. If the child who catches it can tell what that color represents, he gets a small treat such as a sticker, balloon, etc.

Cut 11 pieces of flannel to form a large letter "V" (representing "Victory") when placed together like a puzzle. The base of the V will be placed on the board. Divide your group into two teams, each team receiving five pieces of flannel, one for each color of the Wordless Book. Then, with each correct answer to the review questions, a different colored flannel piece is placed on the board by the child who answered correctly. The team to build their side first is the winner. Be sure the colors are placed in the right order. Then the Gospel can be reviewed as instructed in the Wordless Book. Another version of the above could use the word, "SAL-

VATION." Give each team a set of flannel letters and the team which answers correctly and spells its word first is the winner.

## CONTEST IDEAS

Make a white paper crown for each child. If they know the memory verse add a green star. If they bring a Bible add a red star. If they are a missionary a gold star, attendance a silver star. Or you may wish to add the colored star which matches the Wordless Book color being studied on each Sunday — either for attendance, memory verse, good behavior, etc.

Fill a large jar with red, yellow, white, green and black gumdrops. Have the children come up one at a time, reach into the jar for one, without looking. Then they must tell you what the color stands for before they eat their gumdrop.

For a wrap-up to this unit, compile a series of questions reviewing the lessons of the past four Sundays along with the final lesson. Divide your group into two teams. Alternate asking questions of each team. When the



# Our Goal — Heaven

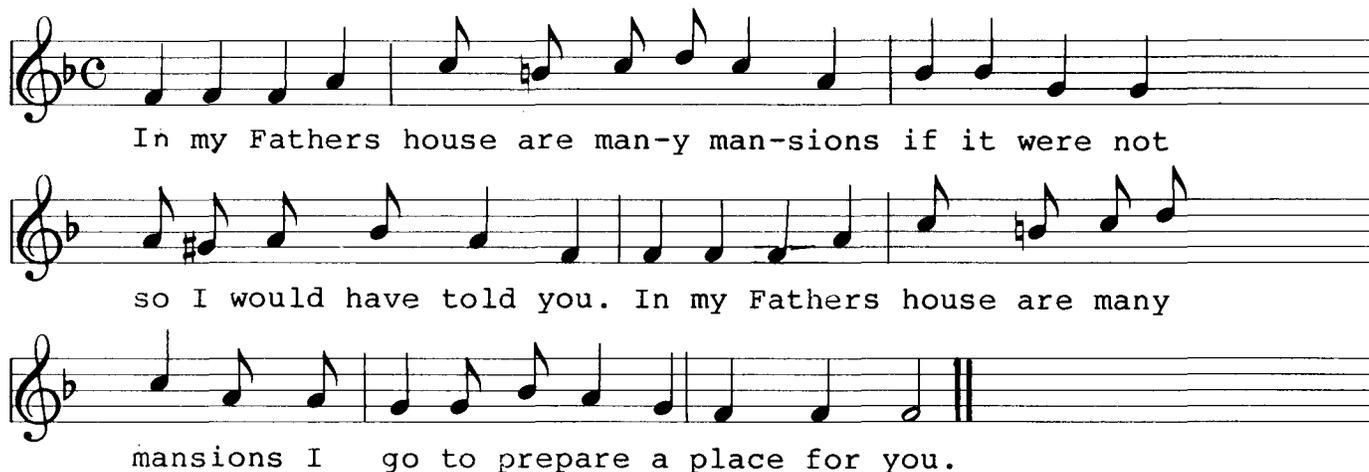
**TEXT** Revelation 21:10-12,18-23; 22:1,2

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** Revelation 21,22

**OBJECTIVE** The students will understand that our goal is Heaven. They will be able to describe some of the characteristics of Heaven.

**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

## MEMORY VERSE SONG



In my Fathers house are man-y man-sions if it were not  
so I would have told you. In my Fathers house are many  
mansions I go to prepare a place for you.

## MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE — point up  
ARE MANY MANSIONS — make pointed roof shapes  
tapping finger tips  
IF IT WERE NOT SO — shake head "no"  
I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU — touch fingers to mouth,  
move arm down, palm up  
I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU — strike fists  
together, one on top of the other

## MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

Use sketch of Heaven (see Patterns). Glue to a flannel backing. Cut the three clouds apart and place them in front of the Heaven scene, as shown, on a flannel board as the students say the verse. This puzzle can be enlarged and used in a group session with the entire department.

## BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Use the In-Class activity depicting earth, Heaven and the cross as a bridge to open your lesson.

Progression of events:

1. Jesus came to earth as a baby.
2. Jesus died and returned to Heaven to prepare a place for us.
3. Give a description of Heaven, using gold page of Wordless Book.
4. Tell who is in Heaven.
5. Tell who is not in Heaven.
6. Describe how long it will last.

Climax: We will spend all eternity in that beautiful place called Heaven.

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

John, the author of the Book of Revelation was one of the Lord's Apostles. The book was probably written about 96 A.D. while John was exiled on the Isle of Patmos, about 37 miles southwest of Miletus off the western coast of Asia Minor. It is a mountainous island covering only 15 square miles — 10 miles from north to south and 6 miles at its widest point in the north. During Roman times, Patmos was a place of political banishment. John was sent there about 95 A.D., and it is thought he was released about 18 months later.

The Book of Revelation is a book of great hope as well as a book of warning to those who reject the Lamb of God, especially the last two chapters. These chapters are a description of a vision that John had of the final consummation of creation. Eternal life for the righteous and eternal death for the wicked are both described.

The City will measure 1500 miles long, wide and high — it is completely square. One of our miles is equal to eight furlongs. Compared to our country, the City would stretch from the Canadian border to the Mexican border, and from the Pacific coast almost to the Mississippi River.

## SPECIAL UNIT INSTRUCTIONS

Begin your explanation of the Wordless Book with the gold page, which stresses the beauty of Heaven. First show the children the whole book, asking them if they have ever seen a book without pictures or words. Explain that the colors of this book tell the most wonderful story in the world.

Ask them if they have ever looked at the last page of a book first to find out the ending of a story. Then look at the last (gold) page together, and tell them this page is to remind them of Heaven. Describe Heaven as God's home, filled with glory and the shining brightness of God, the streets of gold, etc. Bring out that there is no sadness or sickness in Heaven, and that everyone there will always be happy. The most wonderful thing about Heaven is that Lord Jesus, will be there.

Help them understand that God made Heaven because He loves them, and wants them to be with Him in Heaven someday. Jesus promised, "I go to prepare a place for you," our memory verse for this week.

## IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Prepare Wordless Books for each of your students (see Patterns). Familiarize yourself with the explanation for the gold page given under Special Unit Instructions and use this as you teach your lesson.

