

# How Are We Saved?

Romans 9:30-10:21

**September Memory Verse:** 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love."

**Opening Activity:** Choose one or two that seem most appropriate for your children to start the lesson. Feel free to work them into the lesson if your kids tend to get antsy and need an activity to regroup.

- Practice saying this month's memory verse together, along with other verses you have memorized. Say it in funny voices, say it as loudly or as quietly as you can, say it while standing on one foot. If your kids are writers, have them write it down on a pretty or cool piece of paper to hang in their bedroom. Come up with motions that you can do while saying the verse, too.
- Pray together as a family for any needs you or others have. Remember to thank Him for His blessings and what He is doing in your lives, too.
- Make megaphones. Refer to Romans 10:9, then gather empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls, markers, stickers, and other craft supplies. Let kids decorate their megaphones. Take turns yelling through them, "Jesus is Lord!" When that verse comes up in today's reading, have them pull out their megaphones and yell "Jesus is Lord!" again.

**Lesson:** As you teach God's word this week, remember that He is using your faithfulness to accomplish His good purposes... whether it seems like it in the moment or not! Don't lose heart and don't give up. The seeds you are planting NOW will yield fruit.

- Provide a quick recap to your kids: "We are still learning from the book of Romans about how to live in a way that pleases God. Romans was written by a missionary named Paul who loved Jesus and wanted others to love Him, too. We have learned that we are called to obey, to belong to Jesus, and to be holy. We've talked a lot about making righteous (or good) choices instead of sinful (or bad) choices. God rewards righteous choices and punishes sinful choices. Obeying in our hearts matters more than obeying with our hands. It is our faith in God that makes us righteous, not the things we do, just like Abraham's faith made him righteous. Because of what Jesus did on the cross, we can have victory over sin and be reconciled to God (made right with God). Jesus gives us life so that we can serve Him. We can be excited about what is going to happen in the future, knowing that nothing will separate us from God's love! We are saved for His glory alone."
- Introduce the passage: "Today, we are reading from Romans 9:30-10:21. We've talked about this before, but remember that our sins are forgiven by our faith, not by our actions. Jesus is the only way we can be saved."
- Read Romans 9:30-10:21, stopping to explain concepts or verses as you go. Ask questions to keep your kids engaged. Feel free to read a section, then review it using some of the notes below. You could also read from The Message or another kid-friendly translation to make it more understandable to kids.
  - *Key Concept: Jesus is the only way to salvation, and if we profess and believe Him, we will be saved.*
- Review the passage.
  - Vs. 30-33
    - Righteousness comes by faith alone, not by following the rules.
    - What is in our hearts is more important than our actions.
  - Vs. 1-4
    - Sometimes people can be really excited about God... but still not know Him.
    - The Jews were like that: they really wanted to follow the Law, but they didn't know God in their hearts.
    - Christ died on the cross for everyone to be forgiven.
  - Vs. 5-13
    - So how are we saved?
      - By saying (and believing) that Jesus is Lord.
      - By believing in your heart that God raised Him from the dead.
    - When we believe in our hearts, we are made right before God.
    - When we say we believe, we are saved from our sins and separation from God.
    - Anyone can accept God's gift of salvation!
  - Vs. 14-21

- The only way people can know about God is if we go tell them.
- Not everyone believes the Good News about Jesus.
- We can't make anyone believe. God works on their hearts to help them believe.
- But we are supposed to tell them anyway!
- Connect the Gospel: "When God created people, He made them good. But the first people God made, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God and became slaves to sin. Now, everyone in the world is born with a sin nature and is a slave to sin, too. The punishment for sin is death and separation from God forever. But God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth so that we could be forgiven. Jesus lived a sinless life. He died on a cross, taking the punishment for our sin and guilt. He rose to life three days later, showing that He won over sin and death. If we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, He will. Then we can know Him, be part of His family, serve Him, and spend eternity with Him in heaven. Eternal life with Jesus is our best reward for following and obeying Him. If we have faith in Jesus, we are declared righteous. That makes us want to make good choices and follow Him. The Holy Spirit helps us do that and makes us more like Jesus."
- Close the lesson: "Anyone who believes in Jesus can be saved. What great news! Let's shout it together one more time: Jesus is Lord!"
- Pray, then do some of the activities below, as appropriate for your family.

**Activity Ideas:** These are designed for use at the end of the lesson or throughout to break up the "sitting still" times. Be in tune with what your kids need in order to make this lesson the most effective for them.

- Use your megaphones to practice this month's memory verse. March around your house shouting it together!
- Sing the song, "Jesus Loves the Little Children." Talk about how no matter what we look like (red, yellow, black, or white) or who we are, we can all accept Jesus' gift of salvation and have our sins forgiven. You can also refer to Romans 10:12 – Jesus is Lord of all. Look around your family and talk about your differences (hair color, age, height, etc). It doesn't matter who we are, what we look like, or what we've done. Jesus is Lord of all.
- As always, we have a simple coloring page you can use with your children. Print the following page (or draw your own) to give them a fun, calming activity to wrap up the lesson.

Jesus is  
Lord!!

