



Lesson 1 - Salvation and Faith

Lesson 2 - Getting to Know God

Bible Scripture Focus: Salvation, Faith, and the nature of God.

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:7, Colossians 1:13-14, Hebrews 11:1, 1 John 4:7-10, John 18:37, Jeremiah 32:17, Psalm 100:5, 2 Samuel 22:2

Teaching Focus: Salvation and faith enable you to run to God for help. God is love, truth, all-powerful, good, and unchanging.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:1
2 Samuel 22:2



To Prepare

Materials Needed:

Lesson 1

- Whiteboard, red, blue, and black dry erase markers, eraser
- One black sheet of paper, one shiny gold piece of paper, a red paper cross, and a cutout shape of a person. (See master copy at the end of this lesson.)
- Tape

Optional Craft Activity:

→ For each student

- Three 18-inch chords – one red, one white, and one gold or yellow.
- One lanyard hook
- One piece of tape

Lesson 2

- A brick, piece of wood, cardboard, or piece of paper for each student
- If using a rock, wood, or cardboard, provide permanent markers for each student. If using paper, provide either markers or a pencil for each student.

**See instructions under Teacher notes within each lesson.



Lesson Outline

Lesson 1

Read scripture and teach truths by adding simple visuals on whiteboard. Play WORD ACTION game to teach memory verse. Facilitate BRAIDED REMINDER craft activity.

Lesson 2

Read Scripture and teach truths by writing words and drawing symbols on whiteboard for students to copy. Review ways to abide in Jesus. Teach memory verse and play CRAZY CARDS game.



Teacher Notes

Pray that as the students hear and learn the story from the Bible, God's Spirit will reveal to them the truth that God knows they each individually need to hear and believe.



During lesson 9.1, body movements and playing a game help students understand and memorize a verse of Scripture. During lesson 9.2, students copy simple words and symbols. view interesting visuals, play a memory verse game, and make a sunflower craft.



When the lesson calls for Scripture to be read or a verse is given, reading directly from the Bible gives emphasis to the students that the story being taught is from God's Word.

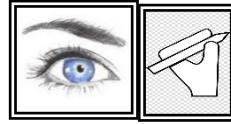


God's Word is powerful. Helping students memorize Scripture hides God's Words within their heart. For younger students, the memory verse can be a shortened version of the verse.



The Salvation Invitation gives a student the opportunity to decide to believe upon and follow Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Give interested

students a place and time to come for counseling.



Both lessons use color or simple drawings to explain the concepts of salvation, faith, and the nature of God.

(Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.)



Teacher Note: PREPARATION**Materials Needed**

- *Whiteboard, red, blue, and black markers, and eraser*
- *One black sheet of paper, one shiny gold piece of paper, a red paper cross, and a cutout shape of a person. (See master copy at the end of this lesson.)*
- *Magnets or tape to attach the above items to the whiteboard as the items are discussed within the lesson.*

Instructions

(1) As you teach about Salvation, display the black paper, gold paper, red cross, and stick figure on the back of the whiteboard with tape. Follow the illustrations within the lesson text.



(2) Using red, blue, and black markers, write Hebrews 11:1 on the front of the whiteboard. Each separate word must be only one color. Some words should be red, some blue, and some black. Three different colors may be used if you prefer. This verse will be used in the second part of lesson 9.1 as you teach about faith.

Lesson 9.1 – Your Trust

To whom or to what do you go when you feel scared, sad, angry, confused, or challenged?

When you experience these feelings, there may be people in your life you go to for encouragement or you may have a favorite item you like to keep with you or hold that brings you comfort. However, all of us need to understand the best thing to do when hurting or facing some type of trouble is to go to God the Father through Jesus Christ, God the Son.

The Bible says you can be,

Read 1 Peter 5:7

casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

Anxiety is worry, fear, or uncertainty. You can go to God about anything that is bothering you because He cares about you.

God has enough power, enough love, and enough wisdom, to help you all the time. He may use your parents, another godly adult, or even some object that is special to you, but never forget your true help is coming from His power, His love, and His wisdom.