Prepare a flannelgraph (see Patterns) or chalktalk

showing earth and Heaven with a gap between. To bridge the gap, Jesus died on the cross, creating a way by which we have access to Heaven. If drawn as a chalktalk, you may wish to have your students draw in the cross as a bridge. Explain that sin is on the earth and it separates us from Heaven. The only way to bridge the gap is by having the Blood of Jesus, shed on the cross, applied to our hearts. Close the gap with the cross.

Bring some sparkling pins with jewels or stones, or a piece of crystal, to illustrate what the foundations and streets of Heaven will look like.

Make a shadow box depicting Heaven, either ahead of class time to use as a teaching aid, or with your students as an in-class project. Draw a sketch of Heaven (or use the pattern provided for the memory verse visualized). Cut hinged doors or windows in various places on the sketch. Assemble a group of stickers, pictures cut from greeting cards or other sources, showing things which we will find in Heaven. These should include a picture of Jesus, angels, bells, children, flowers, trees, a River of Life, crown, etc. Mount your sketch on a backing and paste in a shadow box. Then open the hinged areas and paste in the pictures you have collected.

Have your students make individual posters illustrating the steps to salvation as you introduce them in class. Dirty heart: we have all sinned. Cross: Jesus paid the price for our salvation by dying on the Cross. Praying hands (see Patterns): We tell God we're sorry for the sinful things we have done. Clean heart: Jesus cleanses our heart and comes in to live there. (Add sticker of Jesus in the clean heart if you wish.)

Give your students an opportunity to draw the way they envision Heaven, or something that will be in Heaven.

Do a chalktalk on some of the things that would spoil Heaven. You might want your students to get involved by letting them draw the items they mention.

Bring a notebook covered with gold foil to represent God's Book in Heaven. Put each student's name on a page. You might also want to put names of famous Bible characters on some pages, and review why their names were included among those who will be in Heaven.

## QUESTIONS

How do we get to Heaven?

Will everyone get to Heaven? Why or why not?

Why do you want to go to Heaven?

What are some of the things you will find in Heaven?

What are some of the things you won't find in Heaven?

Who are some Bible people we will see in Heaven?  
Why is it important to go to Heaven?  
What do we say to Jesus when we want our sins forgiven?  
What will Jesus do when He hears us?  
In the Bible Jesus tells us how to get to Heaven. He says, "I am the way." What does this mean?  
Will there be things that make us cry in Heaven? Why?  
Jesus gave His life for us so that we can go to Heaven.  
What must we give Jesus in return?

## PRE-SCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Memory verse — I go to prepare a place for you.  
— John 14:2

Make a crown for each child. Explain that the Bible tells us that in Heaven we will wear crowns. The crowns may be made of construction paper or you can make them out of wallpaper samples if available. Your children might like to stick on "jewels" made of foil.

Emphasize that Heaven will be full of their favorite things, colors, people, etc. — things that make them happy. Ask them to tell you what some of these are. Show a smiling face and a sad face, explaining that we will see only smiling faces in Heaven. Show a Band-Aid, bringing out that we won't need these in Heaven because there will be nothing to hurt us. Give them a flashlight, asking if they have ever been afraid of the dark, and telling them that Heaven will never be dark. Share a basket of grapes or other seasonal fruit, and describe the tree with twelve kinds of fruit.

Bring a picture of Heaven for each child (see Patterns). Let them paste cotton balls around it for clouds.

The shadow box described under In-Class Activity is something pre-schoolers enjoy. They love to take turns opening the doors and windows to discover what is inside.

Young children are able to understand the Wordless Book and will enjoy telling you what the different colors stand for.

Let your students "build" Heaven. Provide strips of gold foil for your streets, Fisher Price or Playmobile people for the citizens of Heaven. Mansions can be made from small boxes covered with gold or silver foil paper. The Leggs stockings containers in silver, or sprayed with silver or gold paint, make good domed roofs.

Run off a simple picture of Heaven (see Patterns). Allow students to apply glitter to the drawing. Glitter sticks work well for small children. You can also provide stickers of angels, crowns, and Jesus for each child to put on his paper.

## REVIEW IDEAS

There are many reviews that can be purchased on the Wordless Book and Heaven.

Put on a short skit showing three boys planning a baseball game on Saturday. One boy is caught stealing during the week, so he has to stay home on Saturday while the others go to play ball. Compare this to our goal of making Heaven. If we do something wrong (such as stealing) we will not make our goal.

Show a large picture of a familiar place (the coast, a zoo, Yellowstone Park, or some well-known spot near you) and ask how many have been there, and how many would like to go there. Then show a picture of Heaven, asking the same questions. Mention that God has made Heaven a very special place, and only certain people will get to go there. Hold up a map of your city, saying that this map will help us to find your house. Then hold up the Bible, explaining that it is our "map" to Heaven. If we want to be among the people who are permitted to go there, we must follow God's map, doing just what it tell us to do.

Use a variety of objects to illustrate things that will be in Heaven and things that will not be there. Have a large drawing of Heaven on one side. In front of it, place a crown, harp, angel (Christmas ornaments are a good source for some of these objects), picture of Mom and Dad, a picture of Jesus, etc. On the other side, put a garbage can. Into it, put objects symbolic of things that will not be in Heaven. These could include tissues (no tears), Band-Aids (no hurts), light bulb (no darkness), crutch (no injuries), thorns (nothing to make hurts) or weeds (nothing to spoil).

Teach your group the song, "Heaven Is for Kids." This is available on record or tape.

Put together a brief skit of a prospector looking for gold. Show how diligently he seeks it, and his great joy in finding it. Then compare this to those who are seeking the Lord — they will eventually receive treasures in Heaven. This will lead into a description of the streets of gold, gates of pearl, etc.

Getting ready for Heaven can be dramatized by packing a suitcase. Mention each article as you place it in the suitcase, telling why it is needed. Be sure you pack your Bible! Then talk about getting ready for Heaven, telling what is needed for that "trip."

Have two puppets discussing Heaven, bringing out what was learned in class.

## COORDINATING SONGS

"Somewhere Beyond the Blue" by Alfred Smith,

Singspiration, Inc.

"Do, Lord" Arranged by H. Voss, Singspiration, Inc.

"Salvation" — Child Evangelism Fellowship

"Countdown" — Child Evangelism Fellowship

"Jesus, I Heard You Had a Big House" by Bill and Gloria Gaither

"Heaven Is a Wonderful Place"

"Heaven Is a Happy Place" — Action No. 3

"Come and Go With Me to My Father's House"

"Barney's Barrel" — Living Stories, Inc., (This is a flash card story on Heaven using the Wordless Book.)

