



7

Saved by Grace



Key Passages

- Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:8

Lesson Focus

- God gives the gift of grace.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will color and “write” a letter to a friend as a reminder of the letters Paul wrote to the churches. They may also play with play dough.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God’s Word—The Bible tells us that everyone sins. But sinners can be saved and forgiven by God’s grace. And grace is a gift from God!

Song Time—Students will sing songs to help them remember the lesson of the day. Lyrics to the songs are found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Activity 1: Grace, Grace, Grace, Free Gift!

Students will play a game similar to “Duck, Duck, Goose” that will remind them that God’s Grace is a free gift.



Activity 2: Gift of Grace

Students will make a gift for someone they love to remind them that God gives sinners His free gift of grace.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will review the memory verse as they play a game and recite/sing the verse. Give them an opportunity to repeat the verse with you or after you individually.



Applying God’s Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

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



COME ON IN

- Print one Letter from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Gather supplies to decorate the letters.
- Provide play dough if appropriate.

- Letters for each student
- Stickers, crayons, ink pads, other decorating items
- Sample of completed letter
- Play dough
- Cookie cutters



CIRCLE TIME

- Print the three Lesson Illustrations from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use during the lesson.
- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- Bible
- Lesson Flip Chart Page
- Three Lesson Illustrations



GRACE, GRACE, GRACE, FREE GIFT!

- No extra preparation necessary.



GIFT OF GRACE

- Collect the supplies listed to the right.

- Small gift bags for each student
- Small treats or gifts to put inside of each bag
- Crayons, markers stickers, stamps, other things to be used to decorate the bags
- Hole punch
- Ribbon to close the "Grace Gift"



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- Print and cut out one set of the 9 Memory Verse Flashcards from the Resource DVD-ROM—preferably on cardstock. You will use these flashcards for Lessons 7–12.

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards on cardstock
- Tape or poster putty



APPLYING GOD'S WORD/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Flip Chart for Review
- Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

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

A sinner becomes a Christian when he has trusted and believed the gospel of Jesus Christ. That gospel message includes Jesus's life, His death suffered for forgiveness of sins, and His Resurrection guaranteeing that believers will live even though they die.

The sinner who has been redeemed by this gospel message lives his life as a Christian through faith. We know from Hebrews that faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). The Bible tells us that as Christians, we walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7) and that the just shall live by faith (Galatians 3:11).

This faith in Jesus Christ is the means by which God grants His children grace. And the Bible makes it clear that none of this is possible by human effort. It is a free and glorious gift given by God through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8). The grace our holy and merciful God gives to believers is His free and unmerited favor which leads to eternal life. The gifts of grace, faith, and salvation cannot be earned by any human works, and therefore, redeemed sinners cannot boast in anything they have done—these are gifts from God (Ephesians 2:9). Sinners are not saved by works of righteousness (Titus 3:5). They are not justified by works of the Law but by faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 2:16).

And yet believers are to live lives of obedience. We are to be holy because God is holy (1 Peter 1:16). Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15). He said, "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:14). These statements seem to indicate that salvation in Jesus is dependent on our obedience. These might seem to be two different and contradicting ideas. To understand this, we must look into the full counsel of God's Word.

The truth is, before salvation no one can obey God or honor Him. The hearts of all men are deceitful (Jeremiah 17:9), and all are slaves of sin (Romans 6:16–17). But, by grace through faith, sinners are brought to repentance and the realization of the gospel—what Jesus accomplished for sin on the Cross. The believer is then sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who guarantees his eternal inheritance (Ephesians 1:13–14).

We see that in all true believers, it is God Himself who works both to will and to do for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). Believers can be confident that He [God] who began a good work in them will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6). Christians

are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God has prepared beforehand for us to do (Ephesians 2:10).

Obedience is wrought in the hearts of believers by God Himself! When God grants His grace through faith, the sinner repents of sins and turns to the only one who can save for all eternity. The realization of salvation, forgiveness of sins, and eternal life humbles the believer and produces a heart that overflows with love and gratitude for God who would send His only Son to die while we were still sinners (Romans 5:8). This love for Christ simply cannot be separated from the desire to live a life pleasing to Him.

