



# 10

## Jesus Obeys

### Key Theme

- Jesus is God in the flesh.

### Key Passages

- Luke 2:45–49; John 6:38; Hebrews 10:7; Philippians 2:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21

### Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe Jesus's obedience while on earth.
- Explain what Jesus's perfect obedience did for sinners.



## Lesson Overview



### Come On In

Students will review the memory verse by putting the Memory Verse Cards in order. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a friend or to the class.



### Activity 1: Jesus Obeys Class Notes

Students will fill out the Jesus Obeys Class Notes as you study the lesson.



### Studying God's Word

Jesus lived a life of perfect obedience to His Father in heaven. His righteousness is what qualified Him to die for the sins of those who would believe. The sins of believers were placed on Jesus, and He took the penalty for sin by dying on the Cross. His righteousness is imputed to believers at the moment of salvation, so they may stand righteous before God.



### Activity 2: The Great Exchange

Students will act out an activity that will explain the "great exchange."

# Lesson Preparation

## WHAT YOU WILL DO



### COME ON IN

- Print and cut out one set of 10 Memory Verse Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Print on cardstock.
- Put cards into an envelope or small plastic bag for each student. Keep cards for Lessons 7–12.



### JESUS OBEYS CLASS NOTES

- Print one Jesus Obeys Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.



### STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.



### THE GREAT EXCHANGE

- Print and cut out The Cross Sign from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Print and cut out the Sin and Righteous Labels from the Resource DVD-ROM (enough that each student will get at least one.)
- Attach the Cross Sign to the board or draw a large cross on the board.
- Attach the Righteous Labels to the board around the Cross Sign.
- Put the Sin Labels into a container or bag.



### MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME (OPTIONAL)

- This is an optional activity to use in some or all of the lessons to review the memory verse if time allows.
- Use one set of 10 Memory Verse Cards from the Come On In Activity above.
- Tape one card to the backs of 10 students.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Cards in envelope or small plastic bag for each student

- Jesus Obeys Class Notes for each student
- Jesus Obeys Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

- Student Take Home Sheets

- Cross Sign
- Sin Labels and Righteous Labels
- Masking tape
- Container or bag

- Memory Verse Poster
- One set of Memory Verse Cards
- Tape



## Memory Verse

**Philippians 2:8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.



# Prepare to Share

## SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above along with this background.

Jesus is fully God and fully man. We have seen that He was born in the humblest of circumstances. Yet He was sought after by wise men who bowed before Him in worship and praise (Matthew 2:11). King Herod sought to kill him out of envy and hatred because of who He was destined to be (Matthew 2:16).

The Bible tells us that Jesus the man lived a life of perfect obedience to His Father and to the Law of God. He was without sin. Even as a child, He understood He was to be about His Father's business (Luke 2:49). And the Bible tells us that as a child He was subject to His parents and obeyed them in complete submission (Luke 2:51). Throughout His life, though tempted in all points as we are, Jesus did not succumb to the temptations, but lived a life without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

Christ's life had been preplanned by God the Father, and the man Jesus was careful to carry out every detail, obeying the Father's perfect will (Hebrews 10:7). Jesus told His disciples that He came to carry out the commandments of the one who sent Him (John 14:31). Jesus made it clear that He only did what He knew the Father would do (John 5:19). He did not come down from heaven to do His own will, but the will of the Father who sent Him (John 6:38). And this complete obedience led Him to the humiliation and suffering of death, even death on a cross (Philippians 2:8).

It is important to grasp that while a man, Jesus obeyed the Law perfectly. His perfect obedience to His Father's will demonstrated His righteousness (1 John 2:1). And Jesus is the only person who was able to live out this full righteousness before God the Father. Why is this important to know?

The answer lies in our own sinfulness. Righteousness is something we could never acquire because of our sin nature. We have sinned and fall short of God's glory (Romans 3:23). We were born in sin and in our own strength will never overcome it. God hates sin (Psalm 5:4–6) and cannot look on it because He is pure and holy (Isaiah 6:3). And yet, Jesus tells us that we are to be perfect just as our heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48). He instructs that if we love Him, we will keep His commandments (John 14:15). This is impossible for sinful humans. As Isaiah records, we are like an unclean thing, and our righteousness is like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). We are disobedient toward the holy, just God. We are not righteous. We can never measure

up to the standard of perfect obedience to God's Law and commandments. Yet that is what God demands.

