

Believe Jesus is the almighty God your Redeemer!

Memory Verse: John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”*

Main Teaching: Believe Jesus is the almighty God your Redeemer **Word Up:** Jesus is the almighty God

Supplies:

- Word Up Visual – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Sticky note and pencil or crayon for each child – Small Group
- Recording for “Let’s Get Started”, “Jesus is the Good News”, and “That the World Might Be Saved” - Worship (Sing About the King 4 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “Let’s Get Started” and “Jesus is the Good News” (cefpress.com)
- Gold Circle, Hard Boiled Egg with Dark Sin Words – Object Lesson
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Cards for Memory Verse Review – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- 4-6 Beanbags - Activity
- Gladys Aylward Visual – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- Card of Jeremiah 32:17 – Small Group / Wonder Time
- Memory Verse Token John 3:16 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

- 15 min – Small Group
- 10 min – Worship / Rules / Word Up
- 10 min – Object Lesson
- 15 min – Memory Verse
- 10 min – Activity
- 5 min – Missionary Story
- 10 min – Small Group Wonder Time



SMALL GROUP

Pray for the Impossible

Materials: Sticky Notes; Pencils

Give each child a pencil (or crayon) and a sticky note (for younger kids, do this group together and you can write on each sticky note for the kids). Tell them to think of something that they think is really hard to do. It could be a prayer request about a problem they think is impossible to fix, something that is hard for them at school, or something at home that seems to have a stressful or uncertain outcome. Have them write a sentence on their sticky note about this impossible situation. Explain to the kids that God is ALMIGHTY. That means He is all-powerful...nothing is impossible for God! Situations that seem impossible to us are possible for God. Pray together with the kids, addressing all the things they wrote down on the sticky notes.

WORSHIP

To learn songs and motions, go to <https://www.cefcmi.com/lessons/song-demos>

“Let’s Get Started”

“Jesus is the Good News”

CLUB RULES

Review the Up Rules reminding the kids that following the rules helps everyone be able to feel safe and learn. If there is a particular rule the children are having trouble with, do a skit to highlight that rule and why it is important.



WORD UP!

“Jesus is the almighty God”

In our small group time today, we talked about things that were really hard to do. We all have to do things that are hard. Sometimes we get discouraged or frustrated. But Jesus is the almighty God – he can do anything. If you have believed in Jesus as your Savior, his power lives in you! He is there to listen to you and help you whenever you need help. Word Up! **“Jesus is the almighty God”**

OBJECT LESSON

Sin Egg

What You Need: A Bible, golden circle, hard boiled egg with sin examples written on it and some dark scribbles (lie, hit, scream, bite, push).

(show large gold circle) This gold circle reminds me of God’s love. Do you see how this circle never ends? That’s exactly like God’s love, it never ends, He will love you forever and ever. This gold color also reminds me of God’s Heaven. The Bible says that the city in Heaven is a beautiful city made of pure gold! And that is where God lives. Heaven is a perfect place because God is perfect. He is Holy. God loves you very much and wants you to live with Him in Heaven someday.

But you were born with a problem that keeps you away from God. That problem is sin. Sin is anything you think **(point to head)**, see **(point to eyes)**, say **(point to mouth)** or do **(bump fists together)** that breaks God’s law **(use hands like you are breaking a stick in half)** or makes Him sad **(draw line with your finger down from your eyes like you are crying)**. Like hitting someone or not obeying the person in charge of you. The Bible says, “all have sinned.” (Rom. 3:23) and that means you too. (hold up your egg)

What is this thing I am holding? **(allow response)** That’s right, it’s a hard boiled egg. Have you ever touched an egg? How does it feel? What does it look like? **(Have different children feel the egg as they answer. Possible answers – hard, smooth, maybe a little rough, colored, dark, messy.)** This egg reminds me of our hearts before we know Jesus. Do you see all of these words we have written on our egg? These are bad things that we all do **(point to word as you speak)** Sins are things like hitting your sister out of anger, telling your mom or dad no!, or throwing a temper tantrum when you don’t get your way. Before we know Jesus our hearts are like this egg,

they are hard and messy and far from perfect, we are covered in the hardness of our sin. God says you deserve to be separated from Him forever as punishment for your sin.

But do you know what? This egg also reminds me of what Jesus has done for each of us. Jesus was the Son of God and lived a long time ago. Jesus spent His life telling people about God, how much He loved them and how God wanted them to live. But Jesus didn't just live for us, He also died for us. He died for us because ALL of us have done the things that we wrote on this egg and Jesus came to take the punishment for your sin.