Wordless Book Visualized — Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc.

"What Happens When We Die?" — Carolyn Nystrom (Children's Bible Basic Book)

"Jesus, I Heard You've Got a Big House" — Gaither Music Book with record, Impact Books, Benson Music Company

"Where is Heaven?" — Sandra Ziegler (book), Standard Publishing

"Heaven Has a Floor" — Evelyn Roberts

### SUPPORT MATERIAL

"The Bible Story" by Arthur S. Maxwell

### NOTES

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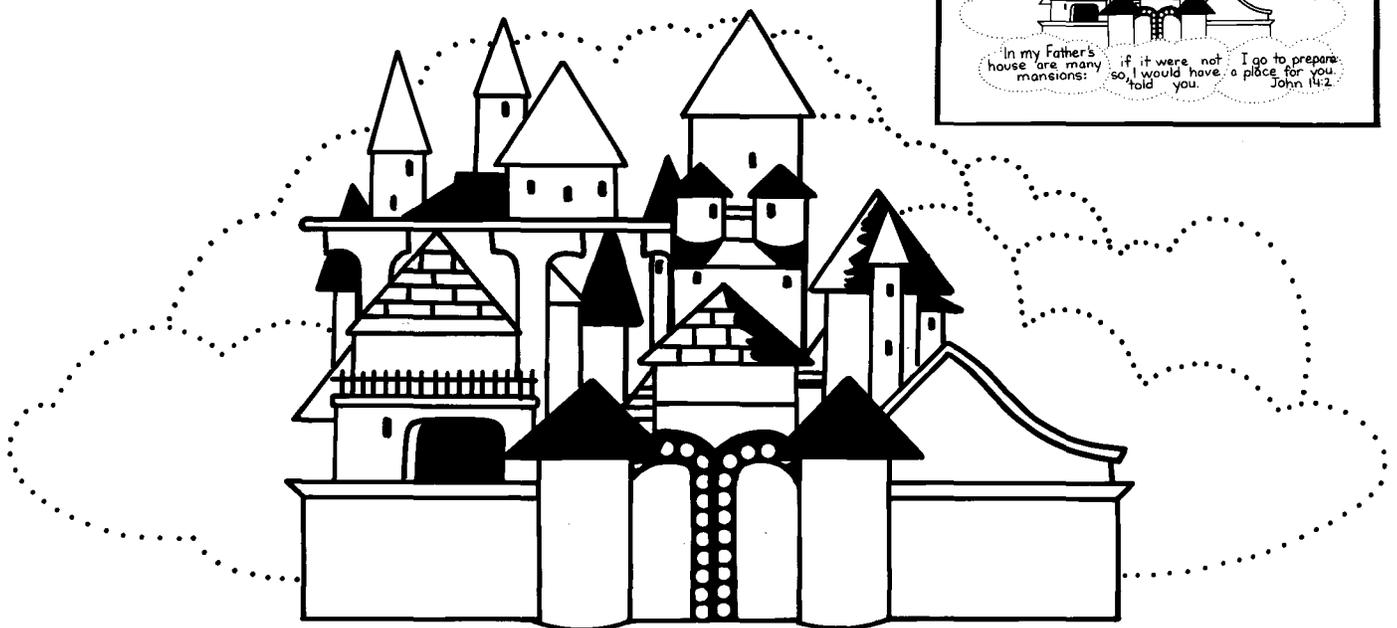
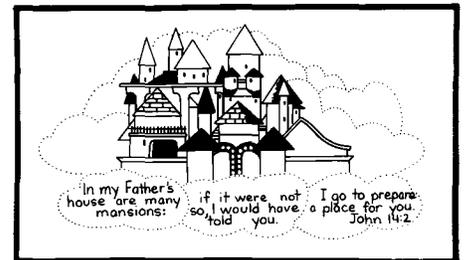
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In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have a place for you. John 14:2.

# All Have Sinned

**TEXT** Genesis 3:1-6

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** Genesis 3:1-24; Isaiah 55:7

**OBJECTIVE** The students will understand that everyone has sinned and must repent and ask forgiveness for the things they have done wrong. They will be able to identify behavior which is sin.

**MEMORY VERSE** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. — Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and come short Come short of the  
 glo-ry of God. For all have sinned - For all have sinned  
 and come short of the glory of God.

## MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

FOR ALL — move open hand, left to right  
 HAVE SINNED — make fists with index finger pointing to each other and then to self  
 AND COME SHORT — shake head “no”  
 OF THE GLORY — hold left palm out facing up, right finger tips touch left palm, raise right hand wiggling fingers  
 OF GOD — point up

## MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

Use puzzle picture (see Patterns). Glue to a flannel backing. Cut out the puzzle pieces and place them together on a flannel board, one at a time, as the students say each part of the verse.

## BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Show a picture of a child misbehaving. Ask the question: What is the child doing? What makes him do this?

Progression of events:

1. God’s creation was perfect.
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.

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

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

Response: Have each student identify behavior which is sin, and conclude that each of us has committed some of these sins.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

SIN: The Hebrew word *hatta'th* means “missing” and the Greek, *hamartia*, “missing the mark.” Other Hebrew and Greek words are translated as “transgression, impiety, depravity,” and “violation of the law.”

God endowed man with the power of choice and man sins when he chooses to transgress or violate the Law of God; he misses the mark God intended and made possible for him. The first sin in the universe was an act of free will in which the creature deliberately, and with perfect understanding, chose to corrupt the holy, godly character with which God had endowed him.

Children bear a resemblance to their parents. Therefore all mankind, as children of Adam and Eve, bear a resemblance to them in that all have sinned (Romans 5:12). And all come under the penalty of death, but "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

God was looking for love and fellowship from man, His creation. In order for there to be real love there must be a choice: a choice to give love or not to give love. That is why God took the risk of giving man a choice to disobey.

Sin in its most basic form is choosing to love the world, flesh or devil instead of loving God. That is why the greatest commandment is to love God, because it is the very purpose for which we were created. Mark 12:28-30

## **SPECIAL UNIT INSTRUCTIONS**

Use the black page of the Wordless Book to stress the spiritual need of the children. Tell them that the dark page reminds you of sin, or things that are wrong. When it is dark, we stumble and cannot find our way. When we are in the darkness of sin, without God's help, we cannot find Him. Sin separates us from God who is holy. God cannot allow sin where He is.

All of us have sinned (Romans 3:23). Help your children recognize what sin is by explaining some of the sins common to their age level, such as lying, disobedience, etc. Then explain that God has said sin must be punished. The punishment is eternal death — to be separated from God forever. If we have sin in our hearts, we cannot go to Heaven where He is. God knows there is nothing we can do to get rid of our own sins, but He loves us and made a way for us to have our sins taken away.