A true, forgiven believer, who has confidence in the hope of heaven, would have no other response but to pursue a life of holiness and obedience while knowing, at the same time, that his life is in the hands of the omnipotent, sovereign God directing him to live just such a life.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

One of the beautiful truths of Scripture is the truth that we are justified by faith alone, not by works. In Romans 3:28 Paul states, "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law." And in Romans 4:4–5 we read, "Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness." The Apostle Paul made it clear that God's verdict of "not guilty," and the imputation of His own righteousness to those in Christ, is by faith alone, with nothing else commending us to God. It is God's free grace that forgives us, acquits us, and counts us as righteous because of the work of Christ.

However, what we read in the book of James seems to contradict Paul's clear statements. Look, for example, at James 2:21: "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?" And in James 2:24, James states, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only." Just reading these verses, it appears that James not only says that a person is justified by works, but he seems to deny that justification is by faith alone. At least the words James uses in these verses appear to be very different from Paul's.

Before we address this apparent discrepancy, let's first keep in mind that we believe the Bible is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16). It is the very Word of God. It does not teach things that are false. It cannot contradict itself.

Jesus Himself said that the Scriptures cannot be broken (John 10:35). He commissioned His apostles to teach the church, and He promised to lead them into all truth (John 16:13). So, we have come to receive His Word—the Bible—as the very Word of God (1 Thessalonians 2:13), free from error and contradiction, because God is true; He cannot lie, and He is not a God of confusion.

Another thing we must realize is that we are finite creatures; we are sinful; we are culturally biased. And language itself can confuse us because different words often can carry the same meaning, and sometimes the same word can carry different meanings. Plus, we are removed from the historical setting of Scripture as well as from its cultural context and language.

Therefore, when we come to seemingly contradictory texts, we must, first, be humble enough to realize that we may not understand God's Word completely, given the deficiencies mentioned above. And second, we must do our best to interpret God's Word within the context of the whole of Scripture. Since God's Word cannot contradict itself, there must be a resolution between Paul and James, and we want to carefully consider God's Word. We want to be "a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Actually, the resolution between Paul's teaching and that of James is not difficult once we understand the context. Paul was speaking against the Judaizers, a group of Jewish Christians in the early church who held that circumcision and the observance of the Mosaic Law were necessary for salvation. Paul wanted to make it clear that there are no works that we can do to commend ourselves to God. We are not saved by rituals or any works of our own but by faith alone in Christ and His work on our behalf.

James, on the other hand, was responding to those who were abusing Paul's teaching of justification by faith alone by saying that it doesn't matter how a believer lives. Some were distorting Paul's teaching by saying, "If we are justified while we are ungodly by faith alone, and this magnifies the grace of God, then let's just keep sinning so that God's grace gets more glory!"

Paul teaches that works are unnecessary, but James teaches that works are essential. But, when understood in context, Paul and James are saying the same thing. The apparent contradiction is solved when we realize that Paul was speaking of those good works that an unsaved

person tries to do in order to win God's favor or work his way to heaven. James, on the other hand, was referring to those good works that a saved person performs, which gives evidence of a real, living, saving faith.

James does not teach that good works are necessary in order to gain salvation, and Paul never teaches that good works are unnecessary after a person is saved. On the contrary, Paul agreed with James that for the person justified by faith, good works are essential (Philippians 2:12–13; Titus 3:5–8; Ephesians 2:8–10). Likewise, James agreed with Paul that the only condition for inheriting the kingdom is faith and faith alone (see James 2:5 and also Acts 15 where at the Jerusalem Council James never expressed disagreement over Paul's teaching that salvation was by faith and not by the works of the law).

Those who see a disagreement between James and Paul forget that it was Paul who wrote, "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!" (Romans 6:15); and ". . . having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness" (v. 18). Thus, Paul condemns the same error James was exposing. Paul never advocated any concept of dormant faith, but rather an active, working faith.

We can thank God that we are saved by grace through faith and not by our own works or righteous deeds. But it is also true that real, saving faith will manifest itself in works. As is sometimes said, "We are saved by faith alone, but true faith is never alone."