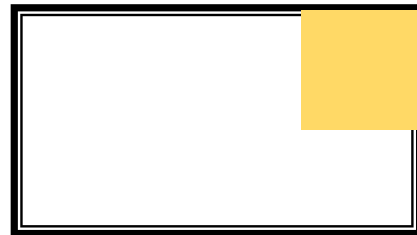
There are two things that enable you to run to God for help. Those two things are salvation and faith. God will give you both, but you must ask Him for them.

Salvation

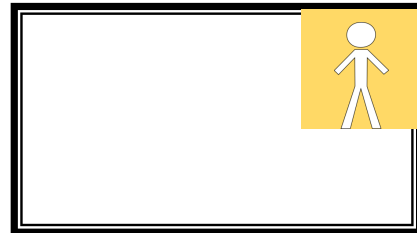
Let us talk about salvation first. Salvation means being saved from the curse of sin, and it is something every person needs. To understand this need, there are things you must know about God and about yourself.

This gold paper represents God.

God created this earth, and He created the first man and woman to be perfect in every way. Adam and Eve were created perfectly strong, healthy, and with goodness in their hearts. They were also given the freedom to make their own choices.



In the beginning, Adam and Eve made right choices that honored God and had a wonderful close relationship with Him.



Then a day came when Adam and Eve decided to listen to Satan and use their freedom of choice to disobey God. At the time, the perfection of all that God created fell under the curse of sin. No longer was anything but God Himself perfectly good.

This dark piece of paper represents the curse of sin.

The curse of sin meant that everything created was destined for destruction and, rather than people only knowing good within themselves, each person would now have a sinful nature that pulled them away from God and His goodness. The only way the curse could be broken was if someone could live a perfectly good life then willingly spill their blood in death for the sinful wrongs of all others.



Adam and Eve now lived with sinful hearts and were separated from God who had created them with love for perfection.



Every person is born from the family line of Adam. Therefore, under the curse of sin, you are born with a sinful heart into a sinful fallen world filled with sadness, fear, hurt, hatred, and death.

Referring to sin as iniquities, the Bible says,

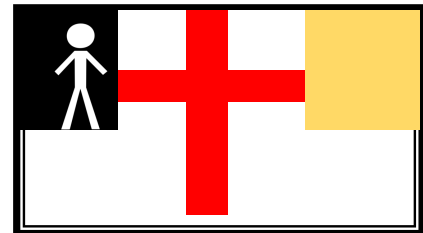
Read Isaiah 59:2

**But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God,
And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear.**

However, there is good news!

God is more powerful than Satan, and God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue you and me from sin's curse. Jesus broke the power of the curse by fulfilling the curse's demand that an innocent man sacrifice his life for others. Because Jesus lived as a man without sin, willingly died on the cross for the sins of the world, then rose to life three days later, the way was made for anyone to choose to be rescued from Satan and brought close to God forever.

This red cross represents the way God provided for people, including each of you, to be forgiven of your sin and therefore able to have fellowship with God.



The Bible proclaims,

Read Colossians 1:13-14

"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

The choice to be rescued is often referred to in Scripture as belief.

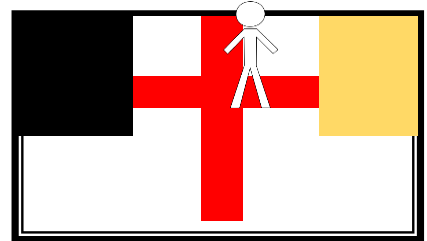
Acts 10:43b

"...everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

To believe or to trust on Jesus Christ means three things.

1. You understand and admit to God that you have a sinful heart.
2. You trust and choose to follow Jesus, God the Son, because He died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin, and
3. You ask God to forgive your sinful heart because of what Jesus did on the cross for you.

Choosing to belief or trust on Jesus is turning away from being trapped by your sinful heart and stepping out in trust toward God knowing He has forgiven you.



As the verse promises, when you believe on Jesus Christ, your sin is forgiven.