## **IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES**

Re-enact the Bible story with puppets. Make or buy a stuffed or plastic snake and have him hang from the tree, two other puppets to portray Adam and Eve, and a voice taped representing God's voice.

For each student, make a simple garden background with holes approximately 1¼" in diameter cut at the

base so finger puppets can be used (see Patterns). Provide finger puppets to represent Adam and Eve (see Patterns). You may wish to let students draw in their own serpent. Allow them to act out the scene in the Garden as you tell it.

Use a sock puppet to briefly rehearse the temptation in the Garden. Then bring out that the devil probably will not tempt us to eat a certain fruit, but he will tempt us to do something else we know is wrong. Use the same puppet to portray several temptations common to the age group you are addressing: disobedience, selfishness, lying, etc.

Give each child a piece of construction paper and two eight-inch pieces of string. Have crayons available. (Felt markers may also work, but test to make sure they do not bleed through to the reverse side of the paper.) Tell children they are to make a mask with a face on both sides, one side beautiful and the other as ugly as possible. The two-faced mask is to remind children that Satan masquerades as an angel of light, and that he will try to make sin appear good and beautiful.

## **QUESTIONS**

What is sin?  
How can we get rid of sin in our hearts?  
What are some things we might do that God would consider to be sin?  
How do we feel when we do wrong things?  
How does God feel?  
Does God hear us when we say "I'm sorry"?  
How do you know He hears?

## **PRE-SCHOOL SUGGESTIONS**

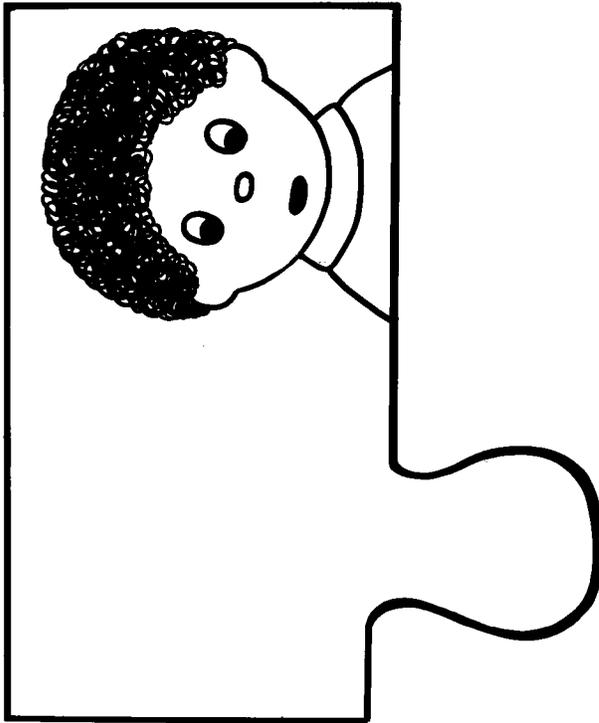
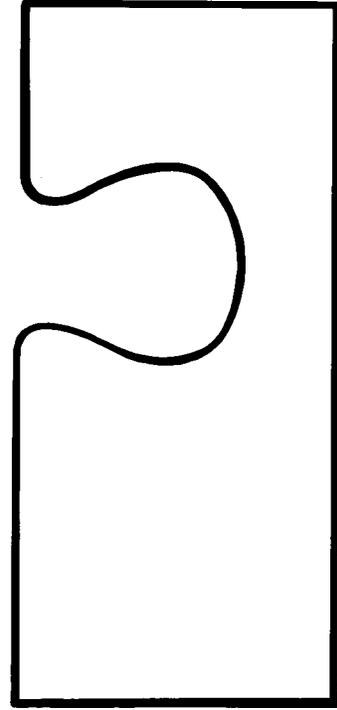
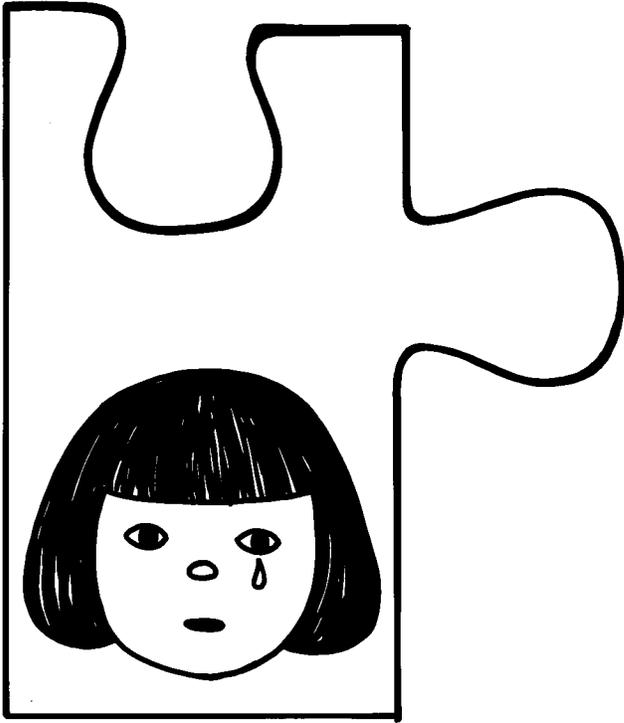
Bring a large heart. Ask your students to help you name some of the things which would make sin spots in that heart. As they mention things, stick dark spots on with double stick tape. Help them realize that everyone has sinned, but be sure they understand that these sin spots can be removed.

Parallel darkness with sin (blindfold or hands over eyes) and light with forgiveness (remove hands or blindfold).

## **REVIEW IDEAS**

Write the following equation on a chalkboard or large poster: Adam and Eve plus Disobedience equals Sin. Use this equation to talk briefly about how Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sinned. Bring out how everyone is born in sin as a result. A telephone will ring — pre-recorded on cassette tape. Answer the phone, and have a conversation with a child in the second or third grade. This child describes a problem — cheating, lying, stealing or some other sin. In conversation tell





# The Blood of Jesus

**TEXT** John 19:16-18,31-34

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** John 19:1-42; Hebrews 9:11-28

**OBJECTIVE** The students will understand that it takes the Blood of Jesus to take away our sins. They will be able to explain how and why Jesus' Blood was shed.

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

## MEMORY VERSE SONG



The blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin.



The blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin.

## MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

**THE BLOOD OF** — draw a cross in front of you with a cupped hand

**JESUS CHRIST** — with right middle finger touch left palm, with left middle finger touch right palm

**HIS SON** — point up

**CLEANSETH US** — left palm up, pass right palm over left palm like brushing off dirt

**FROM ALL SIN** — make fists with index fingers pointing to each other and then to self

not save us. (Add colored tissue overlay for each.)

