

What Do We Believe?

Lesson 29

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Lesson 29: Salvation: God's Part

Scriptures:

Genesis 3:14-17; Isaiah 9:1-6; 55:7; Jeremiah 29:11; Luke 1:76-77, 23:35, 39; Romans 3:21-26, 5:2; Ephesians 1:6-8, 2:11-22; Matthew 20:28; John 1:29, 10:14-18; II Corinthians 5:14, 15

Lesson Goals:

To assist the learner to see the history of salvation
To assist the learner to see Jesus as the gift of God for our salvation
To assist the learner to see salvation is for everyone

Scripture Memory:

...live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

The Lesson:

Salvation is one of those "Bible words" that represents a wonderful and exciting idea. What if you fell into the ocean? What if you couldn't swim? What if you could swim, but you were miles from land? You would need someone to save you. When you were pulled out of the water and were safe in a boat, you would have experienced physical salvation. And, the person who pulled you out of the water would be your physical savior. The Bible says that all of us need to be saved spiritually. God, through the life and death of Jesus, is our spiritual Savior.

One of God's earliest promises of Salvation was to His chosen people Israel when they were captives of the Egyptians. He told Moses to tell His people that "I Am" sent him, Moses, to help them escape from the Egyptians. The name by which God identified Himself to the people of Israel ("I AM") is unique. Only God can say "I am" without adding "because" to it. Everyone in the world must say, "I am because of my parents." Plants come from seeds, animals all have parents. Even Adam and Eve, who had no earthly parents, had to say, "I am because God created me." God can say "I am" because He doesn't owe His existence to anyone or anything. He is eternal. He has no parent or creator.

When the eternal God promised the people of Israel that He would save them from the Egyptians, He began a long process of making salvation available to everyone. The people of Israel were captives with no hope of escape. God sent His servant Moses to show them the way to freedom. God promised them that if they would follow Him, they would not only be saved from slavery, but would be provided a homeland just for them, and all their children, for all time.

After many years God sent another messenger to His people. Humans were captives of sin. We could not escape in our own strength. We were without hope of any future, other than death. This messenger was God's only Son, Jesus, who was sent to live a perfect life, and die for our sins. He showed His power and His divinity by coming back from the dead.

This messenger not only brought God's promise to the people, He provided a perfect way for all of us to have a good life here and, after we die, an eternal life in Heaven with God. Because God knew that there was no hope for us to earn forgiveness for our sins, He made our salvation a free gift. The Bible calls this God's grace. Grace means that we get something that we could not deserve. In life, we get many gifts that we could afford to give ourselves. And, some things are called gifts that we might deserve, because we have somehow earned them. However, this gift of salvation, we can never afford, even if it could be purchased nor can it ever be deserved.

God took the initiative. He knew that we would need a Savior who could pay the debt for our sins and who could give us eternal life. There was only one person who could make that happen. He was God's

only, His one-of-a-kind, Son - Jesus.

So, because of Jesus and His sacrifice on the cross, we are called the “redeemed” when we accept His gift. We have been redeemed (sins paid for and the penalty gone) from our sentence of death.

We are also called the “justified.” You can say, “It is ‘just as if I’d’ (rhymes with justified) never sinned.” That’s because Jesus paid for our sins when He died on the cross, and God completely forgives us.

We are saved! We never need to be afraid of death or of being punished for our sin when Jesus becomes our Savior.

All we have to do is ask Jesus to be our Savior...simple isn't it.

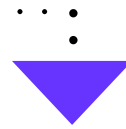
Life Application:

So have you? Have you asked Jesus to be your Savior? Do you know what it feels like to be drowning in the ocean or a pool, needing someone to help you? Maybe you know what it feels like to be drowning in your sin. All of us have sinned and sin enslaves us. We try to be good and cannot. We need a Savior. That Savior is Jesus Christ. He is the only way to God. (John 14:6) And He loved you enough to take your sin, to become your sin, and to die in your place. It may seem hard to believe, but believe it. Trust it. Run to Him and give Him your life so that He might give you life eternal, life as you never could have even imagined it.