For now, on earth there is still trouble and sorrow. There will also be times you fail and choose your way over God's way. However, your soul, who you really are on the inside and the part of you that will live forever, is saved from ever having to be forever separated from God. This is the meaning of salvation.

God's Spirit comes to live with you here on earth and your soul will have the promised everlasting life with God in Heaven. With belief in Jesus and God's forgiveness of your sin, you also gain the right to be considered a child of God. As God's child, you can run to Him for help.

When you are God's child, you know your eternity is secure in Christ. However, what about your life right now here on earth?

Because you live in a world filled with people who choose not to obey God, but instead do things their way rather than God's way, you will experience trouble, sadness, fear, anger, and hurt of some kind. Everybody does. Yet, once you are God's child then you have the right and the privilege to go to God to prepare, strengthen, and help you.

How does this work? How can you experience the trouble that comes from living in a sinful world yet still having confidence, hope, and joy? The answer is faith.

Faith

I told you there were two things that enabled you to go to God for help. The second thing you need is faith.

Your faith is your trust in God. You can have forgiveness from sins and the right to go to God, but if you do not trust Him, you will either not go to Him or you will ask Him for help without really believing He hears you, loves you, and is in control of all things.

You need faith. Many people talk about faith. You will hear people say, "Have faith!" or "I need more faith," or "God is testing my faith." All these things simply mean you need to learn to trust God more.

Listen and look at the whiteboard as I read how the Bible describes faith.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.



Stand up, repeat the verse with me, then sit down.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

The first half of the verse means by faith you are certain what God says about forgiveness and Heaven are true and will come about just as the Bible says.



Stand up, jump three times, repeat the verse with me, then sit down.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

The second part of the verse means by faith you live your life as if you can really see God and His working, and you have come to understand each temptation or hardship is a battle for your heart and your thoughts.



Stand up, turn around once, touch the ground, repeat the verse with me, then sit down.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Listen closely to what faith is and what faith is not.

Faith is trusting WHO God is, His nature. Faith is not deciding and believing hard in WHAT you think God should or will do.

No one can always know what God will do because only God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and omnipresent (everywhere all the time).

However, you and I can know WHO God is by learning about His nature.

The more you learn about God's nature or what God is like, the more you will be able to trust Him.



Stand, clap twice, then repeat the verse once more with me.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Let us play a game to help us memorize this verse.



Word Action Game

How to Play:

1. Have the students clap their hands when each red word is spoken as they recite the verse aloud.
2. Have students stand when each blue word is spoken as they recite the verse aloud.
3. Have the students jump when each black word is spoken as they recite the verse aloud.
4. Continue the game by combining one or more of the above actions together or using different actions until the students have said the verse at least five times.

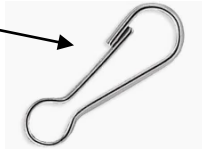


Craft Activity – Braided Reminder

MATERIALS NEEDED

→For each student

- Three 18-inch chords – one red, one white, and one gold or yellow.
- One lanyard hook
- One piece of tape

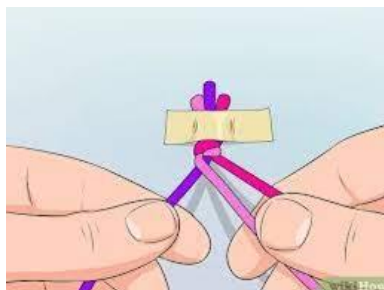
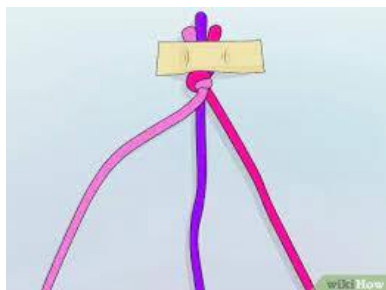


INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather one end of all three strings. Find the center of all three strings and fold the strings to double the strings. See (1) in picture.
2. Where the strings are folded, tie the strings in a knot making a 1-inch open loop. See (2) and (3) in picture.
3. Secure the loop with tape to a sturdy surface.

