

PRESCHOOL
GUIDE
42

GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES

FOUNDATION: GOD IS SAVIOR - GOD GIVES ADOPTION

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES

2 Kings 19:32-35; Psalm 18:1-3; 138:7; 144:1-2; Micah 7:5-7; John 14:6; Romans 1:16-17; 3:22-24; Ephesians 2:8-10

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 43:11

"I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no Savior."

BIG IDEAS

- God can save us from our biggest danger.
- We cannot save ourselves because of our sin.
- Salvation from our sin comes from Jesus alone.

BIBLE STORY: 1 SAMUEL 7:1-14; JOSHUA 23

When God's people repented of their idol worship and turned back to God, they saw Him fight for them against the Philistines. The Philistines had oppressed the Israelites, but God fought for His people to save them from their enemy. God gave the people rest from conquering the Promised Land and fulfilled all His promises to them. He is the one Savior. He, alone, can save man.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS SAVIOR - GOD GIVES ADOPTION

Separated from God because of sin, humanity has no hope apart from God Himself. God in the midst of our sin declares that He is Savior. Jesus, fully God and fully man, came to earth to willingly die to take our place. After three days He rose from the grave and He defeated sin and death itself. God being a Savior is the same as the hero of the story sacrificing himself to save the villain. God is Savior and He not only saves us from judgment, but also adopts us into His family as sons and daughters of God. Through Jesus we become a part of a new family and have a new Father.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know:

- We need a Savior because of our sin
- God is the Savior of His people



Every child should feel:

- Loved because God sent His Son to be our Savior



Every child should be able to:

- Acknowledge sins that they commit
- Talk about how God saves His people and adopts them into His family



Every child should want to:

- Experience spiritual adoption

FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD FIGHTS FOR HIS PEOPLE

God fights for His people. He does not leave them in their time of trouble. God is the one Savior of the world.



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GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE
CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES**BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 43:11***"I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no Savior."***God is the only true God.**

- There is only one God.
- All other beings that try to appear to be God are not truly God.
- There is only one God who is the Creator of the world.
- God is the only true all-powerful being.
- He alone is God and there are no others besides Him.

There is no god before the one true God.

- God has no beginning and no end.
- He is not a created being. He has always existed.
- There is no god before the one true God.
- Only God has always existed.
- All others gods are false and not the one true God.
- God is the most powerful being and He alone is the beginning of all things.

God is the only Savior.

- Because God is the Creator of all things, He is the beginning of all things.
- Only God is perfect and holy.
- He is the only being who can save His people.
- No one else is perfect like God, so no one else can save like He can.
- God is the Savior of the world.

GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE
CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES**BIBLE STORY: 1 SAMUEL 7:1-14; JOSHUA 23***God Fights For Israel*

Supporting Scripture: Psalm 138:7; Ecclesiastes 7:20; John 14:6

Teacher Introduction:

God used Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. Before they could have peace, they had to drive out the pagan nations already living in the land. God went before the Israelites and fought for them in the Promised Land. He conquered nations for them. The Israelites did not always follow after God or obey His commands. God still forgave them when they repented and eventually gave them rest from fighting the other nations. The people lived in the land for some time before they turned away from God and worshipped false gods. Because of their false worship, they were oppressed by the Philistines. God's people cried out to Him and He heard them. God had placed Samuel in charge of the Israelites. Samuel followed God and obeyed Him. God told Samuel to command the people to remove their false gods and repent of their idol worship. The people did just as Samuel commanded them and God fought for them. The Philistines came down to attack the Israelites, but God thundered against them, causing them to be confused. The men of Israel went out and attacked the Philistines, driving them away and preventing them from oppressing the nation of Israel. God fought for His people. He rescued them from their oppressors. He is the only Savior. Only He can save man from his sin.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the truth: *God Fights For Israel*. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from 1 Samuel 7:1-14; Joshua 23 and teach the truth that God is the only Savior. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the truth that God is Savior and He rescues His people.

Opening Illustration:

Help the children make their own ark of the covenant using shoe boxes and wooden dowels. Help the children first cover the lid of the shoebox in construction paper. Next, cover the bottom of the box in paper. Punch two holes on each end of the shoebox to make a place to put the dowels. Push the dowels through the holes on each end of the box. Lastly, turn the top of the shoebox facing up. Place glue along the outer rim of the box and hold the box top on the rim until it dries. Talk with the children about how God fought for the Israelites when they were in the Promised Land when they repented of their sin. God is the one true Savior.

GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE
CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES**BIG IDEA: GOD CAN SAVE US FROM OUR BIGGEST DANGER.¹****God faithfully cares for His people.**

- God is steadfast and unchanging. He does not stop loving His people or caring for them.
- God watches over His people and guides them in the right direction.
- God is mighty and powerful and He fights for His people in every situation.
- God fought for the Israelites when they faced the Philistines.
- God's people can trust Him to care for them always.



Help the children create a collage of community helpers, using pictures of firemen, policemen, doctors, etc. Help the children glue the pictures onto a piece of paper. Talk with them about how these people can save us from danger just like God saves us from our biggest danger.

God always protects His people and does what is best for them.

