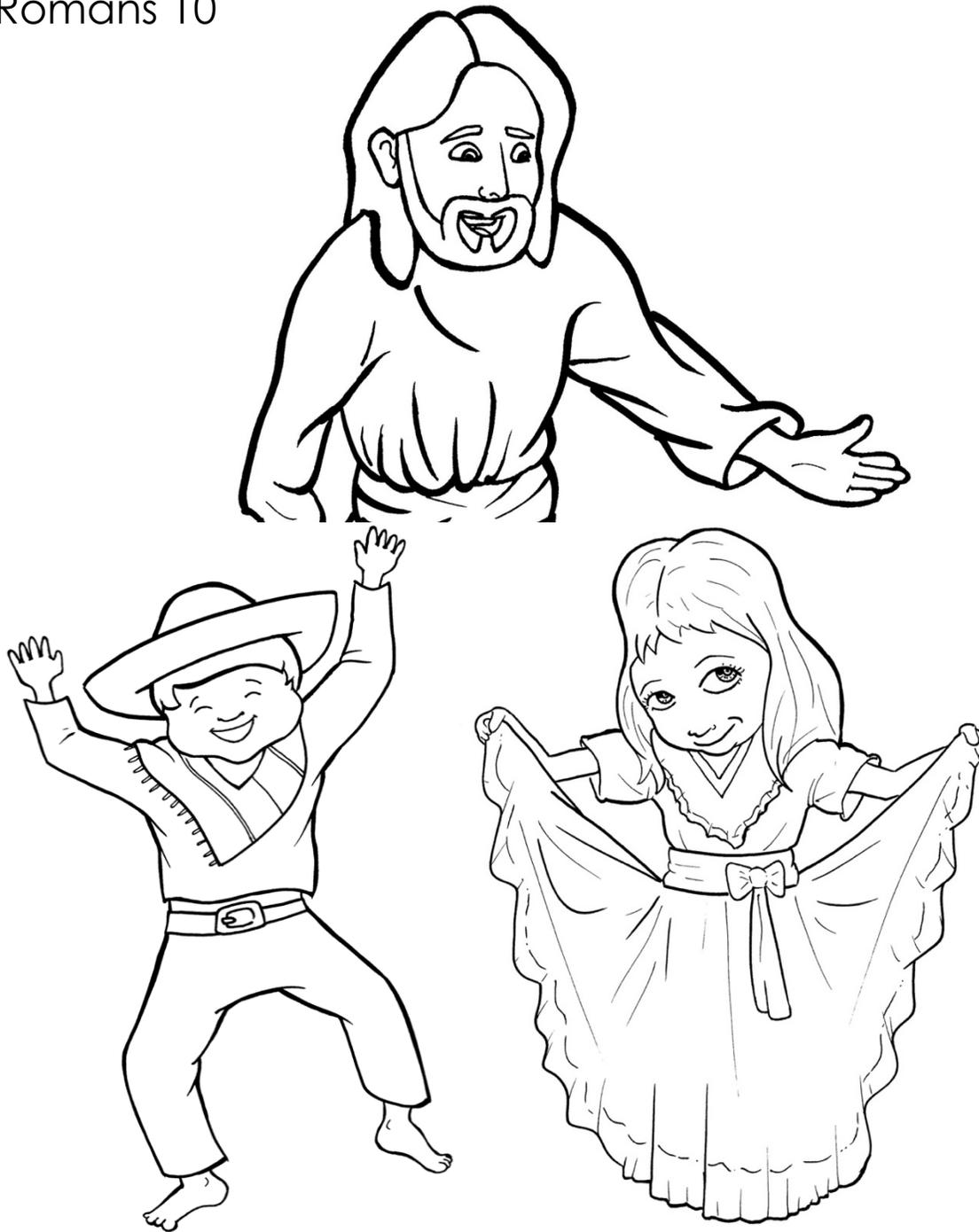


47. Now, the Good News: Jesus Saves

Romans 10



If you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

Now, the Good News: Jesus Saves

Jesus came to die. What? Who would go somewhere only to die? Jesus did. God's love is so deep that he gave the world his only Son. Jesus, who never sinned, took our punishment. He gave his life on the cross because his blood saves.

Now, we can be made clean in God's eyes! Whoever trusts Jesus will not die without God. We will enjoy life with God forever. That's the super, great, wonderful, Good News!

The broken friendship can be fixed. The Bible tells us, "If you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord... if you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Do you believe that? If you do, say this prayer or use your own words.