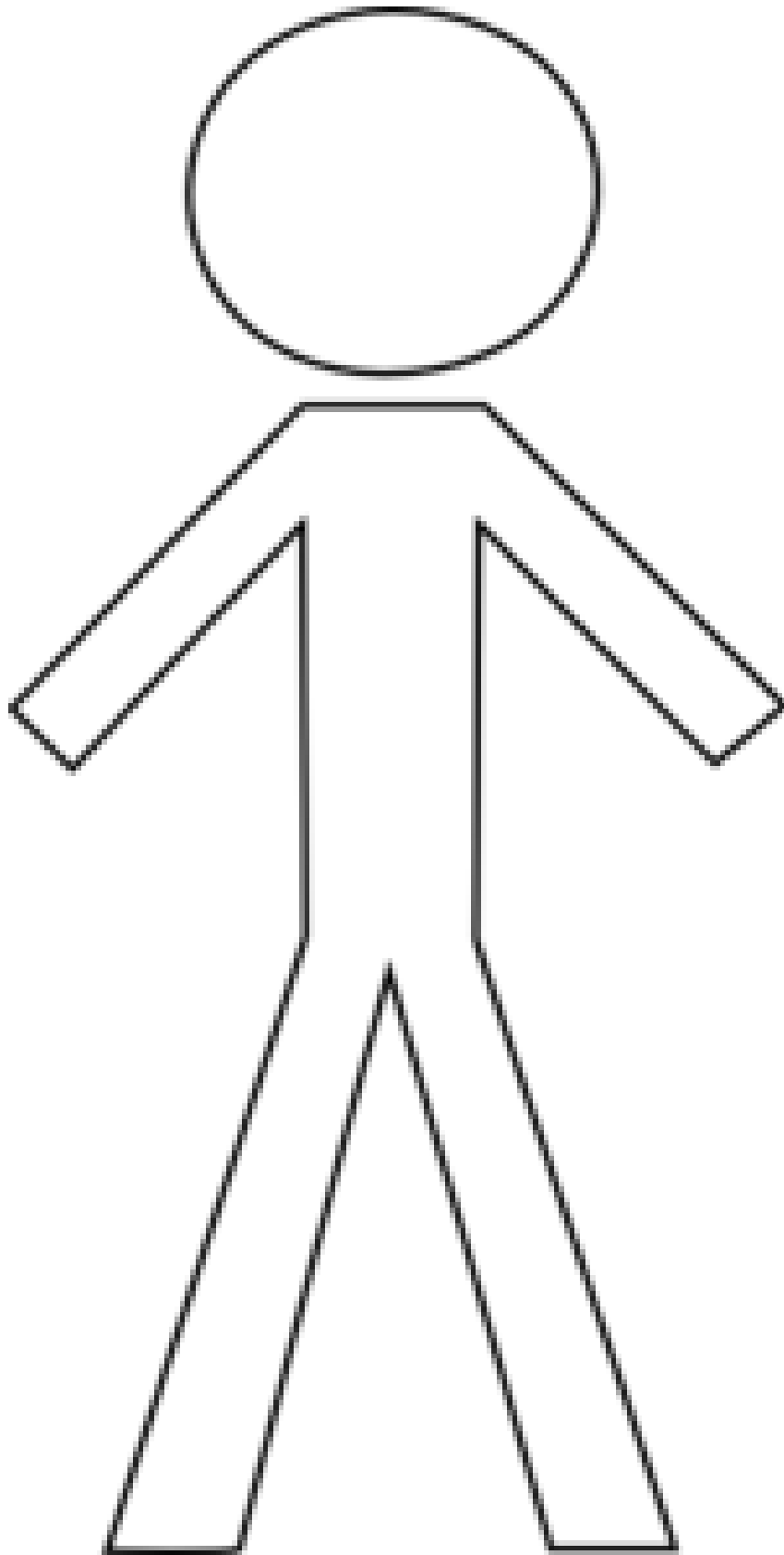


4. Take the left string and cross it over to the middle string. Take the right string and cross it over the new middle string. Repeat these two steps until the braid is the desired length.