3. Jesus died so that His Blood could wash away our sins. (Cover sinful heart with red heart.) 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.

## MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

Use heart with cross (see Patterns). Glue to a flannel backing. Cut out pieces and put them together on a flannel board, one at a time, as the students say each part of the verse.

## BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

Introduction: Show the construction paper heart with sin's dark spots on it as described in the In-Class Activity. Review the fact that all are born with sin in their hearts.

Progression of events:

1. Everyone commits sin. (Add words to heart describing committed sin.)
2. Good works, going to church, paying tithes, etc., will

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

From the moment man sinned, God's plan of salvation was set into motion (Genesis 3:15). Because of Adam's sin the sentence of death was passed on all men (Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:12), but because God's purpose in creating man was that He might receive man's love and worship, He isn't willing for any to perish. II Peter 3:9

Jesus' death was no accident of history. It was God's predetermined plan that His Son should die in man's stead. Acts 2:23

Because of Adam's sin and our own sins the sentence of death is upon us. How then can Christ's death erase our sins and therefore give us life? Romans 6:23

Under the Law of Moses a man paid for his sin by being executed or by the sacrifice of an innocent animal. The New Testament makes it clear however, that neither of these methods fully satisfied God's justice (Romans 3:20; I Corinthians 13:3; Hebrews 10:4). Only a perfect, complete payment will satisfy God's requirements. Our own eternal death or Christ's perfect sacrifice are the only sufficient payments (John 3:16,18; Hebrews 9:13-15). Jesus' sacrifice was perfect and complete because He was sinless and the possessor of eternal life, yet He was willing to taste death (the penalty of sin) for us (Hebrews 2:9). As Jesus said, "If a man keep my saying he shall never see death" (John 8:51).

We have only two choices, suffer eternal death or submit to God's loving plan and believe that Jesus Christ paid the penalty of our sin by His own death.

### **SPECIAL UNIT INSTRUCTIONS**

This week's lesson will focus on the red page of the Wordless Book. Use this page to explain the way of salvation. Review the fact that we cannot save ourselves from the darkness of sin. But God has provided a way to have our sins forgiven — washed away.

Our red page stands for the Blood of Jesus. God loves us so much that He sent His own Son, the Lord Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. Wicked men nailed the sinless Son of God to the cross, but while He hung there God put all our sins on Him.

When He was nailed to the cross, His precious Blood flowed from His hands and feet. Through this Blood, our sins can be washed away. Help the child realize that tears cannot wash away sin. Words cannot wash away sin. Doing good cannot wash away sin. The Bible tells us that only Jesus' Blood can wash away our sins. Jesus shed His Blood so we can have our sins forgiven and someday go to Heaven.

### **IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES**

Make a construction paper heart of white paper with several dark spots on it. Review the fact that all are born with sin in their hearts. Later, further sins are committed. Add words such as lying, stealing, disobeying, sassing, etc., to the heart. Describe the ways some people try to cover their sins, putting a heart made out of tissue paper over the sin-stained heart as you talk about each way. These tissue paper hearts should be the same size as your original but can be cut from different colors. Eventually cover with a red heart made from construction paper. Explain that the red represents the Blood of Jesus, which was shed on the cross and covers the sins in our hearts.

Rub hands in ashes, then try to wash them off in water.

It doesn't work. Now use liquid soap to clean hands. Make analogy of how water is like good works — just going to church, and trying to be a Christian on our own. The soap is like Jesus' Blood. We must have it applied to our hearts or we cannot be truly saved.

Draw a cross on a sheet of paper, cutting a round circle at the intersection of the parts of the cross. Make a slit at the bottom and top of the cross. Thread in a strip of paper on which you have allowed the students to draw their own face. Just below the face, paste a sticker of Jesus. Pull the strip until their face shows on the cross. A further pull will show Jesus. On the bottom of the paper, write the words, "I should have died, but Jesus took my place."

### **QUESTIONS**

What does it mean to be "washed" in Jesus' Blood?  
Why did Jesus have to die for us?  
Why did Jesus give us His Blood and life on a cross?  
Did Jesus just die for good people? For whom did He die?  
What can we do to let Jesus know how thankful we are that He died for us?

### **PRE-SCHOOL SUGGESTIONS**

Make a cross out of popsicle sticks.

Color picture of manger and cross.

The first In-Class Activity may be adapted for preschoolers, using individual hearts with pictures of sinful acts being done. Cover these pictures with a red heart. Also, if available, overhead projectors with pictures and overlay would work very well in this type of activity.

