

WEEK 3

GOD IS SAVIOR

GOD SAVES BECAUSE WE CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE



THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8

KEY IDEAS

1. God can save us from any danger.
2. We cannot save ourselves.
3. Salvation from sin only comes through faith in Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE

Exodus 13:17-14:31

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

we need a savior to rescue us from sin.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

in awe of the God who saves us when we cannot save ourselves.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

confess sin.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to know more about our Savior.

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 using the "God's Unfolding Story" illustration chart on the wall to introduce the lesson. Point to each symbol and explain what it means. Explain that today we are going to talk about how God saves us because we cannot save ourselves. In today's story, we learn about God's special people, the Israelites, who God promised to use to save the world because Jesus the Messiah would come from them. The Israelites were in slavery in Egypt and Pharaoh would not let them go. So, God rescued them and kept His promise that He would protect them so that one day, Jesus would come to save the world.

STORY

Read Exodus 13:17-14:31 and use the summary below to teach.

God's covenant people (the Israelites) were once in slavery, held captive and forced to work, in Egypt under Pharaoh, the king. After God sent terrible plagues (disease or disaster that affects a lot of people at one time) to the Egyptians, Pharaoh was ready for the Israelites to leave, and they were glad to be free! The Egyptians feared the God of Israel and even gave them silver, gold, and clothing, whatever they asked for just so they would go! The Egyptians didn't want any more trouble. Very quickly, the Israelites packed their animals and began their trip to the place God would show them. God told Moses exactly which way to go and promised to be with His people. God sent a huge cloud to lead the people during the day and another cloud of fire to lead them at night. God was always with them. Soon after the Israelites left, Pharaoh became angry that he had let them go, and he changed his mind. He sent his army after them to bring them back to Egypt. Pharaoh gathered his soldiers, chariots, and horsemen and set out to catch the Israelites. They had to ride fast to catch up to God's people.

Moses and the Israelites had walked a long way and were almost to the Red Sea. Now the Egyptians were close behind them, and the sea was in front of them! What would they do? They cried out to God in fear. So, God told Moses to tell the people not to fear for He was with them. God instructed Moses to lift his staff over the sea. When Moses did as God said, the waters of the sea parted and left a dry path for all of God's people to walk safely across.

The Egyptians saw this and chased after them. But God told Moses once again to stretch out his staff. Moses obeyed God and the waters went back over the path, and the Egyptians were no longer able to hurt the Israelites. When the people saw this great power that the Lord God used against their enemy, they were amazed at the God who rescued them when they could not rescue themselves.

ACTIVITY

Using the instructions provided and supplies in the teacher's closet, help children create their own "parted sea" craft. Explain that just like the people of Israel could not save themselves from Pharaoh, we cannot save ourselves from sin. God helped the Israelites by parting the sea just like He helped all people by sending Jesus to save us from our sin.

PRAYER

Thank God that He saves us because we cannot save ourselves. Ask God to help you trust Him to save you from your sin.

SONG

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

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

John 8:24, John 14:6

ACTIVITY

Help your child create a collage of community helpers, using pictures of firemen, policemen, doctors, etc. Help your child glue the pictures onto a piece of paper. Talk with them about how these people can save us from danger just like God saves us from our biggest danger, to be lost in our sin and separated from Him.

DISCUSSION

- What does it mean that we are born with a sin nature?
Since sin first entered the world through Adam and Eve when they disobeyed God, every person born has a sin nature because of that disobedience. Our human nature was corrupted by sin. Sin leads us to rebel against God and do what pleases ourselves. This sin causes us to be separated from God.
- What is our biggest danger that God wants to rescue us from?
Our biggest danger is to be lost in sin, separated from God's love forever. God is the source of all good and He wants us to be with Him. Our sin blinds us to the truth and keeps us from seeking God (example: our desire to eat candy all the time might feel good to us, but the truth is that it would make us sick to eat only candy). We cannot save ourselves or do anything to pay our sin debt by ourselves. God offers to save us by showing us the way through His Son Jesus, and we are saved when we confess our sin and believe in Him.

PRAYER

Thank God for giving us Jesus as our hope and salvation. Ask God to help you want to follow Him more than you want to sin so that you can have life in Him.

God Led His People Bible Craft



Bible Story: God Led His People

Bible Text: Exodus 13:17-22; 14:1-31; 15:1

Suggested Learning Outcome: This fun craft will help children learn about and remember the miraculous way God led His people out of Egypt.

Supplies List:

- Half sheets of blue construction paper (2 per student)
- Whole sheets of white or brown construction paper (1 per student)
- Scissors
- Craft pompoms (several per student)
- Glue
- Pencils

Teacher Preparation:

Pre-cut blue construction paper in half sheets so that each student has two sheets.

Instructions:

Step 1. Give each student 1 sheet of white/brown construction paper and 2 half sheets of blue construction paper. Instruct students to cut fringes into one side of the blue sheets. Guide students in rolling the fringes around a pencil to create rolling waves (see image).



Step 2. Instruct students to glue their waves on top of the white/brown construction paper so that the wave sides face each other with a path through the center for the Children of Israel. Remind students that God prepared this path miraculously for His children (see image).



Step 3. Give students several craft pompoms and instruct them to glue the pompoms between the waves to represent the Children of Israel following God's path through the Red Sea (see image).

