

2.21 JESUS GIVES US NEW LIFE

Topic: Living Out Our Faith

Subtopic: Jesus Gives Us New Life

3A. Made New in Jesus Christ

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When given the opportunity, students will tell others that Christ gives us new life by saving us from sin.

Attitude: Students will choose to experience new life in Christ.

Materials Needed:

Memory Verse and Exercise books

Blackboard and chalk

Scripture:

References: Luke 15:4-7; Acts 16:19-34

Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." Acts 16:31 GNT

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Have you ever lost a sheep? What did you do? What did you do when you found it?

Bible Story:

2. The Bible tells us that all of us are like lost sheep. We have sinned and lost our way. How can you get back on the right path to God? Tell Bible story of jailer. Acts 16:19-34

Suggested Discussion Questions

3. Did Paul and Silas really deserve to be put in prison?
4. What were Paul and Silas doing at midnight?
5. When the earthquake opened the doors and the chains fell off the prisoners, what did the jailer do?
6. When Paul and Silas said that none of the prisoners had left, what question did the jailer ask?
7. How did Paul and Silas answer the jailer?

Application:

8. Have you ever wondered how to be saved? Present the five basic truths that lead to our being made new in Jesus Christ.

Evaluation:

9. Will you choose to follow Jesus? What can you share with a friend who wants to follow Jesus Christ?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Let children respond.

Bible Story:

2. The students will listen to the Bible story and respond.

Possible Answers to Questions:

3. No, they were doing the will of God.
4. In prison, they were praying and singing hymns to God.
5. He was prepared to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.
6. "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
7. They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." And the jailer and his household were saved.

Application:

8. People are saved from sin. Students will learn that a) God gave life to all; b) that people refused life by sinning; c) that God gives new life in Christ but d) people must receive that new life and when they do, e) their new life will be seen in them.

Evaluation:

9. Jesus has already taken our sins upon Himself on the cross but we must recognize our sins, tell Jesus we are sorry, accept forgiveness and let Jesus into our lives. Each person makes his own decision but choosing Christ means you have eternal life.

Extension Activities

1. In the Memory Verse Exercise book, have the children write their new memory verse: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." Acts 16:31
2. In exercise book, have students write at the top "Living Out Our Faith". Underneath write "Jesus Gives us New Life". Draw a picture of a hand. On the little finger, write God gave life to people. Gen 2:7; on ring finger, write People sinned and refused life. Rom. 3:23; on the middle finger, write God gives new life in Christ Rom. 6:23; on the pointing finger, write People must receive new life I John 1:9, John 1:12; on the thumb, write New Life will be seen in those people II Corinthians 5:17. Emphasize that making the choice to follow Jesus gives us peace in our hearts and enables us to face difficulties much better.
3. Close your class time with a few moments of silent worship encouraging the children to think about Jesus' plans to give them a new life. Encourage them to talk with God and invite Jesus into their hearts. End the time with a closing prayer.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

Tell the story of Paul and Silas briefly, focusing on the events that occurred when the earthquake opened the doors of the prison and caused the chains to fall off the prisoners so they could escape. Paul had commanded the evil spirit to come out of a slave girl who had been being used by men to tell people what was going to happen to them. The men were angry because their means of earning money had been taken away. The leaders gave orders for Paul and Silas to be beaten and put securely in prison. At midnight, Paul and Silas who were suffering from having been beaten were praying and singing praises to God! An earthquake came and shook the jail, opening all the doors. Everyone's chains fell off which gave the prisoners reason to escape. The jailer woke up and feared he would be killed for letting the prisoners escape. He was going to kill himself. But Paul shouted to him, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" The jailer ran into the room where Paul and Silas were and got on his knees and cried out, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" He recognized in Paul and Silas that they were honorable people and he wanted what they had. Paul answered them, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." The jailer did believe with his whole household. Their lives were changed. He washed the blood from the backs of Paul and Silas and prepared them a meal. He experienced new life.

FIVE BASIC TRUTHS THAT LEAD TO NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

These five basic truths, gleaned from Scripture, can be remembered well by drawing a hand on the blackboard. On each finger write the truth you want the children to know and include the promise from the Bible that gives us this truth.

On the little finger, write

God gave life to people Genesis 2:7

On the ring finger, write

People sinned and refused life. Romans 3:23

On the middle finger, write

God gives new life in Christ. Romans 6:23

On the pointer finger, write

People must receive this new life. I John 1:9; John 1:12

On the thumb, write

New life must be seen in the people to whom it is given. II Corinthians 5:17

Help the students understand that Jesus has done His part by taking our sins upon Himself on the cross. We just need to choose to admit that we have sinned and ask Jesus to forgive us our sins and invite Him to dwell in us. Our lives will be changed and there will be peace in our hearts.

Key Point

This is a very pivotal lesson. Peacemaking begins with our finding peace in our hearts. That comes when we confess our sins to God and accept His forgiveness and invite Him into our hearts. When we are at peace in our hearts, we are better equipped to live in peace with others.

Teacher Evaluation

Have I experienced salvation by confessing my sins and giving my life to Jesus? Do I know the new life only Jesus can give me? Am I in a position to help these students entrusted to me choose to be saved from their sins and start their walk with God? Ask God how you can do that given the time constraints for this class?