

**19<sup>th</sup>** Sunday  
After Pentecost  
September 27-  
Oct. 3, 2021

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 9:43-50

**THEME:** Sin is Serious

**SONG:** CW93 272, Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

**VISUAL:** Bananna or apple with bruise or fruit with mold and paring knife

### OBJECT LESSON

Ask the children what type of fruit is their favorite. Follow up by showing the fruit you brought with a bruise or a little mold. Comment that some people just throw away something that is bruised or has a touch of mold. Ask who would do that. Other people just cut off the part that is bad and eat the good part. Ask if their parents have ever done that.

### BIBLE TRUTH

Before reading Mark 9:43-50, establish the setting: Jesus and the disciples were in Capernaum, but the disciples were thinking about who would be first and who would do miracles. Jesus then warned them about being careless with sin.

Point out how shocking Jesus' words were and ask if we are really going to treat our bodies like that fruit. Establish that if we had to cut off whatever was sinful, there wouldn't be anything left of us, since our whole selves are infected with sin. Remind the students that sin is a big deal because it destroys us.

Tie in the introduction by sharing how salt preserves food. Jesus also states, "Everyone will be salted with fire." Explain how the law stings because it addresses the fact that we are totally infected with sin, that we are not good enough, and need help.

God's word also tells us what that help is: a Savior who was cut off from God so we would not have to be. Jesus has rescued us from hell and removes our sin so that we will never be cut off from God.

### DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Point out how difficult it is to live at peace in this world. God makes us the salt in this world. Sin causes rifts in our relationships: consider how the disciples were arguing. When the law cuts us and leads us to repentance and when the gospel preserves or "salts" us with forgiveness, we can better live at peace with others.

### PRAYER

Dear Jesus, Thank you for taking away our sin, so that we would not be cut off from you. Help us to be salt in the world, so that the world is preserved through your word. In your name, we pray, Amen.



**HEART  
IMPRINTS**

**20<sup>th</sup>** Sunday  
After Pentecost  
October 4-  
Oct. 10, 2021

**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrews 2:9

**THEME:** Together in Jesus

**SONG:** CW93 272, Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

**VISUAL:** Picture of a family member or friend who lives far away

### OBJECT LESSON

Ask the children to raise their hands if they live near their grandparents or their cousins? Share your picture of a family member or friend who lives far away. Some people live far away from their family. Ask the children to raise their hand if family members live far away. Ask them how often they get to see those family members. Make the point that distance separates families.

### BIBLE TRUTH

Point out that distance isn't the only thing that separates families. Careless words and hurtful actions can keep families who live near each other separated. Impress on the children that all of us have felt the pain of separation: moms and dads who don't love each other and get divorced, friends and cousins who fight with each other, the weak being hurt by the strong, and children and adults who don't understand each other. Focus on how sin is the root cause of the separation. Note that God even created us to live forever and to rule his creation, yet because of sin, we are often powerless and we eventually die.

Share the Bible reading (Hebrews 2:9) that describes how Jesus took on our death and ended our separation with God. Jesus left Heaven and became a man to live under God's law and to receive the punishment that we deserved because of our sin. Because Jesus is God he brought us back together because he did everything right and rose from the dead to assure us that he defeated sin, death, and the devil.

### DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

By God's grace we have a new life where we can experience togetherness in Jesus. Point out that separations still exist because of our sinful nature and the devil. What can we do when sin causes separations in our lives? Assure the children that through Jesus' death we too will be crowned with glory and will be comforted when we are together with Jesus in heaven.

### PRAYER

Dear Jesus, when sin causes pain and separation, help us to find comfort in your forgiveness and the hope of heaven. Help us to heal and forgive when sin causes separation in our lives. We put our hope and trust in you! Amen.



