

WEEK 2

GOD IS JUST GOD JUDGES SIN PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE

THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. James 4:17

KEY IDEAS

1. God must judge sin because He is holy.
2. Our sin separates us from God.
3. God always forgives when we repent and trust in Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE

Genesis 19:12-29

KEY PRINCIPLES

 **EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW ...**

God judges sin because He is holy and just.

 **EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL ...**

confident that God's judgements are always fair and good.

 **EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO ...**

recognize that their sin separates them from the God who created and loves them.

 **EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT ...**

to repent of their sin and do what is pleasing to God who loves them.

INTRODUCTION

God alone is Lord over everything that exists because He is the One who created all things. Everything God created He declared to be good, and every good thing that exists comes from God! All good things come from Him because goodness is a part of His nature. There is nothing God creates or gives that is not good. God gave us life, and He declared life to be good. God desires to give us life abundantly, and that means He must judge sin. Because sin is rebellion against God and leads to death and destruction, it must be punished. Because God punishes sin, we can know and trust that He is good and all His ways are just. God's law shows us what is good and what God desires. God's law reveals our sin and our need for Him to save us!

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by illustrating that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Use the black and white cotton balls in the teacher's bin. Explain that the white cotton balls represent what is right and good and the black cotton balls represent what is wrong and sinful. Ask questions about the kids' behavior this week such as "Did you help mom/dad do something around your house?" or "Did you go to bed exactly when you were asked and obey your parents?" For each "no" answer, give a black ball and for each "yes" answer give a white ball. Ask enough questions for each kid to have at least one black ball. Explain that the bible says we are all sinners who have fallen short of the glory of God. This means we have done wrong against God and need to repent and be forgiven. Jesus came to be our Savior and make a way for us to be forgiven because God loves us.

STORY

Read Genesis 19:12-29. Use the Jesus Storybook Bible and the description on the back of the teaching image.

If you were God and you saw someone who was doing wrong things all the time, what would you do to that person? Why do you think God must punish sin? Do you think God ever forgives?

Sin is rebellion against God, who is perfect and holy and always right because He is the great Creator. God knows everything because He created everything! When we rebel against Him, or disobey, we choose to separate ourselves from His goodness and that leads to suffering and death. God punishes sin because He loves us and because sin is harmful to us and to others. But God is eager to forgive us because He desires that we would have life abundantly through relationship with Him! God wants to give us all the good things He has in store, but we must trust Him and obey His word.

Why did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah? They were wicked and full of sinful people who did not follow God and did not turn from their sins. **How did God show mercy to Lot and his family?** God offered a way for them to escape the judgement He was bringing to their city, but they had to trust and obey Him. **Why did Lot's wife turn to salt?** She sinned by not follow God's instructions and she looked back because her heart cared more for the things she was leaving than for the God who could save her. **Where can we find God's instructions to us?** God has given His instruction to us in the Bible. Those instructions are for our good and His glory (remind children of previous lesson with road signs explaining that just like road signs help us stay safe on the road, God's law is to protect us and help us have a relationship with Him.) **How can we be forgiven by God?** God made a way through Jesus for us to be forgiven of our sin debt by believing that He came to earth to live a perfect life and pay the debt we could not pay, dying for us on the cross. When we believe and trust in Jesus, we are forgiven completely.

ACTIVITY

Use the activity sheet in the teacher's bin of Lot's wife and the discussion questions above to reinforce the key points for this week's lesson.

PRAYER

Thank God that He is powerful and perfect and that He is also good and fair. Ask God to help you trust that God's ways are always right and fair and to obey His word each day.

SONG

You are Holy by Kids Worship Songs (Veggie Tales)

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Isaiah 30:18, Col. 3:25, 2 Thess. 1:8-9, 1 John 1:9, Rom. 6:23, 2 Cor. 5:21

ACTIVITY

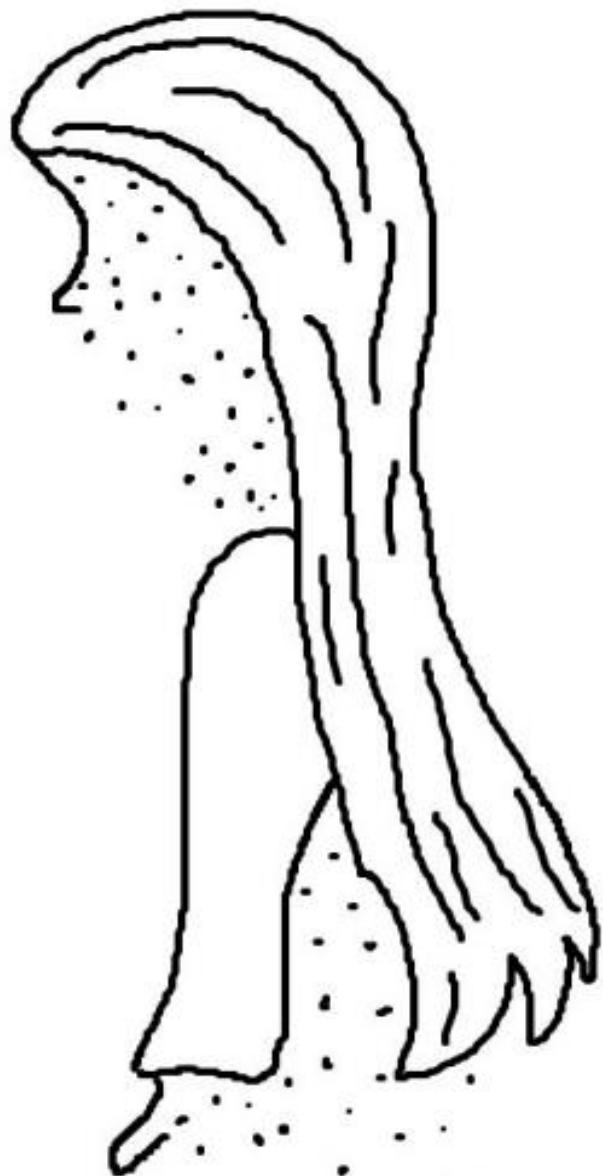
At the beginning of the week, give your child 5 popsicle sticks. Tell them that if they still have all 5 sticks at the end of the week, they will get a special treat. When your child disobeys or is unkind, take a popsicle stick from him or her. At the end of the week, talk about how we are all unjust before God. We have all sinned. Ask your child how they feel about not having all of their sticks. Lead them in a discussion about how we are all sinners and we all deserve God's punishment. Then give them the treat anyway and explain that God is also full of mercy and He is eager to forgive us when we repent of our sins. Mercy means that God does not give us what we deserve. We cannot earn God's love and forgiveness, but He gives it to those who put their hope in Him and trust in Jesus who paid the penalty of sin for those who believe.

DISCUSSION

- What is sin? In its simplest form, sin is rebellion against God. (1 John 3:4, Joshua 1:18)
- What is the best response when God is merciful to us, not giving us what we deserve but instead offering forgiveness through Jesus? Our Heavenly Father deserves our worship and praise because He is perfect in all His ways and loves us so much that He gave us Jesus, who paid the penalty for our sin. (John 3:16-18, 1 John 1:9)

PRAYER

Thank God for making a way through Jesus for us to be forgiven of our sin. Ask God to help you obey His word and honor your parents this week.



Lot's Wife

Genesis 19:2-
But his wife
looked back from
behind him, and
she became a
pillar of salt.

**Cut both squares
out and glue
down on
construction
paper. Color the
picture. Then add
some glue to the
salt dots on the
picture and
sprinkle real salt.**

