



Jesus, What a Savior!

Overview for Parents



THE ROLE OF PARENTS

Under God, parents are the most important teachers in a child's life. God has given parents the following command for teaching their children:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

—Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (ESV)

For this reason, we have prepared a Growing in Faith Together page for every lesson in this curriculum. These pages are to assist you in nurturing the faith of your child.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The curriculum uses selected Bible stories presented chronologically to present these key redemptive themes:

- the incomparable greatness and worth of God, who is to be desired and treasured above all things;
- the desperate condition of sinners, who have fallen short of treasuring the glory of God and are helpless to save themselves;
- the all-sufficient work of Jesus on the cross to save sinners who put their trust in Him.

How are the Growing in Faith Together pages used?

Each Growing in Faith Together page will include the following information to help you initiate meaningful discussions with your child:

LESSON TITLE

The lesson titles have been carefully chosen to convey the overall theme of the lesson. They are purposefully worded in a manner that reinforces the centrality of God's greatness and worth.

MAIN IDEAS

These are the key concepts that are taught in the lesson. Many are repeated over and over again in the curriculum. Discuss these concepts with your child and think of ways that you can help your child respond to these truths in his or her heart.

MEMORY VERSE

Every lesson has one or two memory verses. These verses have been chosen to be both child-friendly and to give your child a strong Bible-based, theological foundation for redemption. All verses are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) of Scripture. We cannot overemphasize the significance of memorized Scripture in the walk of faith.

SCRIPTURE

Every lesson in this curriculum is Bible-based. The Scripture references listed in this section are used in the lesson to reveal the Main Ideas. If possible, read these Bible stories and texts at home, and ask your child questions about the truths revealed in these texts. This will serve to reinforce the biblical truths taught. Challenge your child to embrace and grow in faith.

LESSON SUMMARY AND DEVOTIONAL

This section is meant to not only give you an

overview of the main theological themes that were taught in the lesson, but also to inspire and build up your own faith.

PRAYER POINTS

Offers a few suggestions of how you might be praying for your child as seek to instruct his or her mind and heart with the Gospel.

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

Heart application is a vital part of each lesson. We do not want to just teach toward the goal of intellectual understanding, but also toward the goal of spiritual understanding so that the Gospel is fully embraced and treasured in the heart. Although teachers and parents cannot create saving faith in a child (this is the work of the Holy Spirit), we can challenge and encourage a child to rightly respond to biblical truth in his or her own life. To assist you in this endeavor, we have included several possible discussion starters to use with your child. Hopefully these will lead to further spiritual conversation between you and your child.

ACTION STEP

Action Steps are simple activities to help your child understand that he or she must act in response to the Word, not just passively listen to it.

MEMORY VERSE PICTURE

Because Bible memory is so important, all the verses are included with a picture at the end of the page. Display these verses in a place where your child can see them during the week. Help your child learn these verses and discuss what they means. Pray with your child about his or her response to the Word of God.



Scope and Sequence

Lesson 1: God is the Most Special Person of All

Memory Verse: Isaiah 46:9b

God's true Word, the Bible, tells us who He is and what He is like. He alone can make us truly happy.

Lesson 2: God Created the World to Show How Special He Is

Memory Verse: Psalm 19:1

The overflow of God's greatness is seen in His creation where we can feel, touch, hear, and smell how special God is.

Lesson 3: God's Created People to Enjoy His Glory

Memory Verse: Psalm 16:11a

God created people in His image to show how special He is. He desires to have an intimate relationship with His people.

Lesson 4: Adam and Eve Sin and Reject God

Memory Verse: Romans 1:21a

Adam and Eve sinned: they did not love God most of all.

Lesson 5: Sin Alienates Adam and Eve from God

Memory Verse: Romans 6:23a

God is perfect and hates sin, which separates people from Him. He is right to punish sin with death.

Lesson 6: All People Are Born Sinners and Alienated from God

Memory Verses: Romans 3:23, 5:19a

All people are deserving of God's punishment of death (hell), but He is patient with sinners.

Lesson 7: God Makes a Way for Sinners to Come to Him

Memory Verses: Hebrews 9:22b, 11:6a

In His love, God made a way to cover the sin of His people who come to Him in faith.

Lesson 8: God Punishes a Sinful World

Memory Verse: Psalm 1:6

God is patient with sinners and will always keep His promises.

Lesson 9: God Makes a Promise to Abraham

Memory Verse: Psalm 86:9

God desires to make a people for Himself and promises Abraham descendants from all nations.

Lesson 10: The Ten Commandments Show Us God's Ways

Memory Verse: Romans 7:12

God desires to reveal His righteousness, and His laws and commands are perfect, right, and good.

Lesson 11: The Ten Commandments Show Us Our Sin

Memory Verse: Romans 8:7

Sinful people are not able to obey God's commands. The law shows us that we are helpless in our sin and must trust God.

Lesson 12: God Promises to Remove the Sin of His People

Memory Verse: Ezekiel 36:26a

People are helpless to save themselves, but God desires to remove the sin of His people so they can enjoy Him forever.