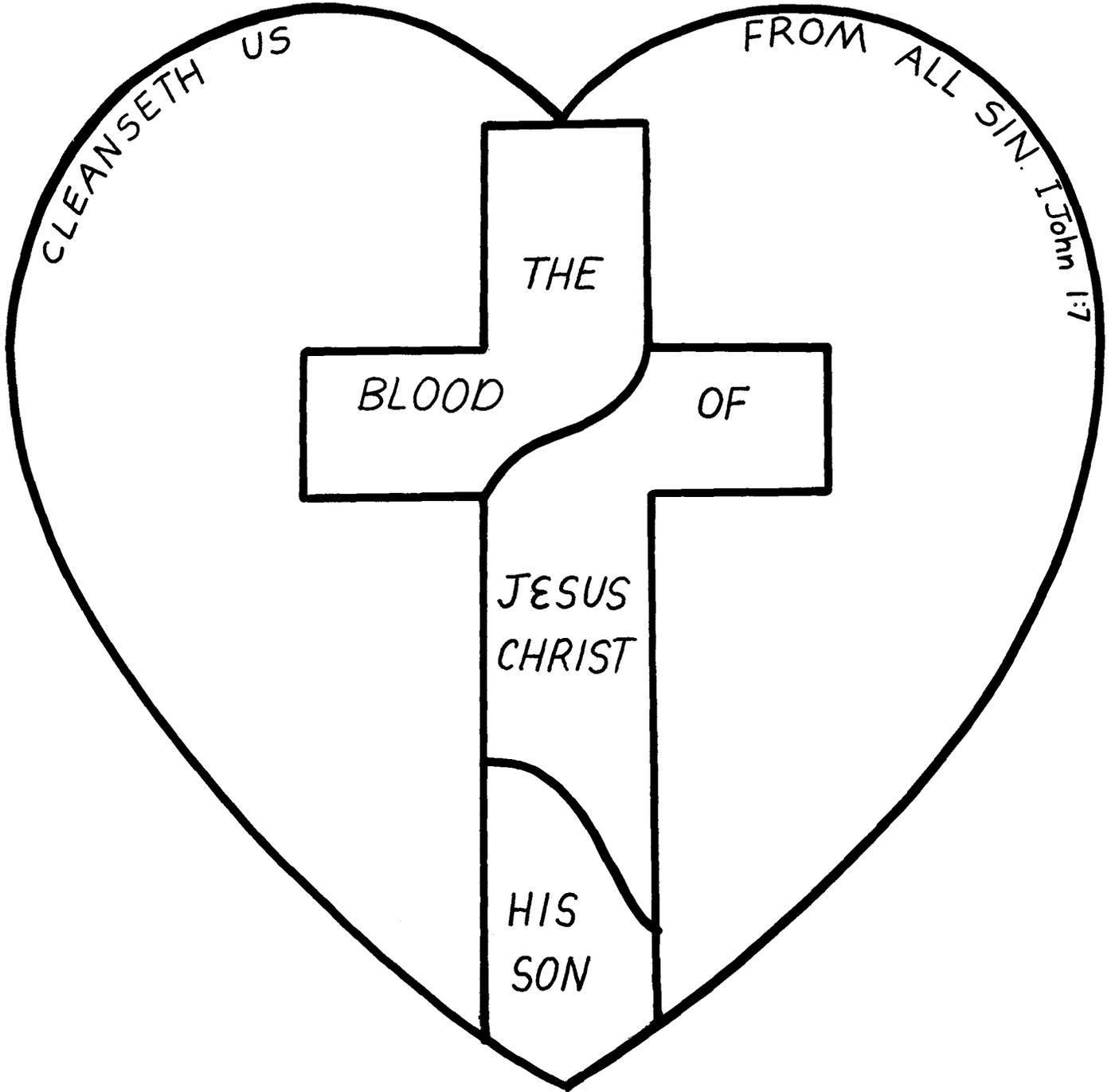
Allow your children to help you set up a sand box scene depicting the crucifixion. Use popsicle sticks to make a little cross. Papier-mache makes a good tomb. Instead of putting Jesus on the cross, just paste a little red heart in the center of it, explaining that Jesus loved us so much that He died there for us.

### **REVIEW IDEAS**

A puppet show with two characters: First puppet just came from Sunday school and begins telling a second puppet all about the crucifixion story. Second puppet wants to know why Jesus died on the cross. First puppet tells him. Second puppet wants to know how his sins can be forgiven. First puppet tells him. Second asks how Jesus can live in our hearts. First one tells him. You may wish to bring a few pictures for the first puppet to use to show second puppet about the crucifixion.

Display a glass of clear water to picture the way God





# A Clean Heart

**TEXT** John 3:1-7

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** I John 1:9; Psalm 51:2

**OBJECTIVE** The students will understand that they must have a clean heart (be born again) to be ready for Heaven. They will be able to explain what it means to be born again and how this new birth occurs.

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

## MEMORY VERSE SONG



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God cre-ate in me a clean heart.



Cre-ate in me a clean heart O God cre-ate in me a clean heart.

## MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

**CREATE** — strike fists together, one on top of the other  
**IN ME** — point to self

**A CLEAN** — left palm up, pass right palm over left palm like brushing off dirt

**HEART** — with index fingers draw a heart shape over own heart

**O GOD** — point up

## MEMORY VERSE VISUALIZED

Use heart puzzle (see Patterns). Glue to a flannel backing. Cut the heart apart and put the pieces together on a flannel board, one at a time, as the students say each part of the verse.

## BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

**Introduction:** Use a marker board and felt pen drawing of a sinful heart. Wipe it clean with a red cloth, as you review that Jesus' Blood must cleanse our heart.

**Progression of events:**

1. Nicodemus came to Jesus with many questions.
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 white page of 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

Nicodemus was a member of the Sanhedrin — the ruling body in Israel. His meeting with Jesus evidently had a profound effect on his life. In John 7:50, his was the lone voice raised in behalf of Jesus when the Sanhedrin was seeking to be rid of Him. And after Christ's death he assisted Joseph of Arimathæa in embalming the body of Jesus (John 19:39). The fact that he brought 100 pounds of spices for the embalming indicates he was somewhat wealthy.

We all were born as sons of Adam and therefore under sin. In John 3:3 Jesus says we need to be "born again" and thus become a son of God, and therefore separate from sin.

## SPECIAL UNIT INSTRUCTIONS

The white page of the Wordless Book should help you explain the child's part — his need to receive the Lord

Jesus into his heart, and have his heart changed and made white as snow.

Tell your children that this page reminds you that we can be made clean from sin. Jesus died for everyone, but everyone will not go to Heaven because some do not believe that Jesus died for them. These people have not asked Him to clean their heart from all its sin.

When we are really sorry for the sin in our heart, we can ask Jesus to make our heart clean. When we ask Him to do this, and believe He hears and answers, He saves us. He gives us a warm, clean feeling in our heart that lets us know for sure all our sins are gone. Then we must pray and ask Him to help us not to sin anymore, and to live every day to please Him.

### IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Use the two circles with 8 pie-shaped wedges (see Patterns). The memory verse is written in one circle and a question in the other. Cut out and attach the two circles in the center with a metal brad. The circle with the questions should be on top. Cut through the lines of the top circle almost to the center. Situate the circle so that question number 1 is on top of the first word of the memory verse, question number 2 is on top of the second word of the memory verse, etc. Starting with number one, ask the question on that wedge. When the right answer is given tear off that section to reveal the first word of the memory verse. Continue doing this until all the questions have been answered and the whole verse is revealed.

Bring a glass of clear water, food coloring (green or blue works best), and a small jar of household chlorine bleach. The glass of clear water represents our heart. As we do sinful things our heart is no longer clean but becomes stained by sin. (Add a few drops of food coloring.) That is like our heart when we sin even just a "little sin." Jesus is sad, but He is willing to make us as clean and pure as we were before. There is only one way for us to once again have that clean heart: that is to repent — to be sorry and ask Jesus to forgive us for all the wrong we have done and to clean our hearts. (Pour the bleach into the water and stir a little.) The stained water will become clean again just like our hearts will be when Jesus' Blood washes the sins away and makes us ready for Heaven. (It is a good idea to practice this at home.)

Make a poster board or do a chalktalk showing the steps to salvation.

1. Sinful heart: All of us are born with a sinful heart.
2. Picture of a cross: We know Jesus died on the cross for our sins.
3. Picture of someone praying: We pray and tell Jesus we're sorry.

4. Picture of a white heart with a picture of Jesus: We ask Him to come into our hearts and He washes us white as snow.

This is a good time to review the last lesson, for it takes the Blood of Jesus to make a heart clean.