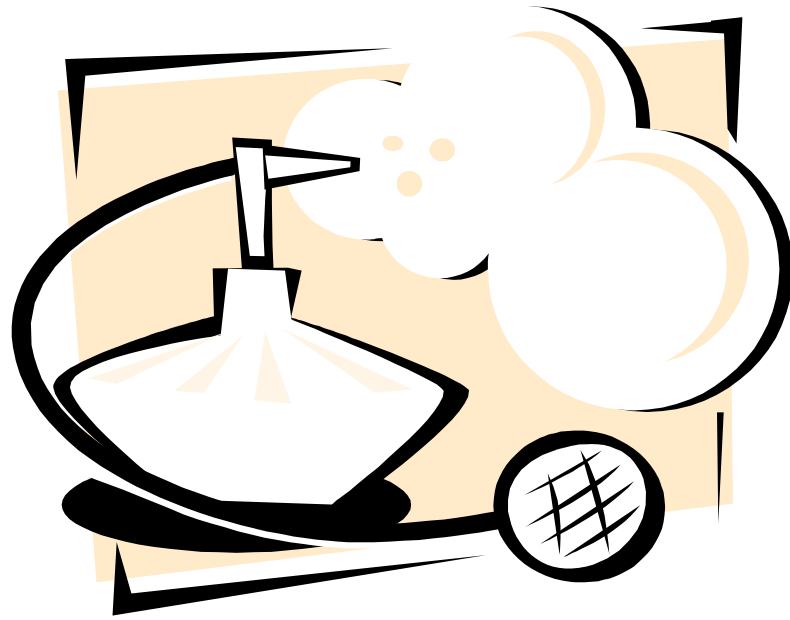
Do you already know Jesus as your Savior? Will you be the life preserver that God tosses out to someone today? Only God is in the business of saving someone spiritually, but He wants to use you. He wants to speak through you. He wants to love through you. He wants those around you to see Him in everything you do. Will you speak, live, and love for Jesus today?



Planning for Lesson 30
Salvation: Human
Response



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Spray perfume in your Bible Study area before you get started. Be sure to spray enough so that it is noticeable when your students arrive. Begin by reading the memory verse to your students. Practice the verse together. If you have access to perfume bottles, attach a word from the verse to each one. Mix up the bottles and encourage your students to order the verse.
- ◆ Make the concept of this lesson a bit clearer by using object lessons. Focus on salvation being God's free gift or the forgiveness we receive at salvation.
- ◆ Provide coloring pages of slavery in Egypt, deliverance from Egypt, and Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. Also provide Bible Verse Coloring Pages of Jeremiah 29:11 and Isaiah 9:6.
- ◆ Sing "What Can Wash Away My Sin (Nothing But the Blood)," "At Calvary," "At the Cross," "Jesus Paid It All," "Saved, Saved!," "To God be the Glory," "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus," and "Victory in Jesus."



...live a life of love,
just as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us
as a fragrant offering
and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

I AM

God can say “I AM”
because He doesn’t
owe His existence to
anyone or anything.
He is _ t _ _ n _ _ .
He has no parent
or c r _ _ _ o _ .

When the eternal God promised the people of Israel that he would save them from the Egyptians, He began a long process of making salvation available to everyone.

Word Search



I J U L D E S E R V E E D W H
A K W H E L T D R O N D N J S
U I K H W N E U F Y A W E H T
L N D F E M R B T R O S E E R
U D H D E I F I T S U J I F I
P N L E E R N M E S E R V E O
E E D D V A E B C R V E L Y I
H E R S G R A H L Y R E D E V
R S U S E J R I E V E D N M A
M I N N O I T A V L A S O N S
D O M E S D E M A R E A Y L V
N O T T E M D E R I D V L U F
I O N O E H T R B R N I W D E
K G R A C E R C I F U O E H P
O R H T H E E I E T E R N A L

salvation

Jesus Christ

Savior

the Way

I AM

eternal

grace

redeemed

justified

Word Search



I J U L D E S E R V E E D W H
 A K W H E L T D R O N D N J S
 U I K H W N E U F Y A W E H T
 L N D F E M R B T R O S E E R
 U D H D E I F I T S U J I F I
 P N L E E R N M E S E R V E O
 E E D D V A E B C R V E L Y I
 H E R S G R A H L Y R E D E V
 R S U S E J R I E V E D N M A
 M I N N O I T A V L A S O N S
 D O M E S D E M A R E A Y L V
 N O T T E M D E R I D V L U F
 I O N O E H T R B R N I W D E
 K G R A C E R C I F U O E H P
 O R H T H E E I E T E R N A L

salvation

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