

God's Plan: 2 SAVE US!

Q Why did Jesus have to die?

A Jesus died and rose again so that you can become a member of God's family.

Bible Story

The Salvation Solution

Luke 22—24:35

Bible Verse

"Christ died for sins once and for all time. The One who did what is right died for those who don't do right. He died to bring you to God." 1 Peter 3:18

Session Goals

1. PARTICIPATE in telling the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.
2. TALK ABOUT God's plan for us.
3. THANK God for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be forgiven of our sins and become members of God's family.
4. CHOOSE to be forgiven and become a member of God's family, as the Holy Spirit leads.

Spark Principle— Transformation

Transformations occur when something new is introduced to an existing object and changes the object. Jesus changes us.





Cross

For centuries, the shape of the cross has reminded people of the sacrifice Jesus made by dying on a wooden cross for our sins. When

you see a cross, you can remember that Jesus died and that He rose again! Jesus died and rose again so that we can become members of God's family.

Heart Prep by Henrietta Mears

Today we come to the greatest of all events. We were created to be companions of the Father, but sin separated us from God. Christ died on the cross to make a way for us to get back to God. He paid the wages of sin with His own life, that we might be brought into fellowship with the Father. Listen to His prayer: "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). This is the only way an unholy people can approach a holy God.

Others have died for a good cause, but the grave was the end. Jesus Christ rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. He appeared to Mary Magdalene (John 20:11–18), the other women (Matthew 28:1,8–10), Peter (1 Corinthians 15:5) and the disciples on the way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35).

What effect did all these appearances have on the disciples? They knew in whom they believed; they knew that He had conquered death and that He was a risen Master and Lord and Savior.

The cross upon which Christ died has become the focal point of all history. The cross was the triumphant goal of Christ's life—the one thing to which He had been looking forward, not from the beginning of His earthly life, but from the beginning of time itself. He was "the Lamb whose death was planned before the world was created" (Revelation 13:8). Surely salvation is God's greatest plan and His greatest miracle.

Bible Story Recap

Jesus and His friends were in danger because the religious leaders wanted to find a way to get rid of Jesus. And if they were mad at Jesus, they were probably just as mad at Jesus' friends!

Jesus gathered with His friends to eat a special meal called the Passover meal. Jesus tried to tell His friends that some terrible things were going to happen to Him. Jesus knew it was time for those things to happen, just as God had planned.

After their meal, Jesus and 11 of His friends went to pray. Another friend, Judas, had made secret plans to help the chief priests arrest Jesus. Soldiers came to the garden and took Jesus away, even though He had done nothing wrong!

Later, Jesus was taken to a hill outside the city and nailed to a cross. Jesus knew that what was happening was necessary to pay the price for people's sins. Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" Then He died.

On Sunday, some women went to Jesus' tomb. The stone that had sealed the tomb was rolled away, Jesus' body was gone and two men in shining clothes said to the women, "Jesus isn't here! He has risen!"

The women remembered! They were so happy! The women turned and ran back from the tomb. They told everything to Jesus' friends. Some of Jesus' friends ran to the tomb to see if it was true. And it was! The tomb was empty!

Daily Recap

At the end of each session, take time to reflect on what happened. Use these questions as a guide:

- What worked well today? Pray for the energy to finish VBS strong.
- Which children seemed interested in joining God's family? Which ones seemed to still have questions? Ask God to give you the opportunity and the words to talk further with these children.
- As you prepare for the final session of VBS, pray for each child by name. Ask God to water the seeds that were planted today.

Elephant Toothpaste



Preparation

Photocopy Elephant Toothpaste Instructions, making one copy for every two children. Cut instructions apart. Place instruction sheets and materials on tables where children will be working.

Procedure

Children divide into pairs. Supervise children as they complete the instructions to make Elephant Toothpaste.

Conversation

Did you feel the bottle during the reaction? It felt warm because this is what's known as an exothermic reaction, which means it releases heat.

Today's Spark Principle is about Transformations. Transformations occur when something new is introduced to an existing object and changes the object. Jesus changes us.

Materials

- Elephant Toothpaste Instructions (p. 77)
- measuring cups
- scissors or paper cutter
- 20-volume hydrogen peroxide (or 6% solution, available at beauty supply stores)
- food coloring
- dishwashing liquid
- measuring spoons
- yeast
- pitcher of very warm water

For Each Pair of Children

- 2 pairs of safety glasses
- 16-ounce empty plastic bottle
- baking pan or tray
- funnel
- plastic cup
- spoon

What is today's Daily Plan? Pause for children to respond, "2 SAVE Us!" **Jesus suffered and died to bring us to God. He took the punishment for our sins so that we can be forgiven and be with God forever.**

Today's Bible verse says, "Christ died for sins once and for all time. The One who did what is right died for those who don't do right. He died to bring you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). We all need forgiveness from Jesus. We all sin. There are times when we all choose to do what isn't right. Jesus made a way for us to be in God's family.

Pray, **Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be forgiven of our sins and become members of God's family. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Lab Journal

Grades 1 and 2: Children complete "Plant Transformations" activity on page 17 of their *Lab Journals*.

Grades 3 and 4: Children complete "Get the Connection?" activity on page 16 of their *Lab Journals*.

Grades 5 and 6: Children complete "A Powerful Connection" activity on page 16 of their *Lab Journals*.



Tip
The foam produced by this experiment is completely safe for kids to touch. It is just water, soap and oxygen, so you can clean it up with a sponge. If there is any liquid left in the bottle, it is safe to pour it down a drain.

Elephant Toothpaste Instructions

What to Do

1. Put on safety glasses.
2. Place bottle in the center of the baking pan or tray. Put the funnel in the opening of the bottle.
3. Pour $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of hydrogen peroxide into the bottle. Remove funnel and add a few drops of food coloring to the hydrogen peroxide.
4. Add a squirt of dishwashing liquid to the mixture. Place funnel back in the opening of the bottle (photo a).
5. In the plastic cup, place 1 teaspoon of yeast. Add a couple tablespoons of warm water and stir to dissolve yeast.
6. One person quickly pours yeast water into bottle while the other person gets ready to remove the funnel—FAST!
7. Watch what happens.

What's Happening?

Hydrogen peroxide naturally breaks down over time into water and oxygen. The yeast acted as a catalyst (a helper) to transform the hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen. The dishwashing liquid traps the oxygen and water vapor in tiny foam bubbles—lots and LOTS of bubbles!

a.



b.



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