This brings us back to the perfect obedience of Jesus Christ to the Law—the Law that is impossible for us to keep. You see, Jesus was born of a virgin. He did not inherit Adam's sin nature. He was the perfect Son of God. Jesus's sinless life of obedience fulfilled the righteousness God required (Matthew 3:15). And Jesus is the only one who could have ever fulfilled it. This is where we see the grace, mercy, wonder, and glory of God in His plan for believers. The very righteousness that only Christ could attain is available to us—to all who believe—through faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 3:22). Through our faith in the only righteous one, Jesus Christ, we are made righteous in God's sight. God imputes Christ's righteousness to us when we place our faith in Him. "Imputes" means that God looks on Jesus, sees His righteousness demonstrated through perfect obedience to God and His Law, then applies that righteousness to us.

This exchange was made possible when Christ, who knew no sin, became sin for us and died on the Cross (2 Corinthians 5:21). Christ's righteousness was credited to our account, and our sin was laid on the sinless Son of God. As He suffered for our sins, He made the payment that was due from our account so that the justice of a holy God could be satisfied.

Christ lived a perfect life, and through faith we gain His perfection. At the same time, though, believers still battle sin, as Paul talks about in Romans 6–8. Though we are perfect positionally, having the righteousness of Christ, we still must put to death the deeds of the flesh. That is what sanctification is all about—God changing us more and more into the likeness of Christ.

## HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Grasping this idea of imputation is absolutely essential to understand your identity in Christ. Historically, we can actually talk about three imputations. The second and third imputations have been introduced above—the sin of man went to Christ's account when He died on the Cross, and Christ's righteousness was credited to all who would believe. We see the first imputation occurring in Genesis in Adam. Adam represented all of humanity when he rebelled against God. His sin was imputed to us—it was credited to our account (Romans 5:12). Every human throughout history has been born with a sin nature and sins in word,

thought, and deed. We carry a sin debt because of our disobedience to God. But God provided a way for the debt to be paid. God's eternal plan of redemption was put in place before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:3–6). God's plan made it necessary for God to step into His creation at some point in history to deal with the problem of sin.

Let's make an analogy. Say you were born with a blackboard representing your heart. Each time you sinned against God, that sin was written on that blackboard as a record against you. The record of those sins will be used to judge you after you die, and the judgment will result in punishment in hell. But there is a solution. God can wipe away all of those sins because Jesus has taken the penalty for those sins on the Cross. Your sins were imputed to Him; He died in your place for your sins. So now you have a clean blackboard—but that doesn't make you righteous, just neutral. This is why Christ's active obedience during His life is important.

Not only is it important that your sins were imputed to Christ, but you need Christ's righteousness imputed to you so that on judgment day, God will see you as righteous. When you repent of your sins and trust in Christ for salvation, your blackboard is not only erased, but you are given a whiteboard. And all of the perfectly obedient acts that Christ ever did get written down on your whiteboard in gilded calligraphy! Adam's sin was imputed to you, your sin was imputed to Christ, and as a believer, Christ's righteousness is imputed to you—three imputations at the core of Christian doctrine. This perfect obedience of Christ is what Paul was referring to in the book of Romans when he stated that it is by Christ's life that we are saved:

For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. (Romans 5:10)

Throughout the last 2,000 years of church history, there have been those who have attempted to tamper with the doctrine of imputation and salvation in Christ alone. Pelagius was a false teacher in the fifth century who denied that Adam's sin was imputed to mankind.

He believed and taught that man could do good deeds and fulfill the Law on his own. This is a form of self-righteousness that denies the need for Christ to fulfill the Law on our behalf. But the Bible is clear that we can do nothing good that pleases God apart from the Holy Spirit enabling us (Romans 8:6–9). Rather than our works making us righteous, once we are made righteous in Christ, we are able to do the things that please God (Ephesians 2:8–10).