Using a marker board and pens, draw a heart. Ask your students what things might cause sin spots or stains in the heart, and as they name these, write them down. Then use a red cloth to wipe the marks away, comparing it to the Blood of Jesus which removes sin from our hearts. This could also be used as a review idea, utilizing a transparency and overhead projector.

### QUESTIONS

- Why do we need a clean heart?
- What do we do to make our hearts clean?
- How can we make sure our hearts stay clean?
- What are the steps to being born again?
- How can we keep the love of God in our hearts?

### PRE-SCHOOL SUGGESTIONS

Use hearts picture (see Patterns). Circle the heart that is different. It is sad and has sin spots. Color the hearts.

Do a chalktalk or prepare a series of flashcards of simple stick figures which would show the steps to salvation.

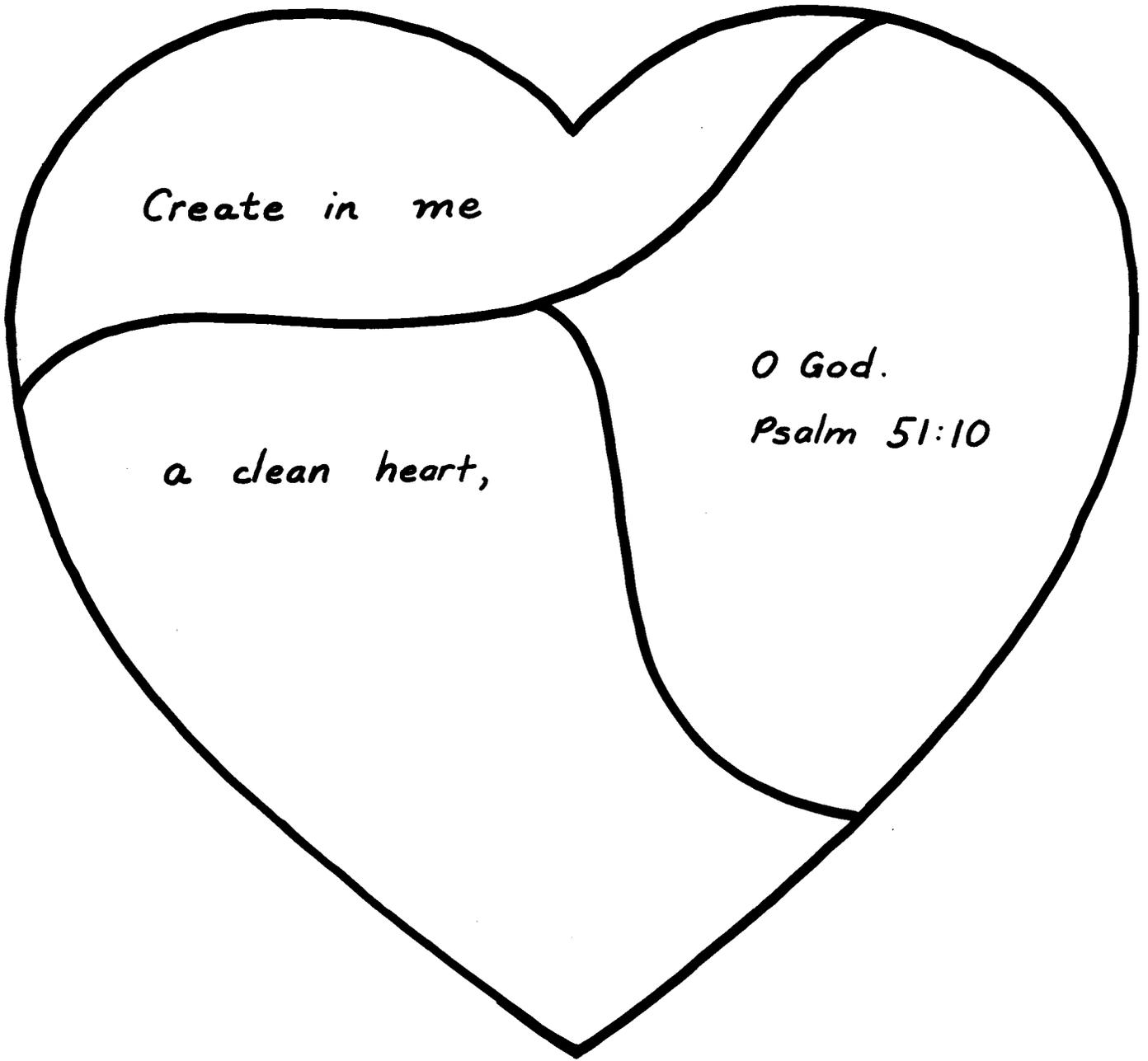
Make stick puppets for each of your students, using a happy heart on one side, and a spotted, sad heart on the other side. During your class time, describe situations appropriate for pre-schoolers, showing either good or bad behavior. (For example: sharing, obeying, lying, disobeying, being kind, etc.) If the child in the story is good (has a clean heart) have them hold high their puppets with the happy faces out. If the child is bad (spotted heart) have them hold up the puppets with the sad faces out.

### REVIEW IDEAS

Make large circles in each of the colors of the Wordless Book, printing just the word "ALL" on each of them. Put them up on a flannel board or bulletin board in the proper order, using them in conjunction with the verses below, and stressing the word "all" as it appears in the verse. The green page of the Wordless Book isn't covered until next week. Stress the importance of coming next Sunday to learn that God's work in you doesn't stop when you are born again. Gold: I Corinthians 15:51; Black: Romans 3:23; Red: I John 1:7; White: Acts 13:39; Green: Romans 8:28

Bring a number of objects that illustrate clean and unclean. For example, show a clean hand and a dirty hand, a clean handkerchief and a soiled handkerchief,





