

(TEACH KIDS S/O '05 Take 5 for Training #2)

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Trust the Holy Spirit to speak to the child's heart.

SALVATION

ON A CHILD'S LEVEL

You realize of course there are not *two* ways of salvation—one for children and one for adults! The way to receive God's gift of everlasting life is the same for everyone. But the words used to help a child understand God's plan must be carefully chosen.

Here are some suggestions for a simple Gospel presentation. Remember your responsibility to give the Word of God clearly, then trust the Holy Spirit to speak to the child's heart and bring a response.

What to Teach about God

God is the *creator* (Col. 1:16). God is the one who made the world. He made you.

God tells us about Himself and His plan for us in His book, *the Bible* (2 Tim. 3:16).

God is *holy* (Ps. 99:9). God has never sinned, has never done one wrong thing. He is perfect.

God is *love* (1 John 4:16). God loves you very much. He wants you to be able to live in His beautiful home called Heaven some day.

What to Teach about the Child's Need

God made us and loves us yet we have not loved and obeyed Him as we should. We have not obeyed the good rules God gave us. This is sin. Romans 3:23 says that every person has sinned against God. We have all disobeyed Him.

Give examples of sin common to children. Admit you are a sinner. Give him opportunity to express that he is a sinner.

God hates sin. He says it must be punished (Rom. 6:23). That punishment is to be separated from God forever in a terrible place of punishment. You cannot save yourself from sin. Only God can save you.

What to Teach about God's Way

Good news!

Because God loves us He made a way for our sins to be forgiven. God sent His only Son, the Lord Jesus, from Heaven to Earth to die for our sins. Because Jesus is the perfect Son of God He could pay for our sins with His own blood (Heb. 9:22). Although He never did one wrong thing, Jesus let wicked men nail Him to a cross. He suffered and died on that cross for you (2 Cor. 5:21). He took the terrible punishment for your sins and for the sins of everyone in the world (Rom. 5:7-8).

After three days God raised Jesus from the dead. He is living now in Heaven (Eph. 1:20).

What to Teach about the Child's Response

Jesus paid for sin. Salvation (to be saved from sin) is a free gift for all (Eph. 2:8-9). But you must choose to receive that gift for yourself (John 1:12). God's way for you to receive that gift is to believe Jesus died for you and ask Him to save you from your sin. When you believe on Jesus as your Savior He gives you everlasting life. He will be with you forever. He will help you to obey God. And someday you will be able to live with Him in Heaven.

Show the child a specific verse such as John 1:12, John 3:16 or Acts 16:31 and invite him to receive Christ as his Savior. If he makes that decision be sure he understands God's promise in the verse (assurance) and follow up with counsel for spiritual growth.

--Sally Middleton

GOSPEL OUTLINE

- **God loves you.**
- **You are a sinner.**
- **Jesus died and rose again for your sins.**
- **You must receive Jesus as *your* Savior.**
- **God's Word says you are saved.**