The Son of God humbled Himself, coming in the form of a man so that He might identify with us and become our representative. He obeyed in full the Law that we were not able to keep so that He could give us His righteousness. As God, Jesus was able to bear the infinite punishment for sin. Let us look to Christ, the God-man, who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despised the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2). He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the Cross, that we might die to sin and live for righteousness (1 Peter 2:24). What a glorious mystery and hope-giving truth!



## BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, obedient, selfless, and righteous! You accomplished God's perfect will for your life, every day, every hour, every moment—including the humiliation and the suffering that led up to your death on the Cross. Your perfect obedience was necessary to appease a perfect God and Judge. You died for me, and for all believers, that we might live! Help me explain this mystery to my students. Quicken their young minds so they will come to you in humility, repentance, and faith. Move their hearts to understand the sacrifice Jesus made once for all, that they may be saved from an eternity in hell and, by faith and grace, enter into an eternity with the Creator and Sustainer of the universe!

- Because of the age and ability of 1st and 2nd graders to read and comprehend, we encourage you to read the Scriptures to the students. However, if you have strong readers, by all means have them participate by reading God's Word.



## COME ON IN

As students arrive ...

- They will review the memory verse by putting the Memory Verse Cards in order. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a friend or to the class.

*This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.*



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



## REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



# Jesus Obeys Class Notes

## MATERIALS

- Jesus Obeys Class Notes for each student
- Jesus Obeys Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

## INSTRUCTIONS

*Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students circle the correct answers as you study the lesson.*

We will be completing these class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work ahead. We'll do them together during the class.

## CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes today, we will see that Jesus was obedient to God, and we'll learn why His death on the Cross was so important to us.



# Studying God's Word

## READ THE WORD

- ? Refer to the Lesson 9 Lesson Theme Poster. People reacted differently when they heard about Jesus—the King of kings. What were the different ways people reacted to King Jesus? Some men loved Him! Some men hated Him!
- ? Who was the king of Judea? King Herod.
- ? What did King Herod think of Jesus? He hated Him.
- ? And who were the other men we read about? Wise men, Magi.

? What did the wise men think of Jesus? *They loved Him.*

Some men loved Jesus, and some hated Him. King Herod was one who hated Him. He was filled with anger, jealousy, and hatred when he heard about Jesus. But the wise men, from thousands of miles away, came to worship the child Jesus. They knew He was the long-awaited King of the Jews who would bring salvation and peace to sinners! Remember, when Jesus was still very young, King Herod wanted to kill Him. God protected Jesus and warned Joseph that he had to quickly leave Bethlehem. Joseph took his family to Egypt until it was safe to return. When Joseph returned with his family, he settled in Nazareth, a city in Israel, where Jesus grew up.

The Bible tells us that Jesus always obeyed perfectly—even as a child. He lived a life of perfect obedience. He never broke even one rule! He came to earth to obey God perfectly. And that is what He did, from the very beginning.

Today we will read about a trip Jesus's family made from Nazareth to Jerusalem when Jesus was 12 years old. The family had traveled to Jerusalem with a big group of people. And they were on their way home when Joseph and Mary realized that Jesus was not with the group! Of course, they went back to Jerusalem to find Him.

The Bible tells us about it. Let's read from the Gospel of Luke and find out what happened! Listen carefully so you can answer the questions. *Read Luke 2:45–49 emphasizing the answers to the questions.*

## Luke 2:45–49

### EXAMINE THE WORD

#### Observe the Text

► Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text.

? Jesus's parents thought He was lost. They went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. How long were they searching for Him? *Luke 2:46. Three days.*

Three days! The Bible says Mary and Joseph were searching anxiously—they were worried. I'd be really worried too if one of you were lost for three days!

? Where did they finally find Jesus? *Re-read Luke 2:46. In the Temple.*

? And who was Jesus with in the Temple? *Luke 2:46. With the teachers.*

? What was He doing with the teachers? *Luke 2:46. Listening to them and asking them questions.*

? When Mary and Joseph found Him in the Temple, what did Mary ask Him? *Re-read Luke 2:48. Why have you done this to us?*

Mary was concerned. They had looked for Jesus for three days. And here He was in the Temple listening to the teachers there!

- ? How did Jesus answer His mother? What did He say He was doing? *Re-read Luke 2:49. He was doing His Father's business.*
- ? Who was Jesus talking about when He said "My Father's business"? *Luke 2:49. God.*
- ? What did Jesus mean by that—that He must be about His Father's business? *Allow discussion.*

Jesus knew God the Father had sent Him. He knew that He came to obey His heavenly Father and to do His will. He knew that He must be about His Father's business and that He must obey perfectly.

Our class notes are a little different today. I want you to circle if the statement we read is true or false.

- ? Will someone read #1 on your class notes? How will you answer it? True or false? *Assign a reader. True. Circle the answer.*

Even at age 12, Jesus knew He needed to do His Father's will. Let's take a look at a few more Scriptures that tell about Jesus's perfect obedience.

- ? I'll start with a verse in the Gospel of John. This is something Jesus said to His disciples! *Read John 6:38.*
- ? Why did Jesus come down from heaven? *To do the will of Him who sent Him.*

Yes! Jesus said that He came to do God's will—the will of His Father who sent Him. He did not come to do whatever He wanted—to do His own will. Jesus was obedient to His Father.

- ? Will someone read #2 for us? Is that true or false? *Assign a reader. False.*
- It is false! Jesus came to do His Father's will. He did not come to do whatever He wanted to do. He obeyed God.

And let me read a verse from the book of Hebrews. It is talking about Jesus. Listen as I read it. *Read Hebrews 10:7.*

- ? Why did Jesus come according to that verse? *To do God's will.*
- Again, we read that Jesus came to do God's—His Father's—will. Jesus was perfectly obedient to all His Father wanted Him to do.
- ? Let's do a little review. Will someone read #3 on your class notes? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. True.*
- ? And someone read #4 on your class notes, please. What is the answer to that? True or false? *Assign a reader. True.*

Let's take a look at Philippians 2:8. This is our memory verse. Let's read it together from the Memory Verse Poster. *Read the verse together.*

- ? How was Jesus found? *In appearance as a man.*

Yes. Jesus came to earth as a man.

► Read the completed answers on the class notes together as you go through the lesson.

### John 6:38

### Hebrews 10:7

### Philippians 2:8

- ? And this verse repeats what we have been talking about. How did Jesus live His life? *He was obedient.*
- ? And what did His perfect obedience lead Him to? *Death on the Cross.*
- ? That's right! Look at #5 on your class notes. Will someone read that? How will you answer it? *Assign a reader. False.*

## Discover the Truth

Jesus came to do His Father's will. He obeyed perfectly. And His obedience to God led Him to be killed on the Cross. So # 5 is false! Jesus did not come from heaven to do His own will. Jesus was perfectly obedient and did everything He was supposed to do. His perfect life of perfect obedience led Him to death on the Cross where He became the perfect sacrifice to save sinners like you and me.



## READ THE WORD

- ? Jesus never sinned. Who else on earth is without sin? *Allow discussion. No one.*
- ? We all sin! We all disobey. Only Jesus was able to obey perfectly without sin. But what does God think of our sin? *Allow discussion.*

*Refer to the Attributes of God Poster.* God hates our sin. Why? Because God is holy—He is perfect and cannot be near sin or even look at it! And God is just, which means He must punish our sin. God demands perfection from everyone!

- ? But who on earth is perfect? *Allow discussion. No one except Jesus.*
- No one else is perfect. Only Jesus Christ. We are all far from perfect. We are sinners against a holy God. And we can never be perfect while we are living on earth.

But we must be perfect if we want to be saved and spend eternity with God in heaven. We must be righteous. We can't do that on our own. And this is a big problem. Because if left to ourselves, we would never get to heaven—we would never be good enough for God!

- ? But Jesus IS perfect! And what did Jesus do for sinners? *Allow discussion. Point out the picture on the Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster.*

Jesus died on the Cross for sinners. He was perfect, and His death was a PERFECT sacrifice for sins. Jesus had to be perfect so His sacrifice would be perfect. That is the only way God could be satisfied.

This can be really confusing. But it is explained in 2 Corinthians. Let me read this to you, and we'll talk about it and try to figure out what all this means. *Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.*

## 2 Corinthians 5:21

## EXAMINE THE WORD

### Observe the Text

- ? Who is this verse about? *Jesus.*
- ? Right. And what does the phrase “knew no sin” mean in this verse? Remember it is talking about Jesus. *2 Corinthians 5:21. Jesus was without sin.*
- ? Jesus knew no sin. Jesus never sinned. Yet what does this verse say that Jesus became for us? *Re-read 2 Corinthians 5:21. Sin.*
- ? Yes. Jesus became sin. And because of that, what are we able to become? It’s a big word. *The righteousness of God in Him.*
- ? Do you know what that means—that we became the righteousness of God in Jesus? *Allow discussion.*

Righteousness means being blameless before God. God sees those who believe in Christ as blameless—as if they never did anything wrong—because the ONLY perfect man, Jesus, took the punishment for their sin and gave them His righteousness instead. God sees all His children as righteous, as perfect, because of what Jesus has done.

### Discover the Truth

When Jesus became sin for us and died on the Cross, He took the punishment for all the sins of every person who would ever believe in Him. But He could only do that because He was perfectly obedient to God in every way while He lived on earth. He could take our punishment only because He never sinned!

He took our sin on Himself and paid the penalty for our sin, and then He gave us His righteousness.

This is called the “great exchange.” Because it IS great—for us! You see, Jesus took our sin and was punished for it. And then He gave us His righteousness so that we would be accepted by God the Father. That is the only way we could have been made perfect. Jesus is the only way we can ever get to heaven.

This exchange is given to all who will repent, or turn away from, their sins because they know their sin offends our holy God. Perfect Jesus became sin so that sinful people—like you and me—could be made righteous through Jesus.

- ? Let’s go back to the class notes. Will someone read #6 for us? Is that true or false? *Assign a reader. True.*

It is true! Perfect Jesus, the Son of God, became sin on that Cross so that everyone who would ever turn to Him and trust and believe would be forgiven.

► We suggest you do Activity 2 now. Then wrap up this important doctrine in the Applying God's Word Section.

? And what do those people who believe and trust in Him get? Someone read #7 for us. What is the answer there? *Assign a reader. True.*  
The “great exchange.” Jesus takes the sins and the punishment of sinners who believe. And God gives the sinner the righteousness of perfect Jesus!



# The Great Exchange

## MATERIALS

- Cross Sign
- Sin Labels and Righteous Labels
- Masking tape
- Container or bag

## INSTRUCTIONS

*Print and attach the Cross Sign to the board, or draw a cross on the board. Print and cut out the Righteous Labels and attach them to the board around the Cross. Print and cut out the Sin Labels and put them into a bag or container. Print enough of both labels that each student will get one.*

*Ask students to come one at a time and choose one Sin Label from the container. Read it aloud then tape it to the student’s arm until all students have a label. Discuss each label as you go. We are all sinners. God hates all sin and cannot look at sin. Sin separates us from God.*

*Then read each of the labels on the board around the Cross Sign. Remind the students that perfect, sinless Jesus became sin for us. And when sinners turn to Christ in repentance and faith, away from their sins, trusting Jesus Christ as their Lord, God places Jesus’s righteousness on them. They are forgiven of their sins. And it is as though they never sinned.*

*Now have each child come up, remove his Sin Label and take a Righteous Label from the board. The Sin Labels should now be on the board and the Righteous Labels on the students.*

**God is holy and demands perfection. He hates sin and can’t look at sin. All of us are sinners and cannot get to God on our own. But Jesus lived a sinless life. He was perfectly obedient to God’s will. Because He was perfect, He was able to take the**

punishment for all the sins of everyone who would ever believe in Him.

When we confess our sins, go to Jesus in repentance, and turn away from our sins, we are forgiven because of Jesus’s perfect sacrifice on the Cross. And not only that, Jesus’s righteousness—His perfect obedience to the Father—is transferred to us!