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, I love how clear you are in your Word about salvation and works. Man has twisted this subject for 2,000 years. But you clearly say that salvation is by grace through faith. There is nothing I can do to earn such a priceless gift. But salvation isn't the end. It's just the beginning! You continue to work in the hearts of all believers to accomplish your good works through them. Our own good works can never be good enough to earn your approval. Help me clarify this important truth to my students. Allow them by your grace through faith to come to understand the gospel of Jesus Christ.

► As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart Page to keep the children engaged. When reading the lesson Scriptures, stand up, be enthusiastic, look at the children, and emphasize the answers to the questions you will be asking.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will “write”, color, and decorate a letter to a friend as a review of Lesson 5. See directions on the Come On In Document on the Resource DVD-ROM.
- If there is time, they can play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aide/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons 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 Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson’s focus. This will refresh the truths in your students’ minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs. Bring your Lesson Flip Chart, Bible, stuffed animal for prayer time, three Lesson Illustrations, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or an appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let’s pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I’m sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Confession is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today we will say prayers of confession—and tell God how sorry we are for our sin against Him.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life, and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

I'll start. Dear God, you are holy and perfect so when I sin, it comes between you and me. I want my heart to be right with you, so I will confess my sin and ask you to forgive me. I am so sorry for . . . (insert personal prayer).

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer asking God for forgiveness for the times they have disobeyed Him.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week this quarter. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? **What is sin?** *Sin is any disobedience against God.*
- ? **Who is a sinner?** *Every person is born in sin.*
- ? **Did Jesus ever sin?** *No. He lived a sinless life.*
- ? **Does everyone go to heaven?** *No. Only those whose hearts are changed and believe in Jesus.*
- ? **What does it mean to believe in Jesus?** *To trust that Jesus alone can save me.*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark today's passage before you begin.

Bible Pass Around

► Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible.* **God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number** *choose a number. You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.* **We'll start right here.** *Hand the Bible to the first student.* **As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you—remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin.** *You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it. Continue with the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

Refer to Lessons 1–4 Flip Chart Pages. **God sent His Apostle, Paul, on some long and dangerous journeys.**

- ? **What was Paul doing on those journeys? Who was he talking about?** *He was talking about Jesus!*

Refer to the Flip Chart Map Page as you teach the lesson.

► When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

Paul went on four journeys in all. He told people about Jesus. Some people believed in Jesus. But some people did not believe. Actually, they were angry at Paul because he talked about Jesus!

? Refer to Lesson 5 Flip Chart Page. What is Paul doing here? What is he writing? He is writing letters.

God used Paul to talk to a lot of people about Jesus. And God used Paul to write letters to those people about Jesus. These letters would help the church grow even more. We are going to read about something very special—something the Apostle Paul wrote about in the Bible! But first, what do we know about the Bible?

? Hold up your Bible. Whose word is in the holy Bible? God's Word.

? Can we trust God's Word? Yes!

? Why can we trust God's Word? Allow discussion.

We can trust God's Word—the Bible—because God doesn't lie! The men who wrote this Bible wrote exactly what God wanted them to write! And it is true! All of it! Today, we are going to explore three things Paul wrote about.

Refer to the three Lesson Illustrations. They are sin, grace, and gifts!

Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible, and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Show students where the book of Romans is. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.

Show Sin Lesson Illustration. First is the bad news. It is sin! I am going to read from a letter Paul wrote. It says something about sin. This is from the book of Romans in the Bible. Read Romans 3:23.

Romans 3:23

? Who is this verse about? All. Everyone.

Yes. This verse is saying something about everyone. Every person in the whole world! It is for all people everywhere!

? What does everyone do? Re-read the verse if necessary. Sin!

? What is sin? This has been an introduction question this quarter. See above. Sin is any disobedience against God.

Refer to the Sin Illustration. Sin is not nice. It is any disobedience against God! Everyone sins.

? When you don't pick up your toys at home, who gets in trouble? You or someone else? Me.

? Are the toys yours or someone else's toys? My toys.

? You would be in trouble for not picking up your toys because you are disobeying, right? Yes.

Refer to the Sin Illustration. So, not picking up your toys when you are told to is a sin because you are not obeying! And God's Word says we should obey our parents.

