Lesson 4: Jesus

This is our last day of VBS. We learned about Creation and about our God who created. We learned about Adam and Eve who were created in the image of God. We learned that God created everything good and there was no sin. We also learned that God gave Adam and Eve the choice to love Him or not to love Him. Does anyone remember what choice they made? That’s right, God commanded them not to eat the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, but they disobeyed a holy God. God, being holy, had to judge. The punishment was death. Adam and Eve did not fall over dead at the moment of disobedience, but they did start growing old, and one day they did die. We also learned that everyone born after Adam and Eve was born into sin and receives the same punishment as they did.

Now that’s the bad news; now the good news. God, being holy, judged all people because of sin. But God is also a God of love and has developed a rescue plan. That is where Jesus comes in. Jesus is the Son of God and is fully God. What do we celebrate on Christmas? That’s right, the birth of Jesus. Jesus, being God, was to be born as a baby, growing up to be a man. So we have Jesus, being God, also being man. But Jesus was also fully human. He was born a tiny baby who cried when He was hungry and had to have His diapers changed. Raise your hand if you have ever gotten sick with a cold or the flu. Jesus also got sick. Who ever fell down and skinned their knee? I would imagine that Jesus did the same. Jesus had to obey His parents just like you do. Yet, being God, Jesus never sinned, never did anything wrong.

We need to talk again about Adam and Eve. When they sinned they brought all people to sin. That means you and me.

Read Romans 3:23

God in His holiness has to judge sin, and the judgement is death. But God in His love will accept a substitute, someone to die in our place. Someone has to be punished, us or someone else. That’s where Jesus comes in. Jesus is fully God and fully man. Because He lived perfect life without sin, He is the only person who could die in our place. Jesus has no sin that has to be punished.

Role play: Let’s pretend that your parents have a rule in your home, no throwing balls inside the house. Well, your mom is downstairs sorting stuff and your little sister decides to throw a ball in the house. The ball hits your moms favorite lamp and it crashes to the floor. Your mom hears the crash and you hear her come up the stairs. She sees the broken lamp and she sees the ball. She is not happy and you know the look moms give when they are not happy. She looks at you and asks if you threw the ball and hit the lamp? You tell her the truth, that you did not throw the ball that knocked down and broke her favorite lamp. Then she looks at your little sister, and yes, little sister confesses. She is half crying and says how sorry she was for disobeying the rule not to throw a ball in the house. Mom starts to calm down as she reminds little sister of the punishment for throwing the ball in the house. Yes, the punishment is two weeks of cleaning the toilets. Now, there is something you need to know about little sister. Cleaning the toilets makes her sick, she can’t do it. So you speak up and say that you did not throw the ball, but you love your little sister and you will take the punishment of cleaning the toilets for two weeks.

That is what Jesus did for us. We, in our sin, had to be punished. But God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment. He died on the cross and then destroyed the power of sin by rising from the dead the third day.

Read John 3:16-17

Does that mean everyone goes to heaven when they die? No, maybe someone does not want to go to heaven. Salvation is a gift given by God to whoever asks.

Read Romans 6:23

So, how do people go to heaven when they die? There are three steps.

First – Believe that Jesus is God’s Son and He died on the cross and rose the third day.

Second – Admit that you have sinned, and that you are sorry for your sins. Ask Jesus to forgive you.

Third – Ask Jesus into your heart.

Teacher: After explaining the way of salvation, lead the children into a salvation prayer. After you’re done ask who has received Jesus into their hearts.