(Start peeling the egg.) Jesus died on the cross for our sins. But He didn't stay dead. After 3 days, He rose again and is now living in heaven. Jesus died on the cross for you and if you believe in Jesus and tell Him you are sorry for your sin, then He can take away your sin just like I am taking off the dark, hard peel of this egg.

What does my egg look and feel like now? **(Have different children feel the egg as they answer. Possible answers – soft, malleable, no blemishes, clean.)** That is what happens to our heart when we ask Jesus to forgive us for our sins, the things that make him unhappy. Our heart changes from messy and dark and hard to being clean and soft.

(Peel the white part off the egg, show the yellow center) And, when you believe in Jesus, God the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you. He is always with you and will be your helper.

**** If the egg doesn't peel smoothly, it's okay! Talk about the fact that we still sin and we aren't perfect, but we are clean and soft and ready to follow Jesus.**



MEMORY VERSE

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

INTRODUCTION

What's the most special thing in your life—something you like or love very much? It could be a person or an object. *(Allow response. You may wish to share something or someone special to you too.)* How would you feel if you had to give that person or thing up? *(Allow response.)* It would be very hard. You might cry and be sad for a long time. Our verse today tells us that God gave up what is more special than anyone or anything else. Listen to our verse and see if you can tell me what God gave up.

PRESENTATION

(Read John 3:16 from Bible while children follow along on the visual.) Did you hear in the verse what God gave up? Yes, His Son!

This verse is in the Bible. The Bible is God's true Word! This verse is found in the book of John. John is the fourth book of the New Testament. If you don't know where a book of the Bible is, how could you find it? *(Allow response.)* Most big books have a Table of Contents in the front. The Bible does too! If you're not sure where to find a book in the Bible, turn to the Table of Contents in the front of your Bible. *(Show in your Bible.)* Here is the book of John. You can see John is on page *(page number)* in my Bible. Let's read the verse together again.

In our story today we talked about Jesus' disciples who followed Him and learned from Him. John was one of those disciples! John spent about three years with Jesus learning from Him. With his own eyes, John saw what Jesus did. John was there at the wedding we talked about last week. He saw the miracle Jesus did! That's why we can call him an "eyewitness" to the life of Jesus. God used John to do something really important too. God had John write down what happened when Jesus was on Earth so the world could know who Jesus is. Let's see what we can learn about Jesus from this verse. *(Read verse with children.)*

EXPLANATION

For God so loved the world—The world is talking about people. God the Creator made all the people in the world including you. He loves you more than you can ever imagine.

that he gave his only Son—God the Father gave the world what was most precious to Him—His one and only Son, Jesus! Because He loves you so much, He gave His Son to provide a way for your sins to be forgiven.

that whoever believes in him—Whosoever means you! It means anyone—no matter your age, what you look like or where you're from. To believe is to trust in Jesus as the only one who can save you from your sin. Trusting in yourself or your good works will not save you. Only believing in Jesus will save you from the punishment of your sin.

should not perish—Perish means to be punished for sin. The punishment for sin is separation from God now and forever in a terrible place.

but have eternal life—Everlasting life means life here with God on Earth—having Him with you always and having Him help you live His way. It also means that someday you will live with God forever in His beautiful home called Heaven. Jesus is God's Son who came to make a way for you to have everlasting life!

APPLICATION

Saved: If you have already believed in Jesus as your Savior, think about God's great love for you. He gave His precious Son to save you! Say with me, **"Jesus is the almighty God."** (*Say with children.*) Praise Him for saving you!

Unsaved: If you have not yet believed in Jesus as your Savior, then you need to know that God loves you more than you can imagine! He came to save you. You can believe in Jesus today and have everlasting life.

INVITATION



Do you know that you have sinned? Do you know that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Have you made the decision to put your trust in Him? The Bible says John 3:16 *"Whoever believes in Him should not perish, but will have eternal life."* When you believe in Jesus, trusting that He died on the cross for your sins, you can have eternal life. Life forever with Jesus. Will you turn from your sin and believe in the Lord Jesus today? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you believed in Jesus for the very first time today, or you want to talk to someone more about doing that, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me (*designate location*) and I'll show you more from God's word the Bible how you can believe in Jesus.

REPETITION

"Whoever"

(*God loves all the people of the world no matter where they are from, what they are like or how they look. Reinforce this truth by having different children stand up each time the words "the world" and "whosoever" appear in this verse. Prepare cards that will likely describe many of the children you will be teaching. Card phrases could include, "Whoever is wearing shoes," "Whoever likes chocolate," "Whoever likes to read," "Whoever has short hair," "Whoever has long hair," "Whoever likes video games," etc. Before each repetition of the verse, allow a child to choose a card. Have all of the children repeat the verse together and have only the children that fit the card's description stand up, spin around and sit back down when the words "the world" and "whosoever" are said.*)

Sing memory verse song "That the World might be Saved".

