

Youtube Link for Teachers: <https://youtu.be/QIQnlzWk-SY>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/-uZLUtJjC3U>

Worship Theme: God gives us eternal life.

Memory Verse: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:17)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Praise Jesus' Name <https://youtu.be/uA448Ncse8Q>
2. I Will Follow Jesus <https://youtu.be/aasilZXGorc>
3. Give Praise to Jesus <https://youtu.be/PtAbR7-xroM>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: "Pass the Ball"

Materials Needed: 2 balls

1. Divide the children into 2 groups (same number).
2. Ask the children to line up, and choose 1 child from each group to throw the ball.
3. The leader for each group will throw the ball to the child. Once the child in line catches the ball, they throw it back to the leader. Then they sit down.
4. Then the leader, from the same position, throws the ball to the second child in line. The child catches it and throws it back to the leader and sit down. Continue to play the game as it gets harder for the leader to throw to the person in the back of the line. Keep passing the ball until everyone in the group sits down.
5. The team who finishes passing the ball faster wins the game.
6. After the game, explain to the children that they may think it is not easy to get eternal life in heaven just as it got harder to throw and catch the ball for the children in the back of the line. But we don't receive eternal life by doing anything. We receive eternal life through our faith in Jesus.



Introduction:

How many years do you want to live? 60? 70? 100? How would you like to live forever? Because Jesus died for our sins on the cross, we have eternal life in heaven! This means we can live forever with God in heaven. But there was a man in the bible who did not understand this. Let's find out how Jesus explained eternal life to this man!

Bible Story:

Today our Bible story is about a man named Nicodemus who was having trouble understanding Jesus. Nicodemus was an important member of Jewish society. He was a Pharisee. That means he was part of a group that emphasized following all the rules that showed how to be a good Jew. And he was a part of the Sanhedrin, which was the Jewish ruling council. He was an intelligent man who knew a lot about the Bible.

But there was one thing that really confused Nicodemus. He had watched Jesus do all kinds of miracles. And he watched Jesus teach with wisdom and authority. So Nicodemus decided to visit Jesus at night and find out more about him.

He said to Jesus, "Teacher, you are a great teacher, and you do many miracles. You must be from God because you couldn't do all these things if you weren't from God." Jesus answered him saying, "I tell you the truth. You must be born again to see the kingdom of God." This really confused Nicodemus. He said, "How can you be born if you're grown up? You can't become a little baby again and go back inside your mother

to be born again.”

Jesus said, “I tell you the truth. You must be born of the Spirit. Your parents gave you human life, but you must be born of the Spirit to have spiritual life.” Jesus also told Nicodemus that God loved the world very much, so he sent his Son so that anyone who believes in him won’t die but will have eternal life instead. Jesus explained that God sent his Son to save the world. Whoever believes in God’s Son is saved. But those who don’t believe in him will have to take the punishment for their sins.

Lots of people in our world are like Nicodemus. They’re confused about God’s gift of salvation and eternal life. God knew that people need to be saved from their sins. The biggest sin people commit is thinking they can live without God. But God knew that people couldn’t rescue themselves. They needed a savior. That’s why God sent his Son, Jesus. Jesus came to earth to save us from the punishment we deserve for the sins we commit. Jesus is the only way to God. It is only by his grace that we are saved. Nothing else leads to us to God.

Questions to discuss:

1. Who came to see Jesus at night? (Nicodemus)
2. Why was Nicodemus confused? (Jesus told him to be born again - spiritually, but Nicodemus thought Jesus meant physically)
3. Why do we need a savior? (because we cannot save ourselves from our sins)
4. Who is the Savior? (Jesus, the Son of God)
5. How did Jesus save us? (The wages of sin is death and Jesus died for our sins on the cross)
6. Who is your savior? (Let the children answer)

Game - “Golf”

Material need: Papers (to make a stick and ball)

1. Divide the children into 2 groups.
2. Set up goals at each end of the room by placing shoes to limit the area.
3. Each team chooses 4 children as players and 1 child as a goal keeper.
4. Give a sheet of paper to 4 players and have them roll it up to make a stick. Use a crumpled paper or empty soda can as a ball.
5. Each group will try to get the ball into their goal by using the paper stick. One point will be given for each ball that goes into the goal.
6. Switch players so that everyone has a chance to play. The group with more point wins the game.
7. After the game, explain to the children that we don’t have to put a ball into a goal to get eternal life. Jesus already put the ball into the goal for us, so we just have to believe that Jesus took care of all of our sins and came back to life so that we can have eternal life.



Memory Verse:

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” (John 3:17)

Craft: Jesus and Nicodemus- Coloring Page

Print coloring page for the children and let them color and write the memory verse.

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher’s Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Jesus didn’t come to make you a more religious person—like Nicodemus. Instead, Jesus came to make you a new person, one capable of responding to a lifegiving friendship with him. Reread John 3:1-17. Imagine how confusing Jesus’ words must have been to Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a “professionally religious person.” He had the perfect spiritual background. However, that wasn’t important to Jesus. Ask yourself today. When evaluating yourself spiritually, do you rely on being religious or on being loved by God?

Jesus and Nicodemus



Memory verse: _____