# We Must Grow

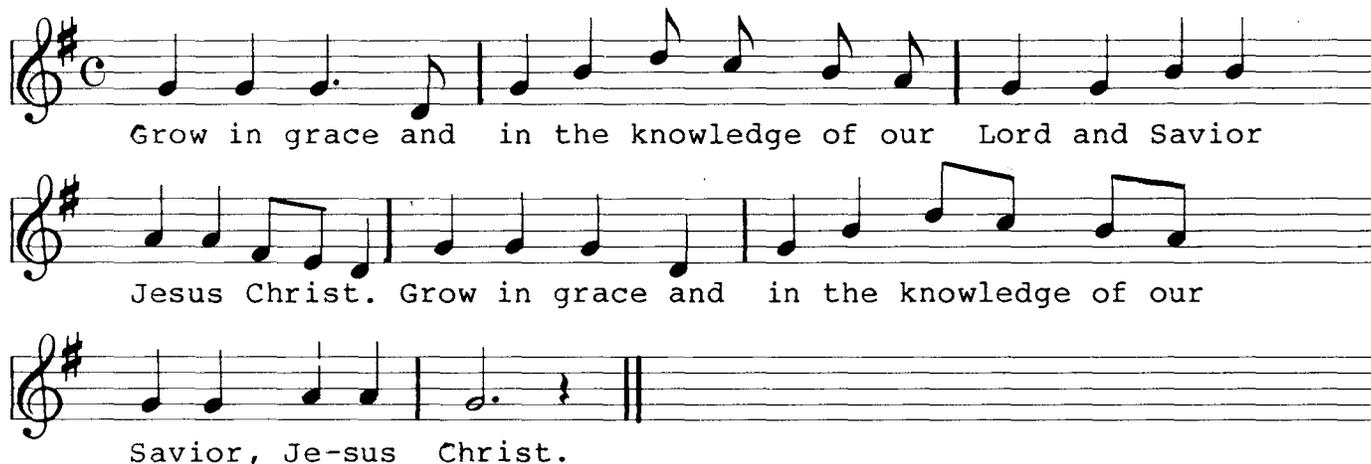
**TEXT** II Timothy 2:1-4; 3:14,15

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES** II Chronicles 16:8-12; Philippians 2:19-22; I Timothy 4:12,13; II Timothy 1:5; 3:14,15; Revelation 12:11;

**OBJECTIVE** The students will understand that once they have asked Jesus to come into their hearts they must continue to grow. They will be able to review the steps to salvation as outlined by the Wordless Book, concluding by naming specific ways they can help their spiritual growth.

**MEMORY VERSE** Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. — II Peter 3:18

## MEMORY VERSE SONG



Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ. Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our  
Savior, Je-sus Christ.

## MEMORY VERSE IN ACTION

**GROW IN GRACE** — arms extended, hold hands low and gradually raise

**AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE** — tap fingertips 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

Use boy and ruler (see Patterns). Glue to a flannel backing. Cut out boy and ruler pieces. Put the ruler together beside the boy on a flannel board, one piece at a time, as the students say each part of the verse.

## BIBLE LESSON OUTLINE

**Introduction:** Show your students a plant. Ask the question: How did the life of this plant begin? Did it start out this size?

## Progression of events:

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

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

On Paul's second of three missionary journeys, he revisited the cities of Derbe and Lystra where he met Timothy, a young convert. Paul soon saw some traits in

Timothy that he admired and wanted him to accompany him on the remainder of the trip. He was on his way to revisit the churches he had established on his first trip and to deliver the decrees of the Jerusalem council to them. Acts 15:18,19

The Book of II Timothy is a personal letter written by Paul, probably during a second imprisonment in Rome shortly before his death. In this epistle, Paul encourages Timothy to hold fast to his faith and the Scriptures even though trials and persecutions were assured (II Timothy 3:14,15). Paul loved Timothy as a son (I Timothy 1:2). Paul was acquainted with Timothy's grandmother and mother, Lois and Eunice (II Timothy 1:5). He was evidently somewhat timid (I Corinthians 16:10,11) but was very faithful to the work of God. He also seemed to have had many problems with illness (I Timothy 5:23). Timothy knew what it would cost to follow Christ because he was from Lystra where Paul had been stoned and left for dead. He was deeply involved in Paul's ministry, sometimes carrying Paul's letters to the churches.

## **SPECIAL UNIT INSTRUCTIONS**

The final page, (or it may be the cover if you have purchased the Wordless Books) is the green color. You will use this color to stress spiritual growth to your class.

Tell them that the green color reminds you of new life, the everlasting life we can have in Christ. Green is the color of things which are growing outdoors — the leaves, grass, bushes, and trees.

When Jesus gives us a clean heart we are like a newborn baby in God's family. But we don't want to stay babies forever. The Bible tells us to "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18), our memory verse for this week. Go over some of the things which will help us grow as a member of God's family. These should include listening to God (learning God's Word), talking to God (prayer), talking for God (witnessing), and worshipping God (going to church and Sunday school).

## **IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES**

Show two trees or plants, one sturdy and one weak or dying. Use watering can with "Prayer" written on it, and water good plant while telling children what you are doing and how it applies to them. Once in a while, sprinkle just a few drops on small plant. Have a bag of plant food (or anything that looks right) with the word "Bible" on it. Put some on the good plant while continuing to explain how important reading the Bible is. Throw small amount of food on small plant. If we want to grow for Jesus and tell others about Him, we must feed ourselves from the Bible and talk to Jesus by praying.

Bring a collection of pictures of babies, younger children, older children, adults, infant animals, adult animals. Each of us was a baby at one time. However, with the right food, exercise, rest and care of us by those who love us, we all have grown. Some are adults and others are still growing. When we are first saved we are like a little baby and we need to grow up. As Christians we need the right "food" for our hearts — that is reading the Bible, talking to Jesus, going to Sunday school. By learning our memory verses we are learning a part of the Bible, God's Book, and that helps us to grow as a Christian. When we ask other boys and girls to come with us to Sunday school we are also growing as Christians.

Make a heart mobile. Cut three hearts from red construction paper, in three different sizes. On the smallest, print or write "Grow," on the next size, "In," and on the largest, "Grace." In the smallest and next size punch a hole at the center top and center bottom and in the largest just a hole in the center top. Thread a piece of yarn through the holes and attach to a rectangular piece of cardboard at the top.

Some objects that could be used in portraying growth to your class are: seed packets, plants in various stages of growth, height measuring chart, picture album showing various stages of growth from baby through an adult.

## **QUESTIONS**

What are two things a Christian does every day?  
Why is it important to remember to read and pray?  
Where can we find someone to tell about Jesus?  
How do we continue to grow as Christians?  
How can we get the Word of God in our heart?  
What are some things about which we can pray?  
What can we be doing for Jesus?  
How do we testify to our friends?  
Is it necessary to read and pray every day? Why or why not?  
Whose fault is it if we don't grow?

## **PRE-SCHOOL SUGGESTIONS**

Draw the double praying hands on a piece of flesh-colored felt (see Patterns). Make one for each student, and allow them to "fold" the hands into the praying position as you tell about the importance of prayer.

Use felt squares or flannel-backed blocks. Let the children "build" towers on a flannel board, adding one block for each thing you discuss which contributes to spiritual growth.

Bring a series of pictures showing a baby animal and then how it looks when it is fully grown. Tell them that little Christians need to grow up to be big Christians.





Grow  
in  
grace  
and in  
the  
knowledge  
of our  
Lord and  
Saviour  
Jesus  
Christ  
II Peter 3:18