

What to Teach about God's Way

Good news!

Because God loves us He made a way for our sins to be forgiven. God sent His only Son, the Lord Jesus, from Heaven to Earth to die for our sins. Because Jesus is the perfect Son of God He could pay for our sins with His own blood (Heb. 9:22). Although He never did one wrong thing, Jesus let wicked men nail Him to a cross. He suffered and died on that cross for you (2 Cor. 5:21). He took the terrible punishment for your sins and for the sins of everyone in the world (Rom. 5:7-8). After three days God raised Jesus from the dead. He is living now in Heaven (Eph. 1:20).

What to Teach about the Child's Response

Jesus paid for sin. Salvation (to be saved from sin) is a free gift for all (Eph. 2:8-9). But you must choose to receive that gift for yourself (John 1:12). God's way for you to receive that gift is to believe Jesus died for you and ask Him to save you from your sin. When you believe on Jesus as your Savior He gives you everlasting life. He will be with you forever. He will help you to obey God. And someday you will be able to live with Him in Heaven.

Show the child a specific verse such as John 1:12, John 3:16 or Acts 16:31 and invite him to receive Christ as his Savior. If he makes that decision be sure he understands God's promise in the verse (assurance) and follow up with counsel for spiritual growth.

--Sally Middleton

GOSPEL OUTLINE

- **God loves you.**
- **You are a sinner.**
- **Jesus died and rose again for your sins.**
- **You must receive Jesus as *your* Savior.**
- **God's Word says you are saved.**

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*How to Lead a Child to
Christ*

ON A CHILD'S LEVEL

You realize of course there are not *two* ways of salvation—one for children and one for adults! The way to receive God's gift of everlasting life is the same for everyone. But the words used to help a child understand God's plan must be carefully chosen.

Here are some suggestions for a simple Gospel presentation. Remember your responsibility to give the Word of God clearly, then trust the Holy Spirit to speak to the child's heart and bring a response.

What to Teach about God

God is the *creator* (Col. 1:16). God is the one who made the world. He made you.

God tells us about Himself and His plan for us in His book, *the Bible* (2 Tim. 3:16). God is *holy* (Ps. 99:9). God has never sinned, has never done one wrong thing. He is perfect.

God is *love* (1 John 4:16). God loves you very much. He wants you to be able to live in His beautiful home called Heaven some day.

What to Teach about the Child's Need

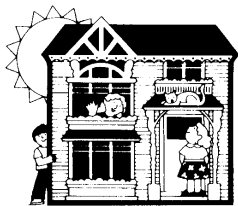
God made us and loves us yet we have not loved and obeyed Him as we should. We have not obeyed the good rules God gave us. This is sin. Romans 3:23 says that every person has sinned against God. We have all disobeyed Him.

Give examples of sin common to children. Admit you are a sinner. Give him opportunity to express that he is a sinner.

God hates sin. He says it must be punished (Rom. 6:23). That punishment is to be separated from God forever in a terrible place of punishment. You cannot save yourself from sin. Only God can save you.

How to Lead a Child to Christ





Our Home

Instructing Children

(Ephesians 6:4) "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."

The instruction of the Lord is described in three steps in Deuteronomy 6 :

1. _____ God, verses 4-7

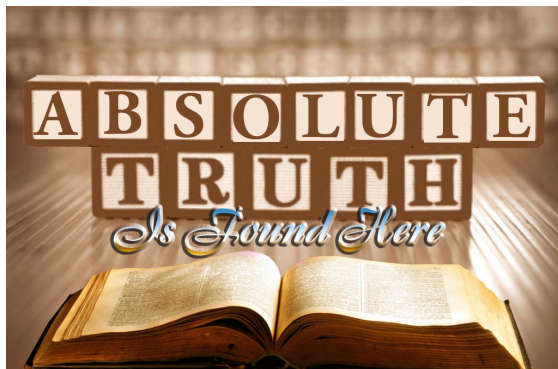
(Matthew 6:33) ""But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, ..."

(Luke 19:10) ""for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.""

2. _____ God, verse 5

(Mark 12:29-31) "Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. {30} 'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. {31} "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.""

3. Knowing the _____, verse 6 [next time]



Acting kind toward others
After they've been bad to you
Means you are being merciful,
And God is happy, too.

Oh my! Look at the huge mess. The girls were having a tea party, but now everything is on the floor. It looks like the boy's truck bumped into the table. I can tell the boy is sorry about the accident, and two of the girls are comforting him. They are saying, "It's all right. It was an accident. We'll help you pick everything up." I'm glad they didn't get angry with him. They are being merciful. You can be merciful by forgiving someone who has hurt you instead of trying to get even. God wants you to be merciful.

SOME QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. Point to the girls in the picture who are being kind and merciful.
2. What does it mean to be merciful?
3. Have you ever been merciful? Tell about a time when you helped someone who had been bad to you.

A LITTLE PRAYER

Dear God, help me to be kind to others, even when they have not been kind to me.

A BIBLE VERSE FOR YOU TO LEARN

Happy are the kind and merciful, for they shall be shown mercy.



MATTHEW 5:7