**HEART  
IMPRINTS**

**21st** Sunday  
After Pentecost  
October 11-  
Oct. 17, 2021

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 10:13-27

**THEME:** Focus on Jesus

**SONG:** CW93 282 v.1-3 Lord Open Now My Heart to Hear

**VISUAL:** Various holiday decorations

### OBJECT LESSON

Ask the children to share their favorite holiday and why they like it. Point out that holiday is a word that comes from Holy Day and that many holidays have a religious connection. Drive home the point that in America, people often focus on the wrong part of the holiday (ex. Thanksgiving isn't about turkey, family, and football. It is about thankfulness for God's Blessings)

### BIBLE TRUTH

Set the context for the Gospel lesson: Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem to suffer and die. Along the way he is encountering people as he seeks to instruct his disciples. At this time a young synagogue leader approaches Jesus. Read Mark 10:17-27.

The young ruler believed that by doing the right things, he would earn heaven. Jesus looked at this man and loved him. He wanted him to know just how short of God's goodness he was. Jesus wanted him to see that he gives salvation to sinners.

Ask the students what Jesus said that made the man sad. Draw out from the students that even though the man thought he had done what God commanded, he actually trusted his wealth instead of God.

### DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

In our sinful state, we focus on the wrong things, too. Ask the students to share what people trust instead of God. (Money, feelings, pop culture, popularity, technology, sports, etc) When we trust these things, they lead us away from saving faith in Jesus.

Jesus said it would be easier for a huge camel to squeeze through a very small hole than for us to give up on the things we trust instead of God. Point out that the disciples also focused on trying to earn salvation and wondered who then could be saved?

Jesus' answer is our comfort. Since God has earned our salvation, we can't mess it up. Remind students that, when they run into people like the young ruler who are worried they haven't done enough to be saved, they can assure people that focusing on Jesus and his salvation is their comfort.

### PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, keep us from trusting in something other than Jesus for our full salvation. Turn our eyes away from the sinful things of this world and focus on the author and perfecter of our faith, Jesus our Savior. In his name we pray, Amen.



**HEART  
IMPRINTS**

**22<sup>nd</sup>** Sunday  
After Pentecost  
October 18-  
Oct. 24, 2021

**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrews 4:9-16

**THEME:** Jesus' Work Gives us Rest

**SONG:** CW93 282 v.1-3 Lord Open Now My Heart to Hear

**VISUAL:** Pillow or comfort object used at naptime;  
alternatively a cot from the PreK room

### OBJECT LESSON

Share a story about a particular student's or your own experience with nap time at home or at school. Ask the students why they think adults want them to take a nap. Sleep improves your thinking and mood, strengthens your heart and immune system, and regulates your appetite and blood sugar. Ask the students why God instituted a full day of rest for Old Testament believers. The Sabbath gave the people rest from their labor, time to focus on God's Word, and pointed them to the rest that would be won by the Messiah.

### BIBLE TRUTH

Before you read Hebrews 4:9-16, tell the students that the rest they hear about is not a nap or a Saturday off. Ask them to figure out what kind of rest is being talked about.

Point out the difference between "rests from his own work" and "make every effort to enter that rest." God's word, the sword of the Spirit uncovers and exposes our sin and destroys any attempt to earn our way to eternal rest. Jesus' willing service gives us rest from the weight and consequences of sin. He steps in and takes care of all our weaknesses: listening to or spreading bad things about another person; blending in with the crowd instead of standing up for the truth; relying on ourselves instead of God. He experienced all of these temptations and more and was without sin. He earned eternal life for us. Because of Jesus we can know for certain that eternal life is ours. In thankfulness to him, we serve each other as we await our ultimate rest, eternal life in heaven.

### DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Since eternal rest is ours, we make every effort to enter that rest. Satan, the sinful world, and our sinful nature will try to drag us away from that rest. How do we "receive mercy and find grace that helps in time of need?"

### PRAYER

Dear Jesus, our great high priest, thank you for enduring temptation, pain, and loss for us. We treasure the gift of eternal life that you won for us. Help us to make every effort to hear and hold onto your words of grace and forgiveness. In your name we pray, Amen.



**HEART  
IMPRINTS**