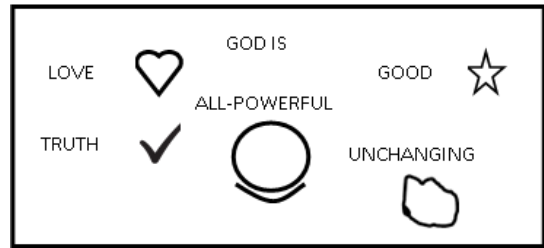
5. When the braid is complete, tie the end of the braid in a basic secure knot then slip the loop onto the lanyard hook.

Remind students that the gold/yellow chord represents God, the red chord represents what Jesus did on the cross, and the white chord represents salvation. Encourage students to hang their chord on their backpacks and to explain the meaning of the three colors to their friends who do not come to discipleship classes.



Teacher Note: PREPARATION

In this lesson, as each of five distinct characteristics of God are being taught, students will either write the name or draw a symbol for that characteristic on an object they can then take home. While this activity can be done simply with a sheet of paper and a pencil, using permanent markers and a brick, a scrap piece of wood, or sturdy piece of cardboard will make the activity more interesting. Be sure to test the markers on the material being used. Consider providing younger children with paper and crayons while letting older children use one of the above-mentioned materials and permanent markers.



Cardboard and markers are the items selected for the purpose of providing direction throughout the lesson text.

Materials Needed

- ***A brick, piece of wood, cardboard, or piece of paper for each student***
- ***If using a rock, wood, or cardboard, provide permanent markers for each student. If using paper, provide either markers or a pencil for each student.***

Instructions

Before beginning the lesson, give each student a brick, piece of wood, cardboard, or paper and a pencil or permanent marker.

Other Visual Materials Needed

- ***A clear container holding sand***
- ***A second clear container holding a large rock***
- ***A bucket or other container filled with water that can be poured into the containers holding the sand and the rock.***

Lesson 2 – Getting to Know God



Give each student a piece of cardboard and a marker.

In our last lessons, you learned that FAITH is trusting WHO God is.

Trusting someone can be hard to do if you do not know them. Perhaps you have a friend that you trust enough to share a secret. However, you would not share that same secret with a stranger, because a stranger is someone you do not know if you can trust.

Therefore, today we are going to learn a few things about God and why you can trust Him.

Each of you has been given a piece of cardboard and a marker. You will be writing several words or drawing pictures on your cardboard throughout the lesson. However, do not write or draw anything until I tell you. You can pretend the whiteboard is my piece of cardboard, and I will tell and show you when and what to write or draw.

To begin, write the words "God is." If you have trouble writing those words, let me know so I can find someone to help you. These are the only two words you must write. All the other markings you will add to your cardboard can either be words, symbols, or both.

There are many things to learn about God's nature. While you and I are born with a sinful nature that moves us toward the wrong of disobedience and sinful thoughts and desires, God's nature is always love, truth, all-powerful, good, and unchanging.

Let us begin with **God is love**. The Bible says,

Read 1 John 4:7-8, 10.

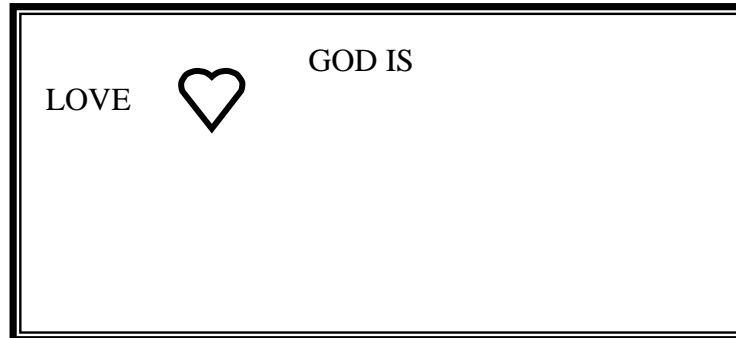
... love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

According to the Bible, God is love and love is from God. The greatest way God revealed His love was by sending Himself as Jesus to the world knowing He would be falsely accused, misunderstood, mocked, beaten, and crucified so that your soul would not have to remain separated from Him for all eternity.

