

SECTION
3.3 | *Jesus Is Savior*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: The Case of the Stolen Cookies

What You'll Need: Cookies, napkins, table, podium or music stand (optional: gavel, black robe, play money)

PREP: Print out copies of this activity. Ask leaders to role-play the following characters in the activity: a judge, the accused, an accuser, and a savior. Give each volunteer a copy of the Introduction Activity. Ask the accused to ONLY admit to taking the cookies and accept the punishment. (Optional: Give the play money to the person portraying the savior.) Set up the podium or music stand in front of the classroom. (Optional: Place the gavel and black robe nearby.) Place cookies and napkins on a table in front of the classroom.

STEP 1: Tell the kids and leaders they can take ONLY one cookie. If they break the rule, there are consequences they must face. After all kids have returned to their seats, signal to the accuser to make accusations against the accused. Immediately call for a trial.

Ask the judge to stand behind the podium and hear the case of the stolen cookie from the accuser. After hearing the accusation, have him or her call out the sentence: a fine of \$10 for the stolen cookie.

STEP 2: Signal the savior to pay the penalty and the judge to declare the punishment to be paid in full.

Ask the following questions:

- Do you think the sentence for the stolen cookie was fair? Why or why not?
- Why are there consequences when someone breaks a rule?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Just like (leader's name) broke my rule, we ALL break God's rules.
- The Bible says that everyone has sinned. Our sin separates us from the holy, perfect God forever.
- God loves us, even though we are sinners. He made a way for us to have our sins forgiven. He sent Jesus, His Son, to take our punishment for sin.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus is Savior.

Notes:



EVIDENCE FOR THE PROSECUTION

1 //ROCKETS ONLINE// **2**

RADER CITY TRANSPORT **WATCH YOUR STEP**

SECTION 1

Instructions: Read the following verses and then answer the questions below.

Romans 3:23, James 2:10, Romans 5:12

1. Who are the guilty individuals?

2. Why do they deserve punishment?

SECTION 2

Instructions: Read the following verses and then answer the questions below.

Romans 6:23; James 1:15; John 3:36; Revelation 20:11-15, 21:8

What is the punishment that the guilty deserve?

FUEL CELLS AT 80%

E **F**

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Falling Short

What You'll Need: Hula-Hoop®, two pool noodles, scissors, masking tape

PREP: Cut the two pool noodles into 2 or 3 feet sections. Place the Hula-Hoop on the floor on one side of the classroom. On the floor in the middle of the Hula-Hoop, make a small X out of masking tape. Place a line of masking tape on the floor on the other side of the classroom at least 15-20 feet from the target. Lay the cut pool noodles beside the masking tape line.

STEP 1: Have the kids stand behind the tape. Give each kid one chance to throw a pool noodle section at the target, aiming to hit the X in the center of the hoop. Have a leader or child stand next to the Hula-Hoop and judge whether or not the noodle hits the mark. Each time the noodle misses the mark, instruct the judge to call out, "Miss!"

Ask the following questions:

- What challenges did you face when trying to hit the mark?
- How did you feel when you missed the mark?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We all miss the mark when it comes to obeying God's laws.
- The Bible says that everyone has sinned. Our sin separates us from the holy, perfect God forever.
- God loves us, even though we are sinners. He made a way for us to have our sins forgiven. He sent Jesus, His Son, to take our punishment for sin.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus is Savior.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Evidence for the Prosecution

What You'll Need: Bibles, Evidence for the Prosecution handout (Resource Bundle), pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Print copies of the Evidence for the Prosecution handout.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they are going to take part in a court hearing. The judge is God. The defendants (the ones on trial) are all humans. Assign the role of prosecution (the attorneys who prove the defendant is guilty) to all the kids.

Distribute a copy of the Evidence for the Prosecution handout to each kid, along with a pen or a pencil. Encourage the attorneys to work in groups to complete the first section of the handout. Give each group a Bible, and ask leaders to help groups as needed.

STEP 2: After three minutes, collaborate with the attorneys and discuss their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Each person has sinned. Our sin causes us to fall short of God's glory. When we say God is holy, this means He is perfect, without sin, and always does what's right.
- Because God is holy, sin can never be allowed in His presence (Romans 3:23).

STEP 3: Have the prosecution study the second round of evidence in the second section of the handout. After several minutes, collaborate with all the attorneys to discuss their findings.

Share these concepts:

- Even committing just one sin keeps us from a relationship with God, but we've all sinned a lot more than once (James 2:10).
- We can never be good enough to save ourselves (Romans 6:23)

STEP 4: Ask kids to play the role of the jury, who looks at the evidence and determines whether they are guilty or not.

Ask the following questions:

- Are the defendants (all humans) guilty, based on the evidence found in God's Word?
- What punishment do we all deserve because of our guilt?

STEP 5: Explain to kids that Jesus knew there was no hope for us to have a relationship with God on our own. We needed someone who could take our punishment for us.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless. He is also fully man so He could face death and die in our place.
- Jesus is the ONLY One who could ever take the punishment for our sin because He is both fully God AND fully man (1 Peter 3:18).

STEP 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Peter 2:24. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless.
- He took the punishment for sin that we deserved by dying on the cross for sin.
- Because Jesus took our place, we have the opportunity to be saved from the punishment of sin. We are forgiven and made righteous in God's sight!

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Symbols of a Savior

What You'll Need: Bible, 3 x 5 cards, card stock, markers or colored pencils (optional: iPod or iPad and speakers or CD and CD player) *(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

PREP: Write each of the following numbers and references on 3 x 5 cards: Number One: Matthew 27:27-30, Number Two: Luke 23:26-27, Number Three: Luke 23:32-46. (Optional: Be prepared to play instrumental worship music quietly during this activity.)

Ask three leaders to read Scripture during the activity. Give them each one of the prepared 3 x 5 cards.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Peter 2:24. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless.
- He took the punishment for sin that we deserved by dying on the cross for sin.
- Because Jesus took our place, we have the opportunity to be saved from the punishment of sin. We are forgiven and made righteous in God's sight!

STEP 2: Explain to kids that in today's lesson, they will discover what Jesus did for them. Distribute a sheet of card stock and markers or colored pencils to each kid. Encourage them to imagine what it must have been like to witness the events that surrounded the death of Jesus. As they listen to the verses, encourage them to draw symbols that remind them of what Jesus did for them on the cross (e.g., the crown of thorns, a robe, the cross, the sign above the cross).

STEP 3: Ask the leaders to read their passages in numerical order. When they are finished, share these key concepts:

- Every person has sinned. Our sin causes us to fall short of God's glory. Because God is holy, sin can never be allowed in His presence (Romans 3:23).
- Every person has sinned. Even committing just one sin keeps us from a relationship with God, but we've all sinned a lot more than once (James 2:10). We can never be good enough to save ourselves (Romans 6:23).
- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless. He is also fully man so He could face death and die in our place. Jesus is the ONLY One who could ever take the punishment for our sin because He is both fully God AND fully man (1 Peter 3:18).
- You can receive Jesus as Savior. All you have to do to receive Jesus' payment is to believe that Jesus died for your sin and rose again. When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are forgiven for all our sin and we have eternal life (1 Corinthians 15:3-5, John 3:16).

STEP 4: Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader if they have questions about receiving Jesus as Savior. Close the lesson in prayer, thanking God for providing Jesus to be our Savior.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes: