

Craft Ideas

“Jesus Saves!” Headbands

You will need: Enough cut strips of cloth for each student to have one. Fabric markers to write on the cloth.

Lead your students in writing “Jesus Saves!” on their headbands and in decorating them.

Spiritual Application – Make the most of every opportunity to get to know your students better and to find out where they are spiritually. Also, look for opportunities to share your own salvation story with them. Read and briefly discuss Romans 10:13 and what it means to be saved.

NOTE: We can sell you the strips of cloth in packs of 90 for \$30 plus shipping, or you can make them yourself from white sheets. The ones we sell are cut material and frayed edges. We suggest that you use sharpies to decorate--washable markers will smear as the kids sweat. Be sure to give the kids clear instructions on how to use the sharpies since some might not know not to mark on themselves or their clothes.

Super Sock Puppet Craft

Use socks to make sock puppets.

Use the following page to give your students ideas. Let them be creative and just have fun with them on this project.

-Put your hand in your sock. The sock shouldn't be too tight. Lightly mark where areas for the mouth, eyes, nose and ears.

-Cut out the mouth and ears from felt and glue these in the marked areas.

-Add eyes. These can be wiggle eyes that are glued on or buttons that are sewed on. You can also use felt and a variety of other items, including a markers, depending on what you are making.

-Use yarn or string for hair.

-Add all those special features that make your sock puppet unique—antlers, horns, antenna, stripes, etc.

Spiritual Application – In the same way that you created your puppet special, just the way you wanted them, God created you special too. God has great plans for you life and those plans begin by you giving your life to Christ. Read and briefly discuss Romans 5:8.

OPTION FOR OLDER STUDENTS

Instead of making sock puppets, you can also make Sock Darts to use in a game. Have your students roll up one sock and stuff it down to the toe of another sock. This will create a “sock dart” that you can sling and throw at a target. Let your students shoot at a target either in your class or go outside and try to land their sock darts inside a hula hoop.

Spiritual Application – Read and briefly explain Romans 3:23. Explain that God is perfect but we are not. We have all sinned. We have all missed the mark. That’s why we all need Jesus to save us from our sins.

Sample Ideas for Sock Puppets*



Sample Ideas for Sock Puppets Continued...*



*Images have been taken from a variety of internet sources:

<http://www.google.com/search?q=making+a+sock+puppet&hl=en&client=safari&prmd=imvns&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=zVWhT6KQJMjq2AWHtOHgCQ&ved=0CF4QsAQ&biw=1289&bih=699>

Plan of Salvation Bead Necklaces

Need:

One bead for each student of the following colors: Black, Red, White, Blue, Green, Yellow;
Strips of leather for the necklace—Be sure not to cut them too small. If they fit you, they'll fit your kids.

Use the beads to assemble a cross on the necklace as follows: (You can also see videos of other variations on YouTube, etc.)

STEP 1

Fold the leather strip for the necklace in half and slide a black bead to find the exact middle.

STEP 2

Pull the two sides of the leather together. Place red and white beads over both of the laces. Slide these to the black bead. This makes the bottom of the cross.

STEP 3

Separate the two ends of the necklace. Slide a blue bead on one side of the cord and a green bead on the other side. Slide these to connect with the other beads.

STEP 4

Pull both sides of the leather tight. Place the yellow bead over both ends of the cord.

STEP 6

Tie a knot in the leather above the yellow bead to hold the cross into place.

STEP 5

Tie the ends of the two leather cords together to create the necklace that is loose enough to slide over the student's head. Make sure the knot is sturdy and does not untie while someone is wearing the necklace.

Spiritual Application –

- Black—stands for our sin
- Red—stands for the blood that Jesus shed on the cross to save us from our sins.
- White—stands for how clean Jesus makes us on the inside when we ask Him to forgive us.
- Blue—stands for faith and obedience in following Christ (including baptism)
- Green—stands for growing closer to Jesus. How do we GROW:
 1. G=Go to Church
 2. R=Read, learn and memorize the Bible
 3. O=Obey God every moment of every day
 4. W=Worship God, which means that you live in surrender to Him.
- Gold/Yellow—The streets of gold in heaven.

If you have time, read and explain Acts 4:12 to your students.

Decorating Candles with Melted Crayons

Use butcher paper to cover the work area. You will also need a candle, lighter, and a bag full of old crayons. Have your students remove the paper coverings from the crayons. Each child will need a white candle.

The following precautions need to be carefully communicated and strictly enforced.

- A teacher must supervise the lit candle in the middle of the group.
- No one else is allowed to touch the candle.
- Nothing can be put into the flame other than a crayon *with the paper removed*.
- No crayon can stay in the flame for more than two seconds.

Each child (being closely supervised by the teacher) will take a turn holding a crayon over the burning candle and will then write on his candle with the crayon's melted wax. Be sure to tell them that the melted end of the candle is hot.

Have the children draw a cross on the candle to represent that Jesus is the light of the world. Then let the children write their names (or initials) on the candles to show that Jesus' light shines through them to the world and to add other decorative features. Be careful that crayons are not held over the flame for too long. This creates a bigger mess and the crayons are easier to write with when their ends are only slightly melted. A crayon will need to be repeatedly melted to complete each side of the candle.

Spiritual Application – Read Matthew 5:16 to your students and help them understand what it means to shine the life and love of Jesus to others.

Cupcake Torches

SAY: The Bible says that until a person gives his life to Christ, he is in darkness. In other words, he's lost because he hasn't yet "found" Jesus, who is the light of the world. Let me tell you how I "found" Jesus...

SHARE your Salvation Testimony (*Keep this short and to the point. For tips on how to share your salvation story go to www.threethirtyministries.org/salvation/how-to-share-your-salvation-testimony.*)

SAY: To help us remember that we have all done wrong things, that we are all in darkness and that we all need a Savior, we are going to make a light. Jesus is the light and a light shows someone the way. A light guides people and helps them to see. We want everyone to see that Jesus came to be the Savior of the world and that anyone, no matter what they've done, can come to Jesus. Jesus can save anyone.

SAY: Now the "light" we are going to make, is not a real light—it's a cupcake "torch" to remind us that only Jesus can show the way to Heaven. And once you're done decorating it, go ahead and eat it.

Make the Torch Cupcake

Give each student a cupcake in an ice cream cone and guide them in decorating it with yellow frosting, whip cream (with yellow food coloring) and other decorative and tasty items.

Fishers of Men

SAY: This week we're learning about how Jesus can save people and how we can share Jesus with others.

Read from your Bible Luke 5:10

SAY: When we follow Jesus we also learn how to be "fishers of men".

ASK: **What do you think it means to be a "fisher of men?"**

SAY: Instead of catching fish we catch people. We get to tell others about Jesus so that they too can give their lives to Christ.

ASK: **What do you use to catch fish?**

ASK: **What do you think you use to reach people for Jesus?** (God's word, good actions, a love for Jesus, kindness, to be willing to tell others about how Jesus saved you, prayer.)

SAY: In a minute we're going to make some fishing poles so that we can catch some magnetic fish. But on each of the fish, we're going to write the name of someone that you think might NOT know Jesus. Then when we send this craft home with you, we want you to pray that the person (people) on your fish will give their lives to Jesus.

Make the fishing pole craft.

Show the kids how to connect the yarn to the stick (which can be small rods from Walmart) and a magnet on both the end of the yarn and each of the paper fish. Also, help the kids to think through who they know who might NOT know Jesus. Help them to write these names on their fish. (Google "Fish Template for Fishing Game" to see a variety of fish cut-outs.)

SAY: Never be ashamed that you know and follow Christ. And there are a lot of ways that you can tell others about Jesus. This is part of God's plan. God wants you to be "fishers of men" but His plan for you also begins with YOU coming to know Jesus.

Extra Time

Salvation Testimony: Share the story about how and when you were saved. This needs to be no longer than a few minutes, and the point needs to be focused on that fact that you needed Jesus and how you knew you needed Jesus, that you made the choice to let Jesus be your Lord and Savior. He saved you and made a way for you to go to heaven and to have a relationship with him. Also be very clear about how a person can come to Jesus.

New Creation Craft

Use the craft on the following pages to make a “Man” who demonstrates the “filthy rags” of sin but is given a new life.

Copy the “New Life” pattern on the following page for each of your students and have them bend light-weight wire to the shape of the man in the pattern. Tape the ends of the wire together to hold it in place. *(If you teach younger students, you might want to do this part for them.)* Tell the students to wrap the figure and “stuff” him using toilet paper.

SAY: The toilet paper represents our sins, our “filthy rags”.

Take time while your students do this part to have them name some sins. Talk about why God doesn't want us to do bad things and how bad things make a mess of our lives.

Next, give each student a piece of 9x10 sized (or close to this size) sheet of aluminum foil. Many times these can be purchases as pre-cut sheets. The students will then use these to wrap the man and make a moveable figure.

SAY: The foil represents the new life that only Jesus can give. Nobody else can forgive our sins.

Take time while your students do this part to have them name some characteristics of this new life—i.e., peace, love, joy, a relationship with God, the assurance of going to heaven, etc..

Once everyone is finished, SAY: Now all you can see is the new man...the new life that Jesus gives. You can't see the toilet paper anymore. Of course, we all know that it's still there. It's not gone—It's just hidden. But when Jesus takes our sins away and gives us a new life, our sins are COMPLETELY gone.

Everybody SAY: “COMPLETELY.”

SAY: Jesus doesn't just cover up the bad stuff we've done. He removes it and gives us a brand new life, and this happens only when a person gives their life to Christ. That is the greatest decision that you'll ever make. Read and briefly discuss 2 Corinthians 5:17.

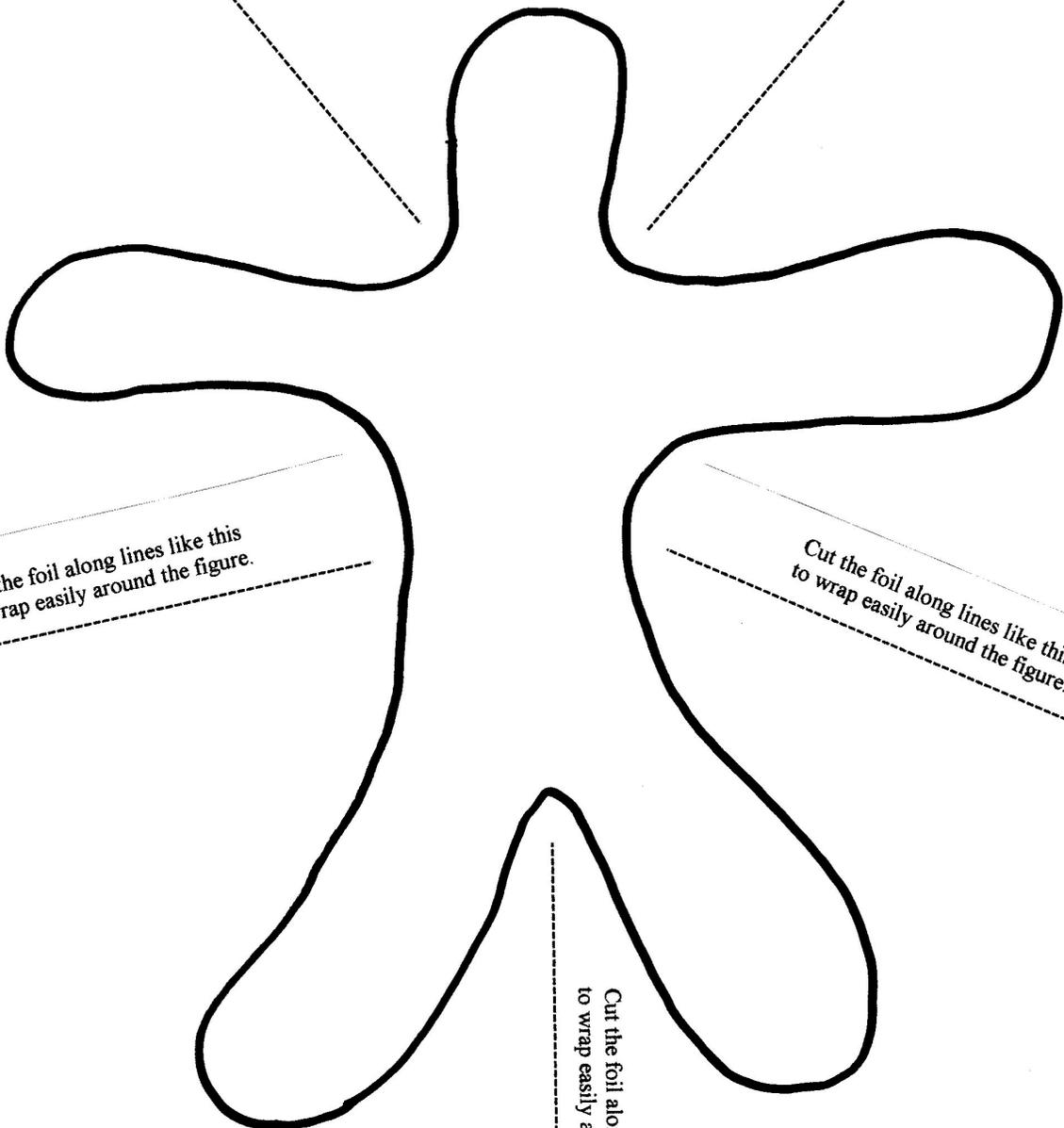
Cut the foil along lines like this
to wrap easily around the figure.