God always acts out of love because God is not just loving, God, Himself, IS love. Since God IS love, everything God does must be done out of love. God's love for you is perfect and endless because God is perfect and endless.



As I write the word Love and draw a heart on the whiteboard, write the word LOVE or draw a heart on your cardboard. If you wish, you can write the word and draw the heart.



God is also Truth.

The Bible says it is impossible for God to lie. (Hebrews 6:18)

Jesus said, "...I am the way, and the truth, and the life..." (John 14:6)

We know Jesus is God because Jesus proclaimed, "**I and the Father are one.**" (John 10:30)

Therefore, God, whether as God the Father or God the Son, is Truth.

Before Jesus was crucified, He was taken before the Roman governor named Pilate. Scripture records their conversation.

Read John 18:37

Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say *correctly* that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

From this verse we learn that God is Truth and He speaks Truth.

You can trust God all the time. There will be times you will not understand Him and times you may decide you do not like what He says or does, but that does not change the fact that God is Truth.

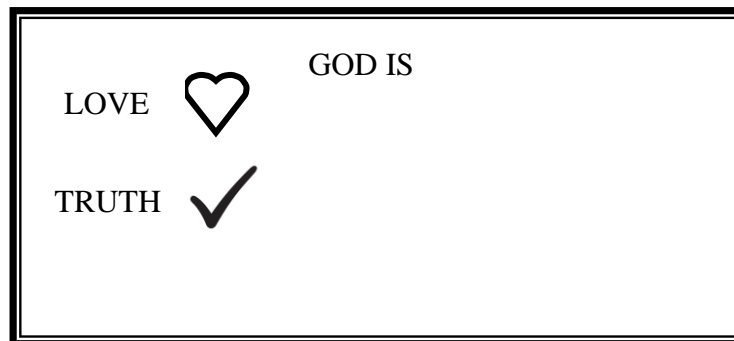
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You never have to doubt God. Every promise He makes, He keeps. If you ever start to doubt God, remember that how and when God keeps His promises is up to Him not you.

Because Truth is correct and right, I will use a checkmark as a symbol for Truth.



As I write the word Truth and draw a checkmark on the whiteboard, write the word TRUTH or draw a checkmark on your cardboard. If you wish, you can do both.



God is love, and God is Truth. God is also **all-powerful**.

The Bible says of God,

Read Job 42:2

**"I know that You can do all things,
And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.**

To *thwart* means *to prevent*. Therefore, this verse is assuring us that anything God purposes to do cannot be prevented from occurring.

Scripture also says,

Read Jeremiah 32:17

'Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You,

Read Luke 1:37

"For nothing will be impossible with God."

There is no power greater than God's power, and God can do anything He desires to do. There may be times God will decide to use or not use His power in the way you desire.

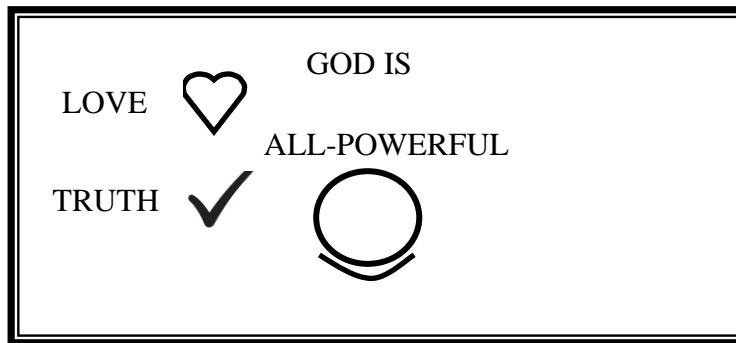
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Even when you do not understand or see how God is using His power, you must remember God knows and sees things you do not.

God's power is so great, He can hold the entire world in His hands. For this reason, the symbol for all-powerful is a circle representing the earth sitting on an upside down arch or open half circle representing God's hand.



