

WEEK 4

GOD IS SAVIOR

GOD ADOPTS US INTO HIS FAMILY

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE



THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God.
1 John 3:1a

KEY IDEAS

1. We are born into a cursed family (humanity).
2. Through Jesus, God adopts us into His family.
3. Through Jesus, God calls us sons and daughters.

KEY PASSAGE

Romans 5:12-19, Romans 8:14-17

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

God gives adoption by grace through faith in Jesus.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

loved because God wants us to be part of His family.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

talk about what spiritual adoption means.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to be part of God's family.

INTRODUCTION

Our sin and rebellion against God has separated us from Him for eternity. In our sin we have no hope, but God declared His love for us in the form of Jesus, His Son. Jesus, fully God and fully man, came to earth willingly to take our place in death, defeating both sin and death forever through His sacrifice on the cross. By standing in for us as our substitute, Jesus satisfied God's judgement for sin and offered a way for salvation and eternal life to all who confess their sins and believe in Him. God is our Savior who rescues us from judgement by granting forgiveness through Jesus, His Son, and welcoming us into His family. All who trust in Him are children of God!

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by asking the children to take turns sharing the names of the people in their families. Ask the children to define what a family is. A family is a group of people who are related to one another and usually live together and love each other and do life with each other. Families can look different and not all are the same. Some families have a mom and dad, some have grandparents, some have been adopted and might have an extra mom and dad, some look like each other and others look different. Ask the children to think about why we call our church a family? How are people in the church related to each other? The church is a spiritual family made up of all the people who have trusted in Jesus who love each other and help each other!

STORY

Recount the story of the Fall from the Jesus Storybook Bible. Then read Romans 5:12-19 and Romans 8:14-17.

Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve when they sinned and disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. God had created them perfectly, without sin, but He gave them a choice to obey or disobey. What did they do?

They chose to believe Satan's lie and disobey God. When Adam disobeyed, sin entered his heart. God's perfect creation was broken and God's relationship with humanity was broken, too. Because all people came from Adam and Eve, we are all a family, a family of humans! We are all born with the same sin nature that came from Adam and Eve because of their disobedience to God, and just like them we are all separated from God by it.

This sin nature leads us to keep sinning against God, desiring to do what pleases us instead of what pleases Him. The sin in our hearts blinds us to what is right and good and causes us to reject God. But God didn't leave us in our sin, did He? What did God do to save the world from sin?

He promised to send a Savior to save the world, and He kept His promise! God sent His only Son, Jesus, who willingly paid the sin debt we owed. Since sin causes death, the only payment for sin is death, and Jesus is the only one perfect and powerful enough to pay for the sin of the whole world! Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, rose from the grave, and made a way for us to be forgiven! This is the Gospel, or the Good News, that we can be forgiven when we turn from sin and trust in Jesus. When we do, we become part of God's family!

God calls all who believe in Him sons and daughters. Christians are God's adopted children, part of His family and that family will last forever in heaven.

ACTIVITY

Help each child make a people chain using construction Paper. Pre-cut each chain link if necessary to save time. Help them write the names of some of the people in their families on each link of their chain. Lead them in a discussion about how when we are part of God's family, our chain gets bigger. Take each child's family chain and create one big chain to demonstrate how big God's family is.

PRAYER

Thank God that He adopts us into His family that lasts forever. Ask God to help you trust in Him so you can be part of His family, too.

SONG

Jesus, Savior of the World by KidSpring Children's Ministry

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Ephesians 1:5, John 1:12

ACTIVITY

As a family, memorize Ephesians 1:5 by creating a jigsaw puzzle of the verse. Write the verse in big letters on a piece of paper and cut it into shapes to create the puzzle. Help your child put the puzzle back together and recite the verse several times. Spend time showing your child different family pictures of people in your family. Be sure to include family members who married in or were adopted. Remind your child that God adopts those who repent and believe in Jesus into His spiritual family that lasts forever.

DISCUSSION

- What does it mean that we were born into a cursed family?
When God created the world, it was good and there was no sin, sickness, sorrow, or death. When Adam disobeyed God, the world that was perfect became broken. Sin and death entered the world and it was cursed. Everyone born after Adam is born with a sin nature because Adam's disobedience brought sin into the heart of God's creation. Now there is nothing that is untouched by sin.
- How do we become part of God's family?
Our sin keeps us separated from God. But when God sent Jesus to pay our sin debt, Jesus's death and resurrection made a way for us to no longer be separated from God. When we repent and believe in Jesus, we are no longer separated and our sin debt is paid. When we repent and believe, we are forgiven of our sin and we become children of God. God calls us His sons and daughters!

PRAYER

Thank God for giving us adoption into His family through Jesus Christ who paid it all so we could live forever. Ask God to help you remember what He has done for you.