ACTIVITY

Week 2 Activity: Silent Beanbag Toss

Materials: 4-6 Beanbags

To play, you'll need 4-6 beanbags or plush toys that can be thrown without hurting the participants. Form players into a circle and instruct them to remain silent during play. If they talk, they'll be immediately disqualified from the game. Hand one of the beanbags to a player and have them toss it across the circle to another player. If he or she catches it, they'll continue the game by tossing it to someone else, and so on. Any player who fails to catch the beanbag will have to leave the circle, along with anyone who talks during play.

As the game progresses, make it more of a challenge by gradually introducing more beanbags. The winner is the player who remains in the "circle" when all of the others have been forced to drop out.

MISSIONS STORY

Gladys Aylward

Part 1



Have you ever had to make an important decision? Do you remember where you were? We are going to be talking about someone who made an important decision while in her kitchen—a decision that would not only change her life, but the lives of many others. Her name was Gladys Aylward (*AIL-ward*).

Gladys was born in England in 1902. When she was 14, she left school to work as a maid. When Gladys was 18, she believed in Jesus as her Savior.

One day as she read an article about China, she realized millions of Chinese people had never heard

the Good News of Jesus. *Someone must do something about this!* she thought.

For over a year, she tried to find someone who would go to China and tell the people there about Jesus. But no one would go. They didn't seem to think it was important. Finally, she decided to ask her brother. If he wouldn't go, she'd stop asking people. She found her brother in the kitchen and asked, "Will you go to China to tell the people there about Jesus? I'll work really hard to pay for your ticket and for you to live there. You can send letters to me and tell me what you need, and I'll get it for you."

Her brother laughed, "Not me! I'm not interested in going to China." He then walked out of the room! But just as he was leaving, he stuck his head back around the door, looked right at Gladys, and said, "If you really believe someone should go, why don't you go yourself?"

Gladys sat in that kitchen for a long time thinking about what her brother said. She thought, *It couldn't be me. I don't have a lot of education, I don't know a lot about church, and I'm still learning about the Bible.* But then she thought, *Why not me? Am I willing to go?* And right there in her kitchen she made a choice. "Dear Lord Jesus,"

she prayed, “if you will open the way and show me how, I will go myself.”

God did open a way. One day, Gladys heard about an older missionary in China, Mrs. Jeannie Lawson, who was praying for a helper. *That helper is me!* Gladys thought. She sent a letter to Mrs. Jeannie, who agreed she should come! But a trip to China cost a lot of money. She began to save every bit of money she could from her job as a maid. For months she worked very hard. Finally, she was able to pay for the trip.

Since going by boat cost so much more than going across land, Gladys took a long train ride across Europe, Russia, and Siberia. She didn’t have

money to buy food on the long trip so she brought food with her. The trip was filled with dangers. One cold, snowy night after her train refused to take her any farther, she walked alone through the woods with wolves howling around her. While in a Russian village, she was taken prisoner and only escaped with the help of a local woman. But finally, Gladys reached China!

Gladys made it to China, but she didn’t know the Chinese language or ways of living. She had a lot to learn and a lot to do! Would she be able to share the Good News of Jesus with the people there? You’ll find out more next time!



SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME

“Praise Jesus, the Almighty God!”

Maybe you’ve already believed in Jesus as your Savior—that’s fantastic! When you believe in Jesus, you don’t just believe in Him for a moment—you believe in Him for your whole lifetime! Jesus wants you to know Him as He is—the almighty God. Say with me, **“Jesus is the almighty God!”** (*Say with children.*) You can **believe Jesus is the almighty God. Praise Him!** Praising Jesus means telling Him how amazing He is—how good and powerful and loving. You can also thank God for the things He does, both big and small. He turns summer into fall. He brings rain for thirsty plants. Every day you can think about who Jesus is and what He has done for you. He knows everything that happens in your life. He solved your biggest problem by taking away your sin. Jesus is your Redeemer. He cares about all the things going on in your life! When you are sad or troubled, ask Him to help you. Continue to believe in Jesus—He is the almighty God. He is your Redeemer and He is doing things that show He cares for you. (*Read Jeremiah 32:17.*)

This week as you read your Bible, look for ways that God shows His power. Then praise God! Thank Jesus for being your Redeemer and remember His Holy Spirit is always with you. Let’s take a minute right now and praise Jesus for being the almighty God. (*Lead in prayer or ask several children or adult helpers to pray simple prayers of praise.*)

DISMISSAL

Hand out memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week. Remind the kids to look for ways God shows His power and thank Him for that.