- God's ways are always best because He is perfect.
- God never leaves His people because He promises to never leave them.
- God watches over His people and protects them from their enemies.
- God cared for the Israelites. He fought for them and kept them safe against their enemy, the Philistines.
- God knows what is best for His people and He always does what is best for them.

God saves His people from their enemies.

- The Israelites could not defeat the Philistines, but God could.
- God fought the Philistines and saved the Israelites.
- God doesn't leave His people to struggle against their enemies.
- He fights for them and saves them from those who oppose them.
- God is a good God and perfect Father. He knows what His people need and He watches over them to protect them.
- God is powerful and mighty. Nothing His people face is too hard for Him.

Why can we trust God to save us from our biggest trouble? (He is faithful and powerful. He always fights for His people.)

1. Psalm 138:7: God is mighty and more powerful than anything else. He fights for His people and saves them in their time of trouble.

GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE
CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES**BIG IDEA: WE CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES BECAUSE OF OUR SIN.²****We are all born with a sin nature.**

- Since sin first entered the world through Adam and Eve, every person born is born with a sin nature.
- This sin nature leads people to rebel against God and seek their own way.
- Every person born is born with a heart that rebels against God.
- The sin nature of every person causes a separation between man and God.



Bring in enough balloons for each child to have one. Have the children try to toss their balloon into a basket. Give them several tries and then remind them that just like it's difficult to get the balloon into the basket, we cannot save ourselves from our sin.

Our sin nature keeps us from being righteous.

- Man's sin nature leads him to live in rebellion.
- Man's sin nature blinds him to the truth and keeps him from seeking God.
- Even the good things that man does are tainted by sin because they are not done to please God.
- We cannot be righteous on our own. We are unable to do anything to make ourselves righteous.

We are all in need of salvation.

- No person is perfect. We all have sinned because of our sinful nature.
- No one seeks God or desires to please Him.
- Because God is perfect and holy, we owe a sin debt to Him.
- We cannot pay our sin debt because we are broken and sinful.
- We are all in need of salvation.
- Just like the Israelites could not defeat the Philistines on their own, we cannot pay our sin debt on our own.

Why can we not pay our own sin debt? (We are all sinful and a perfect sacrifice is required to pay our sin debt.)

2. Ecclesiastes 7:20: There is no righteous person on earth who does not sin. We are all sinful and in need of God's gracious gift of salvation.

GOD IS SAVIOR AND WE
CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES**BIG IDEA: SALVATION FROM OUR SIN COMES FROM JESUS ALONE.³****Jesus is the only way to know God.**

- Sin causes a separation between man and God.
- When Adam and Eve sinned, their perfect relationship with God was broken.
- This sin nature is inherited from Adam and Eve and we continue sinning against God.
- Our sin leads us away from God and not towards Him.
- The only way to be reconciled to God is through His Son, Jesus.
- God sent Jesus to reconcile us to Him and He is the only way.
- When we know Jesus, we know God.



As a class, create a ONE WAY sign using poster board and markers. Let the children help you decorate the sign using markers and crayons. Talk with the children about how Jesus is the only way to know God and have salvation.

Jesus is the only way to know truth.

- Our sin blinds us to the truth.
- Our hearts are sinful and this sin keeps us from knowing the truth.
- Because we are blind to the truth, we follow the futility of the world and believe lies instead of the truth.
- When we know Jesus, our eyes are opened and we know the truth.
- We understand our own need of a Savior and can believe the truth of Jesus.

Jesus is the only way to have new life.

- Because of our sinfulness, we can never save ourselves.
- We are dead in our sin. We are broken and without hope in ourselves.
- Jesus brings us hope because He offers a new way and a new life.
- When we know Jesus, He fixes our brokenness.
- We are no longer blind to the truth. We are no longer enslaved to our sinful nature.
- We can know the truth and follow Jesus because He paid our sin debt

Who is the only way to know God and be salvation? (Jesus is the only way to know God and have salvation.)

3. John 14:6: Jesus is the only way to know God and to have eternal life with Him.

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HOOKS

**One-Way Road**

Bring in several play tunnels and set them up to create one long tunnel with several ways in and out. (Most play tunnels have doors on two sides.) Place several Bibles at the end of the one of the ways out of the tunnel. Tell the children that there is only one “right” way out of the tunnel. Lead them through the tunnel and help them find the “right” way. Once they’ve all gone through several times, lead them in a discussion about how Jesus is the only way to know God and to have salvation.



- There were several ways to get out of our tunnel.
- Only one of the ways lead us the right way to the Bible.
- There is only one way to know God and have salvation.
- The only way to have salvation is through Jesus.

**Balloon Pop Savior**

Blow up several balloons and place them in a bag or basket. Use a marker or Sharpie to write the children’s names on the balloons. On one of the balloons write the name Jesus. Have the children stand in a circle in the room and then toss the balloons into the center of the circle. Tell the children to find the balloon with their name on it. Help them locate their balloon. Show the children the remaining balloon and lead them in a discussion about how Jesus is the only way to have salvation.

- We are all sinful. We all disobey God and rebel against Him.
- Because we all disobey God, we cannot save ourselves.
- We need someone to save us and God sent Jesus to do just that.
- Jesus is the only way we can have salvation.
- When we turn away from our sin and believe in Him, we have salvation.