Dear Lord Jesus,
I'm sorry for the wrong I do. Thank you for coming and dying to pay the price for my sin. Thank you for forgiving me and saving me. I believe that you rose from the dead. Help me to love, obey, and follow you forever.
Amen

If you said that prayer, and meant every word, God has heard your prayer. Tell someone you trust. The angels in heaven are throwing a party. God is smiling. You are now God's child. This really is Good News!

Questions

1. How does someone become God's child?
2. What happens when you believe in Jesus?
3. Have you asked Jesus to forgive you and to be your Lord? When?
4. If you have not made that choice yet, what would help you to believe?

Color each line of this prayer in a different color. Draw confetti.

Ready? If you believe in Jesus, pray this prayer.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for finding me. Thank you for forgiving me.

Thank you for saving me. Help me understand what this new life means.

Amen

Color each line of this prayer in a different color. Draw praying hands.

Not ready yet? Pray this prayer:

Dear Jesus,

I want to follow you, but I am not quite ready. Please show me the way. Help me believe in you. Please help me understand and accept God's gift of love.

Amen

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) What is the best news you ever got? How did you get the news?
- b) How many great things would a person have to do to get right with God?
- c) What could this mean to you... "Jesus saves"?

After you read:

Too Good to be True

Some people can hardly believe that it is so simple to become a Christian. Repent, believe, and say that Jesus is Lord. Really? Many people feel they have to do good works to get right with God; but it is the death and resurrection of Jesus that saves. Give each child a book as a "burden" (a good deed). They think of one good work, perhaps going to church. They carry that "burden" and say, "Going to church is good but the cross of Jesus is what saves us." Use all the books to form a cross and read together Ephesians 2:8-9.

Jesus is the Way Back to God

Create a path to God. Have the kids each write one line from the story each on one red heart that they have cut out of paper. Lay the hearts on the floor from one chair on one side of the room to a chair on the other side. If possible, use a fancy chair on the "God" side to represent a throne. If you prefer, you can use lines from Romans 10 (NirV):3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17,20, 21. Show the illustration of Jesus holding out his arms, beckoning all to come to him and be saved.

Throw a Heavenly Party

Jesus said that when someone turns to God, the angels in heaven rejoice (Luke 15:10). Give each child an opportunity to say, "Jesus is Lord. (Romans 10: 9) and get a certificate (see below). Throw confetti over them as they receive it. When someone repents, they become born again (Joh 3:7). They are adopted into God's family and get a forever home. Throw a Welcome Home party for your class. Decorate the room with pink and blue streamers and balloons, as though it is a baby shower. Sing "Happy Re-Birthday" and blow out candles on pink and blue frosted cupcakes. Say a prayer of thanks together. Lay your hands on each child and give a special blessing.

Good News!

If bad news travels fast, good news should travel even faster! Have the kids go through the story and create a simple message to share with others. Perhaps: "Good News! You can find your way to God. I did! Say that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead and you will be saved! Find out more at www.EasyReadEnglish.com/BibleLessons Text friends and family the Good News.

The Simple, Marvelous Message (Part 1)