? We all sin! Who hates sin? *Allow discussion. God.*

Yes. God hates sin. And our sin will keep us away from God forever because He is perfect—without sin. He hates sin. That is the bad news!

But there is good news! God's Word tells us that sinners can be rescued from their sin. They can be forgiven. And they can be with God forever. How does that happen? Listen carefully as I read Ephesians 2:8. See if you can tell how sinners can be saved! *Read Ephesians 2:8.*

? How are sinners saved? Listen again as I read. *Repeat, "For by GRACE you have been saved." By grace.*

That's right. We know that everyone sins. So, everyone is in need of grace. Without grace, sinners are separated from God forever.

? *Refer to the Grace Illustration.* Can you read this sign? It says "Grace." Repeat that after me. *Repeat Grace!*

? But, where does grace come from? Listen to this and see if you can tell me. *Re-read Ephesians 2:8 emphasizing "it is the gift of God." It is a gift from God!*

That's right. Grace is a gift from God to sinners! *Refer to the Gift Illustration.*

? How many of you have ever gotten a gift from someone? *Allow discussion. Show of hands.*

? What do you get gifts for? *Allow discussion. Birthday, Christmas, etc.*

? Now, when you get a gift for your birthday, do you have to pay for it? Does the person who gave it to you say, "Now you owe me \$10 for that gift!"? *No! It is a gift!*

That's right. You don't have to pay for a gift. Gifts are free! The Bible tells us that God gives the gift of grace to sinners. It is a FREE gift from God!

? If grace is a free gift from God, do sinners need to pay for it? *No!*

No! Of course they don't have to pay God! What could we pay God anyway! He owns everything in the whole universe!

Grace is a wonderful gift! We are ALL sinners. And we ALL need God's free gift of grace! All we have to do is receive it! Take it! Trust it! Believe it. God's gift of grace will change everyone who accepts it. God's grace helps sinners to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus, so we can be forgiven and go to heaven! Because of God's grace, sinners will change. They will begin to trust God. They will want to obey Him more and more. And they will be really sorry when they don't obey Him. Grace is a wonderful gift. Grace is a free gift. And grace is how sinners are saved!

SONG TIME

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page as you discuss the new memory verse. We have a new memory verse today. This verse reminds us how we should act when we remember God's free gift of grace. The verse says, "Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing!" That means we should always be rejoicing and praying! It says, "In all things give thanks!" God gives us so many wonderful gifts—including His grace. And we should give thanks for everything God gives us. And then it says "for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

I think we can sing that song together, don't you? It is a new song, but it is fun! Listen to me first. And then I want you to sing along with me. Ready! Sing the Memory Verse Song two or three times.

? Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page. We have a new song today! What have we been talking about today? Allow discussion. God's free gift of grace.

That's right! God offers His free gift of grace to sinners. Sinners are called to receive it, trust it, and believe that Jesus paid the price for sins. God's grace changes sinners! Sing "God's Free Gift" together.

Repeat songs as time allows. You may want to add hand motions, stomping, marching, or instruments.

► Turn to the Flip Chart Song Page and Flip Chart Memory Verse Page during this part of the lesson.

► Lyrics can be found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the end of this Teacher Guide.



Grace, Grace, Grace, Free Gift

MATERIALS

- Chairs in a circle for students

INSTRUCTIONS

This game is similar to "Duck, Duck, Goose!" Have students sit in a circle facing the center. The teacher will go around and gently tap the head of each student while they all say, "Grace," "Grace," "Grace," When you say "Free Gift," that student will get up and run around the circle and back to his seat. Continue tapping and running until each student has had a turn to run. This version allows the teacher to be "it" and have more control over who is tapped. But it may also be played like the original game with students tapping and racing for the vacant space if appropriate.

Today we're going to play a game like "Duck, Duck, Goose!" I will go around the circle, tapping your heads and saying, "Grace, Grace, Grace." And when I tap you and say the words "Free Gift!" you will get up and run around the circle and back to your seat. Ready? Let's play.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

We all need God's free gift of grace. Without it, sinners can't be saved. God's free gift will allow sinners to believe in Jesus Christ, repent of their sins, be forgiven, and go to heaven!