Lesson 13: Jesus the Savior is Born

Memory Verse: Matthew 1:21

God loves His people and desires to save them from their sin. He was faithful to send Jesus as the promised Savior.

Lesson 14: Jesus is the Most Special Person of All

Memory Verses: John 1:1, 14a

Jesus, the promised Savior, is fully God and became the Word of God in fully human form.

Lesson 15: Jesus Understands Sinners

Memory Verse: Hebrews 2:18

Jesus was tempted in every way and is able to sympathize with sinners. But Jesus is God; He never yielded to temptation.

Lesson 16: Jesus Proclaims His Good News to Sinners

Memory Verse: Luke 4:18a

God sent Jesus to proclaim His good news and to save sinners.

Lesson 17: Jesus Teaches Sinners

Memory Verse: John 8:31b

Jesus reveals the truth about God through words, pictures, and actions to give understanding to sinners.

Lesson 18: Jesus Call Sinners

Memory Verse: Luke 5:32

Jesus is all powerful. He came to save helpless sinners and chooses them to be His friends.

Lesson 19: Jesus Heals Sinners

Memory Verse: John 10:10b

Jesus displays the power of God and has compassion on helpless sinners.

Lesson 20: Jesus Spends Time with Sinners*Memory Verses: Luke 5:31-32*

Jesus came to save even the worst of sinners. No one is righteous or can be saved by their own merits.

Lesson 21: Jesus Changes Sinners*Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Jesus is more powerful than Satan and came to free people from the bondage of sin.

Lesson 22: Jesus Welcomes All Kinds of Sinners*Memory Verse: Psalm 67:3*

Jesus proclaims His message to all people and gives salvation through faith to Gentiles as well.

Lesson 23: Jesus Calms Fearful Sinners*Memory Verse: John 14:1*

Jesus understands our weaknesses and has compassion on us. Every situation is under Jesus' control because He is God.

Lesson 24: Jesus Satisfies Sinners*Memory Verse: John 6:35a*

Fallen man has both physical and spiritual needs. Jesus is God and provides for these needs.

Lesson 25: Jesus Receives Childlike Sinners*Memory Verse: Mark 10:14b*

Jesus shows the love of His Father. All people, children and adults, need Jesus.

Lesson 26: Jesus Gives Rest to Weary Sinners*Memory Verse: Matthew 11:28*

God is grieved by evil and suffering.

Lesson 27: Jesus Seeks for Lost Sinners*Memory Verse: Luke 19:10*

Jesus is like a shepherd and people are like lost sheep. He delights in saving sinners.

Lesson 28: Jesus is Kind to Undeserving Sinners*Memory Verse: John 3:17*

Jesus is righteous and has the right to condemn sinners, but He is kind and merciful to those sinners whom He chooses.

Lesson 29: Jesus Brings Joy to Unhappy Sinners*Memory Verse: Psalm 92:4*

Jesus displays the greatness of God in all He does. Praise and worship express the true happiness we find in Jesus.

Lesson 30: Jesus Serves Sinners*Memory Verse: Matthew 20:28*

Even though Jesus is the most important person of all, He became a humble servant.

Lesson 31: Jesus Loves Sinners*Memory Verse: John 15:13*

Jesus freely chooses to love unworthy sinners and calls them to be His friends.

Lesson 32: Jesus is Patient with Sinners*Memory Verse: 1 John 4:10*

Jesus understands the hearts of sinners are weak and afraid.

Lesson 33: Jesus Gives Up His Life for Sinners*Memory Verse: Romans 5:8*

Jesus is sovereign over all people's actions. He was obedient to His Father and willingly gave up His life for sinful people.

Lesson 34: Jesus Takes Away the Sin of His Friends*Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:24a*

Righteous Jesus willingly received the wrath of God on behalf of His sinful friends.

Lesson 35: Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends*Memory Verse: John 11:25*

Jesus paid the full penalty for sin. His resurrection is proof that He is all powerful and victorious, even over sin and death.

Lesson 36: Jesus' Promise for His Friends—Joy Forever*Memory Verse: John 14:2*

Jesus has gone to prepare the special reward of heaven, which is a real place where Jesus' friends will enjoy Him forever.

Lesson 37: Jesus' Friends Love Him Most of All*Memory Verse: Mark 12:30*

Jesus saves all those who believe in Him alone for salvation and love Him most of all.

Lesson 38: Jesus' Friends Obey Him*Memory Verse: John 14:15*

Jesus gives His friends, who desire to obey Him, the Holy Spirit to help they obey God's commands.

Lesson 39: Only Jesus!*Memory Verse: John 14:6*

Everyone is a helpless sinner and deserves God's wrath. Jesus calls sinners to put their faith in Him for Salvation.

Lesson 40: Jesus Invites You to Receive Him*Memory Verses: John 1:12*

Jesus desires to save sinners so they may enjoy Him forever. All people must respond to Jesus—either in belief or unbelief.