Cut the foil along lines like this
to wrap easily around the figure.

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Saved or Lost

Use a Styrofoam cup, markers, wiggle eyes, yarn for the hair, tape, hand cut-outs and pipe cleaners to create a “Cuppet Puppet.”

Craft Tips:

-Use the same pipe cleaner for both arms. Make a small hole in the cup and run it through. This will give the arms greater flexibility. You can also position the arms in a variety of poses to represent different actions.

-Cut yarn and tie it together to make the hair. Then poke a small hole in the top of the cup and pull the hair through. This will make short hair stand up more and will help long hair hang all around the cup.

-If you want, lead your kids to put a face on the front and a face on back—One side could represent people who are saved and the other side could represent those who are lost.

-Use a small piece of tape to attach the hands to the pipe-cleaner arms.

-At the bottom of the cup, have your students cut out a strip of construction paper and tape on a small banner that says, “Jesus Saves”. (This can also be written on the cup, if time is short.)

-If you have time, you can even use your “Cuppet Puppets” to act out the story of Zacchaeus, a bad man who change after he met Jesus.



*The above images came from an unknown internet source.

Bible Verse Frame

Make a frame for a key salvation Bible verse such as John 3:16, John 14:6, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, etc. You can either choose the verse for your kids or share several verses with them and let them choose one.

Give your students large Popsicle sticks to make a frame for today's key verse:

STEP 1—Make the Back

Paste Popsicle sticks to a piece of cardstock or cardboard, cut to the correct size of your frame. The sticks should completely cover this, making it look like a fence. This will be the back of your craft.

STEP 2—The Verse

Paste or write the Bible verse on top of the back you just created.

STEP 3—Make the Frame

Use more Popsicle sticks to create a frame on the front side using whatever craft items are available for additional decorations.

STEP 4—Add a Ribbon

Tap a ribbon to the back for a loop from which today's craft can hang.



Bible Verse Plate

Use a paper plate to make a frame for a key salvation Bible verse such as John 3:16, John 14:6, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, etc. You can either choose the verse for your kids or share several verses with them and let them choose one.

SAY: Today we're going to decorate plates to take home and hang up to help remind us about how much God loves us and how Jesus can save anyone who is willing to give his life to Christ.

Give each student a plate. First, have them write the Bible verse on the middle. It helps if you write the verse where they can see it and copy it. Then let them be creative in decorating their plates. They can color and draw on them, punch holes in the sides and attach ribbon, cut out tissue paper and glue the pieces on, etc. Encourage them to be creative and have fun but most of all, to remember how Jesus died and rose again to make a way to save us from our sins.