Gift of Grace

MATERIALS

- Small gift bags for each student
- Small treats or gifts to put inside each bag
- Crayons, markers stickers, stamps, other things to be used to decorate the bags
- Hole punch
- Ribbon to close the “Grace Gift”

INSTRUCTIONS

Students will make a Grace Gift to give away to someone they love. Give each student a small bag. Have each student decorate his bag with stickers, crayons, markers, etc. Help each student write on the bag the name of the person who will be receiving it. Provide some small treats or gifts for students to put in the bags. To close the bags, fold the top over, punch a hole in it, and tie it with a ribbon.

Today you will make a Grace Gift for someone you love. *Show a completed Grace Gift bag.* First you will decorate the bag and put the name of the person you will be giving this gift to on the bag. Then you can pick from these treats to put in the bag. We will close it up with a ribbon and it will be ready to give away!

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

When you give your Grace Gift away, remember that God offers sinners a free gift! That gift is His grace! Without it, sinners can't be saved. God's free gift allows sinners to believe in Jesus Christ, repent of their sins, be forgiven, and go to heaven!



Memory Verse Review and Activity

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

MATERIALS

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards printed on cardstock (they will be used in Lesson 7–12)
- Tape or poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Review the memory verse from the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Print, preferably onto cardstock, and cut out one set of the Memory Verse Flashcards. Pass the flashcards to nine students. Ask, “Who has the first flashcard?” Instruct the student to put the flashcard on the wall or board. Do the same for the remaining flashcards until all of them are on the wall in the proper order. Then recite or sing the verse together.

We're going to practice our memory verse. Let's say it first. *Refer to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.*

Pass out the nine Memory Verse Flashcards. Good job! Now here are nine flashcards with the memory verse on them. I want you to bring these flashcards up and put them on the board while we practice the verse. Who has Flashcard #1? Continue placing the flashcards in order on the board. Refer to the pictures and say the verse as the students bring the flashcards up.

You may want to sing the Memory Verse Song instead of saying the verse. When finished, see if anyone can say the verse using the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page or the flashcards.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God's Word tells us to rejoice always, to pray always, and to give thanks for everything! This is easier to do when we remember God, Jesus, and God's gift of grace!



Applying God's Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review today's lesson using the Flip Chart.

Today we heard bad news and good news. The bad news is that everyone sins. Sin will separate us from God forever. The good news is that God offers His free gift of grace through Jesus. All people who believe in Jesus and turn from their sins will receive God's free gift of grace.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

We need to remember that grace is a wonderful gift! All we have to do is receive it! God's gift of grace will change everyone who accepts it. Because of God's grace, sinners will change. They will begin to trust God. They will want to obey Him more and more. And they will be really sorry when they don't obey Him. Grace is a wonderful gift. Grace is a free gift. And grace is how sinners are saved.

The Bible tells us that God has offered people the greatest gift of all! All we have to do is believe that Jesus took away our sins on the Cross, turn from our sins, and receive God's free gift of grace that promises forgiveness and eternal life.

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



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for His free gift of grace!
- Praise God that Jesus took the punishment for sinners on the Cross.
- Pray that more people will receive God's gift of grace.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16–18

(To the tune of “Are You Sleeping?”)

Rejoice always,
(Are you sleeping?)

Pray without ceasing,
(Are you sleeping?)

In everything
(Brother John?)

Give thanks;
(Brother John?)

For this is the will of God
(Morning bells are ringing,)

In Christ Jesus for you.
(Morning bells are ringing,)

1 Thessalonians
(Ding, ding, dong,)

5:16–18
(Ding, ding, dong,)

GOD’S FREE GIFT

(To the tune of “London Bridge”)

Take it, trust it and believe,
(London Bridge is falling down,)

And believe, and believe.
(Falling down, falling down.)

Take it, trust it and believe,
(London Bridge is falling down,)

God’s free gi-ift.
(My fair lady!)

Take it, trust it, and receive,
And receive, and receive.

Take it, trust it, and receive,
God’s gift of gra-ace!

Think of fun ways to sing. Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction. Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out! Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.