As I write the word ALL-POWERFUL and draw the symbol on the whiteboard, write the word ALL-POWERFUL or draw this same symbol on your cardboard. If you wish, you can do both.



So far, you have learned that God is love, God is truth, and God is all-powerful. **God is also good.** The Bible says,

Psalm 100:5

**For the LORD is good;
His lovingkindness is everlasting
And His faithfulness to all generations.**

James 1:17

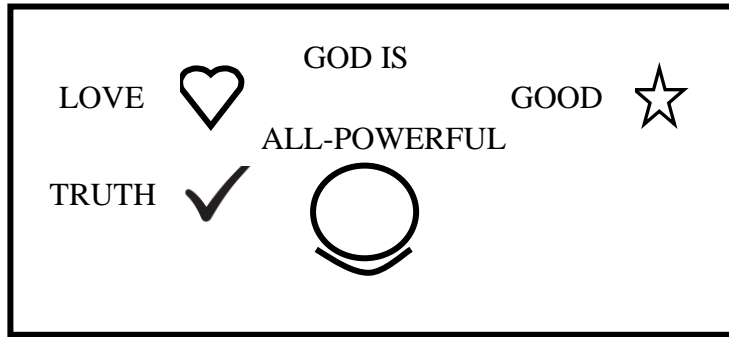
Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...

God is pure, without sin, and never wrong. When he created the heavens and the earth, everything was very good. God does not create bad. The sad things you see in your world are the result of people's sin and Satan's deceit and destructive forces.

God is good. Who God is and what He does is perfect!



As I write the word GOOD and draw a star to symbolize GOOD on the whiteboard, write the word GOOD or draw a star on your cardboard. If you wish, you can do both.



Teacher Note: Have a clear container of sand, clear container holding a large rock, and bucket or other container of water nearby to use as visuals as you teach that God is unchanging.

God is love, God is Truth, God is all-powerful, and God is Good.

God is also unchanging.

God and His nature have not and will not change. This is great news because it means God has been, is, and will always be Love, Truth, All-Powerful, and Good! In the Bible, God tells us, "For I, the LORD, do not change;..." (Malachi 3:6)

The same God who created the earth, split the Red Sea, made the walls of Jericho fall, calmed the storm at sea, healed the sick, and raised the dead is the same God you can run to for help, comfort, forgiveness, and encouragement.

In fact, God and His Word are the only things that do not change.

A nation's leaders, school textbooks, friends, family, and even your own likes and dislikes are like this sand. I can easily move the sand around with my hand. The location and shape of the sand changes as I move my hand or the container around. If I pick up some sand, it easily runs through my fingers.

Pretend the water in this bucket represents trouble. Watch what happens when the water is added to the sand. The water changes the color and feel of the sand. If I had a powerful water sprayer, the water could even wash the sand away. Sand is not dependable because it is always changing.

However, God is not like this sand. God is like a rock.

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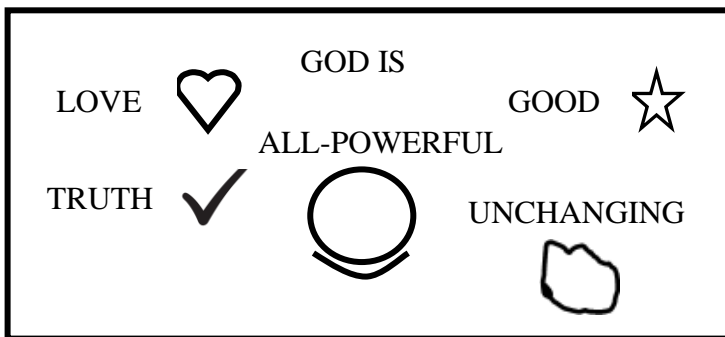
I can move this rock around and pick it up, but it does not change. Even when I pour water over the rock, the rock does not change. It stays the same.

God is unchanging like the rock. Even when so many things around you and within you start changing, God does not change. Today, tomorrow, next week, next year, when you finish school, and when you become an adult, God will still be Love, Truth, All-Powerful, and Good.

