

Parent Take Home Sheet

Week 45 | Sunday, November 8, 2026

Why the Cross Matters: Salvation Explained

Bible Passages: Romans 3:23-26; Romans 5:6-11; Ephesians 2:8-10

Big Idea: Jesus died for our sins and rose again so that everyone who turns from sin and trusts Him can be forgiven and receive new life.

This Week's Memory Verse

"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8

Help your child understand: Jesus didn't wait for us to become perfect before He loved us. He knew we needed forgiveness, and He willingly died to save us.

Try this: Say the verse together three times. Then ask your child to explain what it tells us about Jesus' love.

What Your Child Learned

Last Sunday, we learned that Jesus died on the cross. This week, we explored why His death matters.

God created us to know and love Him, but every one of us has sinned. Sin means doing what is wrong in God's eyes, and it separates us from Him. Because God is perfectly holy and just, He cannot simply pretend sin doesn't matter.

We cannot erase our sins by doing enough good things. That's why God sent Jesus.

Jesus is God the Son. He lived without sin, willingly died in our place, and rose again. Because of what Jesus has done, everyone who turns from sin and trusts Him can be forgiven and receive eternal life.

The Bible calls this **grace**, God's undeserved kindness. Salvation is His gift, not something we earn by being good (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Let's Talk About It at Home

1. Why did Jesus die on the cross?

Suggested answer: Jesus died for our sins so we could be forgiven and brought back to God. He never sinned, but He willingly took our place (1 Peter 3:18).

2. Can we earn our way into heaven by being good?

Suggested answer: No. God wants us to do good, but good deeds cannot erase our sins. Jesus saves us when we trust Him (Ephesians 2:8-10).

3. What does it mean to trust Jesus?

Suggested answer: It means believing Jesus is God's Son, trusting that He died and rose again, and turning away from sin to follow Him.

4. What should we do when we make a wrong choice?

Suggested answer: We can tell God the truth, ask His forgiveness, take responsibility, and seek to make things right. Jesus helps us grow (1 John 1:9).

A Question Your Child Might Ask

"If God loves us, why did Jesus have to die?"

God loves us, but He is also perfectly good and just. Sin is serious, and we cannot save ourselves. Jesus willingly died for our sins so that God could forgive us without ignoring what is wrong. His resurrection shows that death did not defeat Him (Romans 3:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

History also supports that Jesus was crucified under Pontius Pilate. Our understanding of why His death saves us comes from Scripture.

Try This as a Family

The Gift of Grace: Give your child a small gift, perhaps a handmade card or a favorite snack. Explain that they don't have to earn it.

Then say, "This reminds us that salvation is God's gift through Jesus. We can't earn it, but we can receive it by trusting Him."

Read Ephesians 2:8-10 together. Talk about one kind thing your family can do this week to thank God, not to earn His love.

A Prayer to Pray Together

Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us even when we do wrong. Thank You for sending Jesus to die for our sins and rise again. Forgive us, help us trust Jesus, and teach us to follow Him. Thank You for Your wonderful gift of grace. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Final Thought for Parents

You don't need to know every answer to help your child grow in faith. Read the Bible together, welcome their questions, and remind them that Jesus is alive and able to save.

If your child wants to know how to become a Christian, explain that salvation comes through turning from sin and trusting Jesus, not through repeating special words. You can pray together and help your child understand the good news at their own pace.

Remember: The cross shows us how serious sin is, how wonderful God's love is, and why Jesus is the Savior we all need.