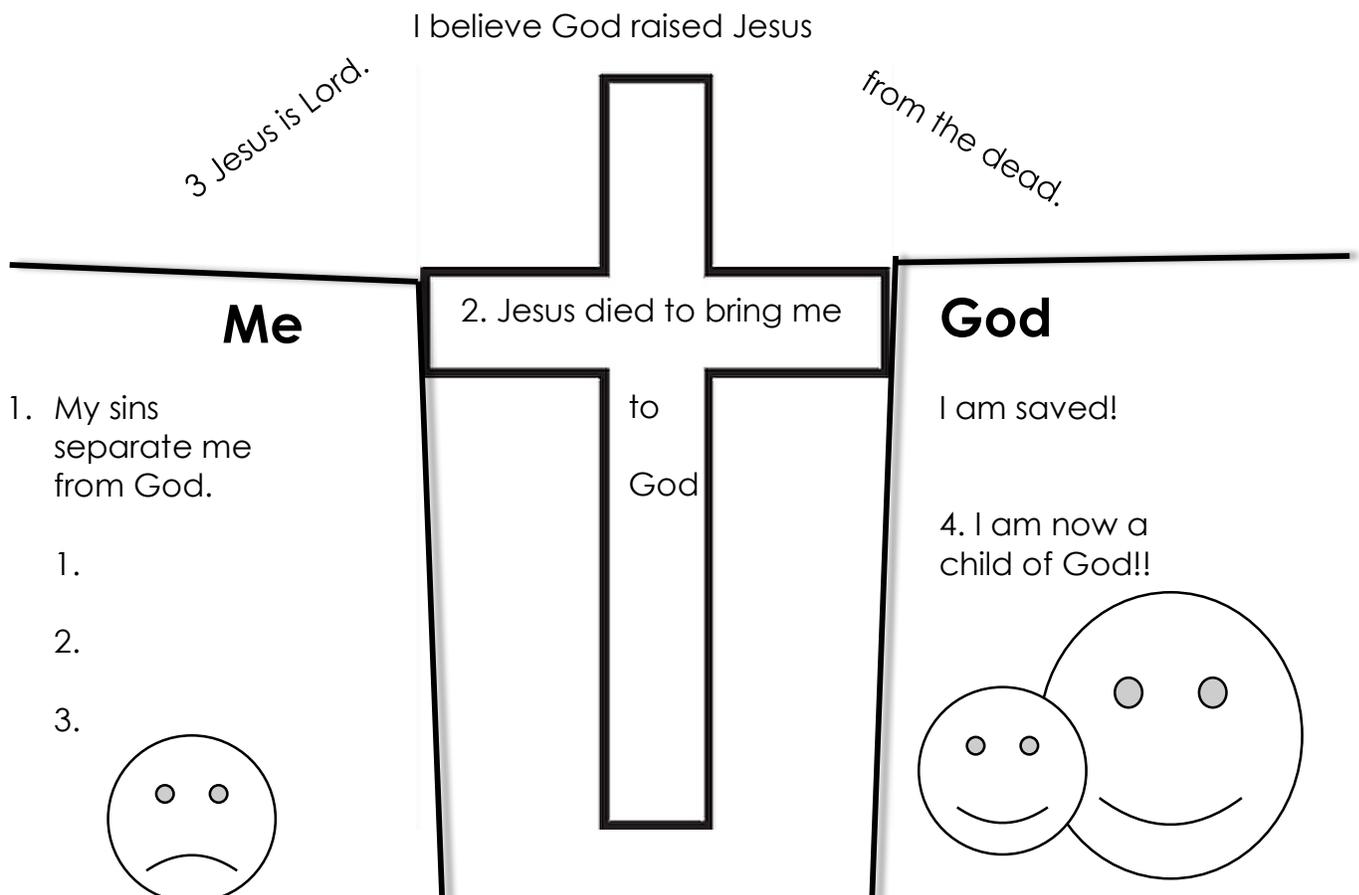
Make sure each child understands the simple message that the cross of Christ is what brings us into a right relationship with God. Go through this tool, Parts 1 and 2, with each child individually. Draw and write the steps together on blank paper. Do they believe? If so, rejoice that you are on God's side! Now you have a tool to share the Good News with friends.

1. Read together Isaiah 59:2. Draw two cliffs. Label the one on the left with your name. Label the one on the right "God." Write in the left cliff: "My sins have separated me from God." Write three sins kids often do. Draw a sad face.

2. Read together 1 Peter 3:18. Draw a cross connecting the two sides. Write in the cross: "Jesus died to bring me to God."

3. Read together Romans 10:9. Creating a wide arch from the left side to the right, write: "Jesus is Lord. I believe God raised Jesus from the dead." Write on the right side: "I am saved!"

4. Read together John 1:12. Write on the right cliff: "I am now a child of God!" Draw a large and small happy face.



The Simple, Marvelous Message (Part 2)

Use these verses with the illustration in Part 1. However, if you have a Bible, it is best to look up the verses and read them together directly from the Bible. Memorize these verses and the illustration. Practice explaining the gospel in this simple way with each other and then share the Good News with those who have not heard.

1. It is your sins that separate you from your God.

Isaiah 59:2 (ERV)

2. Christ himself suffered when he died for you, and with that one death he paid for your sins. He was not guilty, but he died for people who are guilty. He did this to bring all of you to God.

1 Peter 3:18 (ERV)

3. If you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

4. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12

Fill in the blanks to help you memorize.

1. It is your _____ that separate you from your _____.

Isaiah 59:2 (ERV)

2. Christ himself suffered when he died for you, and with that one death he paid for your sins. He was not guilty, but he died for people who are guilty. He did this to _____ all of you to _____.

1 Peter 3:18 (ERV)

(Can shorten to: Christ died for all to bring you to God.)

3. If you say with your _____ that Jesus is _____, and believe in your _____ that God raised Him from the dead, you will be _____.

Romans 10:9

4. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who _____ in his name, he gave the right to become _____ of God.

John 1:12

Adoption Papers

Give each child who feels they are a part of God's family this certificate. Read Ephesians 1:3-8. Fill out the certificate. Color; draw balloons and confetti. Decorate with stickers. Roll it up and tie a fancy ribbon around it. How can you live as a child of God?

Welcome Home!

I say, "Jesus is Lord!"
I believe in my heart that God
raised Jesus from the dead.

I am a child of God.

Name _____

Date _____



If you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9