When sad times come, difficult things happen, and there is trouble in your life, God will still be Love, Truth, All-Powerful, and Good. God has not, does not, and will not change.



As I write the word UNCHANGING and draw a rock on the whiteboard, write the word UNCHANGING or draw a rock on your cardboard. If you wish, you can do both.



Because God is love, truth, all-powerful, good, and unchanging, you can go to God when you need help!



Salvation Invitation

Do you have what you need to go to God when you need help? Do you have salvation?

The Bible says, **“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” (John 1: 12)**

To receive Jesus Christ means

1. You ADMIT to God that you are a sinner in need of forgiveness, and
2. You put your TRUST so much upon Jesus Christ as the Son of God who died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin that you choose to live your life for Him rather than yourself. and
3. You TELL God the choice you have made and ask Him to forgive your sin.

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If you have never received Jesus Christ, you do not yet have salvation. God wants to give this to you. If you want salvation, you can make this choice today. Come meet me [give specific place and time].

If you already have salvation, do you also have faith?

As you grow older, things will happen in your life that will tempt you to doubt God. Satan knows that if you begin to doubt God, then you will find it difficult to trust Him. If you stop trusting God, then you will not go to Him to prepare you, strengthen you, or help you. When this happens, your life in heaven is still secure, but your life here on earth becomes empty and hopeless.

What must you do to keep trusting God?

First, pray and ask God to give you stronger faith. Then follow these words from Scripture:

Read Colossians 2:6

Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.

Walk in Him means the same things as Abide. Remember that lesson?

Repeat after me what you must do to abide in Jesus Christ?

WAIT for God to show you the right choice when you must make a decision.



ACCEPT God's commandments by obeying them.



REMAIN loyal to God and His Word.



CONTINUE to daily live close to God.

DWELL in harmony with God's Spirit.



Spend time talking to God every day. Study the Bible because it is God's message to you. Knowing God's Word will give you strength and power you can get nowhere else.

Be thankful for your salvation and strong in your faith. The Bible says,

Read 1 Corinthians 15:58

"Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord..."

If you have salvation and are God's child, have faith in God. Trust He is love, truth, all-powerful, good, and unchanging. Tell God what troubles you. Ask Him to help you. Trust Him no matter what!

Memory Verse Teaching



[Write Memory Verse on the whiteboard.]



Scripture – - **"The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;" 2 Samuel 22:2**

Who remembers David from the Bible? He started out as a shepherd boy and became king over the nation of Israel. However, before he became king, he had to escape King Saul, who sought to kill him. David also had to face other hardships and enemies.

One day when the Lord had delivered David from enemies and King Saul, David spoke these words to the Lord:

Read 2 Samuel 22:2

“The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;”



Repeat the verse with me.

If you have salvation through Jesus Christ from your sin and you have faith in God to help you, then God can be your rock, your fortress, and your deliverer.

Remember a rock does not change. Place one fist on top of the other like you might if you were holding a baseball bat. This action will represent the word ROCK when we recite the verse.



Repeat the verse with me.

A fortress is a place of security. Stack one forearm on top of the other in front of your chest as if you were building a wall. This action will represent FORTRESS when we recite the verse.



Repeat the verse again with these two actions.

A deliverer is one who rescues you from destruction. Raise one arm in the air and pretend to be grabbing something and pulling it back toward you. This action will represent DELIVERER as we say the verse.



Repeat the verse with all three actions.

Now let us play a game to help us remember to make sure we do not forget this important truth.



CRAZY CARDS

Materials Needed

Prepare slips of paper or index cards describing different movements the students can do with their feet while also saying the verse and doing the three actions learned for

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ROCK, FORTRESS, and DELIVERER. Some examples include Stand on one foot, march in place, run in place, turning around, jump in place, etc. Place the cards in a bag.

How to Play

Have one student select a card out of the bag. Read the card aloud or ask the student to read the card aloud. Have all the students say the verse while doing the action described on the card. Then have another student select a card. Continue playing the game until the students have recited the verse at least five times.

