





LESSON ONE

SALVATION: A CLEAN HEART

LESSON IMAGES

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ESSON SUPPLIES

- 1. Clear glass/bottle of clean drinking water.
- 2. Clear glass/bottle of dirty water.
 - Dirt/soil and small trash are ways to make water visible dirty.
- 3. Dry erase board of any size with a heart drawn on it.
 - A red dry erase marker, a napkin and spray bottle of clean water.
- 4. 16 oz plastic bottles.You will need enough bottles for every child in your group.
 - This is for the "offering DIME challenge".
 - WATER BOTTLE LABELS available to wrap bottles with advertising this challenge.

LESSON INTRO

HOLD UP A GLASS OF DRINKING WATER

ASK: Who would like a drink of this good, clean water? (Choose a child to drink some of the water.)

SAY: We all enjoy a nice drink of water, especially after playing outside, right?

But did you know that 4.2 Billion people do not have access to safe and clean water like we do here.

HOLD UP A GLASS OF DIRTY WATER

ASK: Who would like a drink of this dirty, unclean water? (Allow kids to respond/react to the glass of unclean water.)

SAY: We are so blessed to have clean water to drink, to play in, and to bathe in.

Every day, approximately 6,000 children lose their lives because of water-related diseases caused by unclean water.

THE NEED FOR CLEAN WATER

ASK: Why do you think we need water? (Allow a few kids to give answers.)

SAY: Clean drinking water helps regulate our body temperature. It keeps our joints and body tissue healthy while also eliminating waste that our bodies no longer need.

CLEAN WATER, CLEAN HEART

SAY: Just like we need clean water to nourish our bodies, we need salvation for a clean heart to nourish our souls.

Over the next several weeks, as we discuss the importance of water and our mission to "GO & MAKE A DIFFERENCE" in the world around us, we will explore stories from the Bible and connect them to the concept of water.

Today's focus will be on *SALVATION*.

Say Salvation with me on the count of 3.... SALVATION!



SAY: Today's Bible story is found in the Gospel of Luke chapter 19, verses 1-10.

This is about a man who had an unclean heart. Because of the sin in his life, his heart resembled a cup of dirty water. But then, Jesus enters the scene and changes this man's life forever!

SINFUL HEART, CLEAN HEART

SAY: Luke 19 tells of how Jesus was passing through Jericho. The man that we're discussing today was named Zacchaeus. He was a rich chief tax collector. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because of the crowd, he could not, for the Bible tells us that he was small in stature. So, Zacchaeus ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was about to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up, saw Zacchaeus, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."

SALVATION CONTINUES...

SAY: Can you imagine how Zacchaeus must have felt when Jesus stopped, looked up and told him, "Hey, I'm coming to your house today!"

ASK: How would you have felt? (Allow for a few responses.)

SAY: Zacchaeus came down from the tree in a hurry and welcomed Jesus with great joy. And when the Jews saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to Jesus, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today *SALVATION* has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

A SINFUL HEART MADE CLEAN



SAY: In that moment, Zacchaeus received salvation and his heart was cleansed white as snow.

SHOW: Display a dry-erase board with a heart drawn on it. In red marker, various sins have been written inside the heart. Examples: lying, gossip, hate, cheating, cursing...

SAY: Just like this heart here, it is unclean due to the sin in it. Lying, hate, gossip... And just like Zacchaeus, he was a sinner with an unclean heart until SALVATION came through Jesus Christ!

When Zacchaeus accepted Salvation, his heart was washed completely clean. Remember, salvation is forgiveness and cleansing of our sins that only comes through Jesus.

SHOW: Spray the washcloth with water and wipe off the sinful words written within the heart.

SAY: And just like that, our sins are forgiven when we ask Jesus to be the Savior of our life. We are given a clean heart and a fresh start.

WRAPITUP

SAY: Just as we discovered earlier, we need clean drinking water to grow and nourish ourselves. In the same way, we need the love and salvation of Jesus to cleanse and renew our heart. Through Him, we will come to grow closer and stronger in our faith and relationship with Him.

PRAY: (This is a perfect time to lead your group in a prayer of salvation.)

HOW CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

SAY: Over the next five weeks, we will be joining the DIME CHALLENGE to raise funds for sponsoring a well or filtration system for those in need of clean water through the Church of God World Missions.

Today, you will take home a 16 oz plastic bottle for you and your family to fill up with dimes over these several weeks. Each bottle filled is about \$100! What an incredible opportunity we've been given to GO & MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the world around us! Do you accept the challenge?