You each have a Sin Label on you. We know that we all sin far more than what these labels say. But this is just for an example. The labels on the board describe Jesus. He obeyed perfectly and never sinned. He was and is righteous.

I want you to come up one at a time. We will read your Sin Label, take it off, and put it on the board by the Cross. Then you can take one of these labels (on the board) for yourself.

## CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

This idea of our sin going to Jesus and Jesus’s righteousness coming to us is often called the “great exchange” because Jesus exchanges, or trades, our sins for His righteousness. This exchange can only be yours if you understand your sin, are sorry for it, believe in Jesus, and trust Him alone for your salvation. Then you will receive His righteousness and will spend eternity with Him in heaven.





# Memory Verse Review Game (Optional)

**Philippians 2:8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

If you find you have extra time, please consider reviewing the memory verse with your class using this activity.

## MATERIALS

- One set of Memory Verse Cards from Come On In Activity
- Masking tape

## INSTRUCTIONS

Allow students to look at the Memory Verse Poster and say the verse together as a class a couple of times. Remove or cover the poster before the game begins.

Tape the Memory Verse Cards onto 10 students' backs. Students will work together to put themselves in order according to the memory verse. Once they think they are standing in order, check the verse by reading the words out loud according to how they are standing.

If you have fewer than 10 students, tape more than one card in the proper order, on some students. If you have more than 10 students, assign the students without the cards to put the students with the cards into the proper order. Repeat if time allows.

We're going to practice our memory verse. Let's say the verse together a couple times. Cover the poster before starting the game.

Now I am going to tape these 10 Memory Verse Cards to 10 backs! Once I have done that, I want you to work together to get into the right order. Tape the 10 cards on the students' backs.

We'll check the verse when you are finished. You have to work together and help each other get in order. Most groups may need a time limit to encourage them to move at a quick pace. If so, let them know the limit and use a timer to count down the time. Once the students think they are in the right order, check them by reading the words out loud.

## CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Our verse reminds us that even though Jesus was fully God, He humbled Himself, came to earth, and obeyed even to death. Jesus was born in a humble and simple way, knowing that He would die on the Cross to save sinners.



# Applying God's Word

## WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Jesus obeyed His Father in heaven perfectly while He lived on earth. He didn't even sin one time! He was perfectly obedient, so He had perfect righteousness. Then when He died on the Cross, He took the sins of all who would believe in Him—and took their punishment. The perfect, sinless Christ bore sin on Himself so that those sinners who would believe, repent, and trust in Him could be forgiven.

Not only that, because of what Jesus did, God looks on believers as though they had never sinned.

Does this mean that we don't have to worry about sin anymore or that we don't need to obey God? No! It means that we are perfect in God's eyes because of what Jesus already did for us. But while we are living, we still need to live in a way that pleases God. And God gives His Holy Spirit to all believers to help us obey Him so we can grow to be more like Jesus.

## GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

Many people don't believe this truth about the "great exchange" because they believe that people have to work to get to heaven on their own. They believe that if they are "good" enough, then God will let them into heaven. They just won't believe that Jesus did it all—that Jesus already took all the punishment for our sin when He died on the Cross.

The truth is, no one is "good" enough to get to heaven on his own because we all sin.

That's what makes the "great exchange" so amazing! It is the only way we can get to heaven. God is perfect. He demands perfection. The Bible tells us that only Jesus was perfect. It was perfect Jesus who took the punishment for sins on Himself so that He could give His perfect righteousness to sinners.

This is the only way we can get to God—through faith in Jesus Christ—believing in His life, death, and Resurrection. And believing that only He can offer forgiveness of sins. We can't do it ourselves—we can never be "good enough" to get to heaven. Only Jesus could do that.

- Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

- ? Now look back at your class notes. Will someone read #8? Is that True or false? *Assign a reader. False.*

It is false! Our goodness cannot get us to heaven. It is only through faith in Jesus and what He did for sinners on the Cross that we can get to heaven.

- ? OK. And how about #9? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. True.*



## Group Prayer Time

- Praise God for the amazing way He has provided salvation through Jesus.
- Thank God for making it possible for our sins to be washed away and for Jesus's righteousness to be transferred to us.