Lesson 2: Jesus Is the Lamb of God

Overview:

Key Focus: Jesus fulfilled God's plan to remove sins.

Bible Story: Jesus's Job on Earth

Scriptures: Genesis 2:15–17, 3:23–24; Romans 6:23; John 1:29–36

Memory Verse: John 1:29 (NKJV) The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Playdough

Classroom Prep:

- Before class print out the following 7 questions and tape each question under different chairs or hide around the room.
  1. What is sin?
  2. What did sin do to people's relationship with God?
  3. How could their sin be removed and their relationship with God restored?
  4. Who could fix the sin problem?
  5. What was special about the town where Jesus was born?
  6. What special name was Jesus called?
  7. How did the price of sin get paid?
- Make a sign "Lamb of God" and tape it to a chair.
- Make two copies of today's Declaration.

Engage:

Name an item and have the children guess the price to buy the item, such as a candy bar $1, a

soccer ball $20, a ticket to a water park $50, a Play Station $500, a new car $30,000, a house $400,000. **What are some things that money can't buy?** (Possible answers: happiness, laughter, true friendship, parent's love, an A on a test)

Today's Bible story is going to reveal something that money couldn't buy, but the cost was extremely high. In order to figure out what I'm talking about, I have some questions to guide our conversation. Look under your chairs (or in the room) **to find the questions. When I ask for your numbered question, please read it to us.**

Memory Verse Activity:
Display the verse and arrange chairs in a circle. If you have a large group, make two circles. Place a sign "Lamb of God" on one chair. Have everyone sit in a chair and say the verse together. Each time a word is spoken, the children move to the chair on their left. Continue until the verse is finished. The child sitting in the "Lamb of God" seat says the memory verse. Repeat this activity several times.

Memory Verse: John 1:29 (NKJV) The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
*****_Depending on your group, you may want to use only the last part of the verse._

Bible Story:

Hold up your Bible and have the children repeat after you: **This is God's Word.** (repeat) **Every word of it is true.** (repeat) **God speaks to me through His Word.** (repeat) **I love God's Word!** (repeat)

Today we will search through God's Word on a quest to find what money can't buy but it has an extremely high cost. Let's start our quest with question number 1. (What is sin?) **The book of Genesis tells us that God created everything and only people were created in His image.** Read Genesis 2:15–17. **Where did God put Adam?** (God put Adam in the Garden of Eden.) **What job did God give Adam?** (God told Adam to take care of the garden.) **What was the only rule?** (God's only rule was not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.) **God took a rib from Adam and created Eve. They were together in the garden where God came and spent time with them. But Genesis 3 tells us the serpent tempted Eve to take the fruit from the tree that God told Adam not to eat. She took it and gave it to Adam—both Adam and Eve broke God's only rule. So, now we can see that sin is disobeying God.**

Let's read question number 2. (What did sin do to people's relationship with God?) Read Genesis 3:23–24. **What did sin do to people's relationship with God?** (God sent them out of the garden.) **Sin broke the special relationship between God and people. How do you think Adam and Eve felt about their sin that caused them to leave the Garden of Eden?** (Possible

answers: angry that they disobeyed, sad, mad at the serpent for tempting Eve) **Do you think they wanted to be in relationship with God again?** (Yes.)

Let's read question number 3. (How could their sin be removed and their relationship with God restored?) **Did God give Adam and Eve the option to work hard and earn back the relationship?** (No.) **Did God suggest an amount of money to pay and He would forgive the sin**? (No.) **God wanted to be in a relationship with people, but there was no way that people could get rid of their sin and fix their relationship with God. It was hopeless for Adam and Eve to fix the problem caused by their sin. But God had the plan to fix the sin problem.**

Let's read question number 4. (Who could fix the sin problem?) **The sin problem wouldn't be easy to fix.** Read Romans 6:23. **In order to pay for sins, blood needs to be shed through death. The Old Testament tells us that people brought a lamb or other animal to the priest and the priest would offer an animal sacrifice for people's sins. There were more and more people and more and more sin. That was God's plan until someone could fix the sin problem once and for all. The person to fix it would have to be perfect and never sinned. No person in this room is perfect and without sin, even the pastor of this church isn't perfectly sinless. God the Father's plan meant that God the Son would come to the earth as a human and offer Himself as the sacrifice. Only Jesus could pay the price for all sin.**

Let's read question number 5. (What was special about the town where Jesus was born?) **What is the name of the town where Jesus was born?** (Bethlehem) **I'm going to tell you something amazing about Bethlehem. All around Bethlehem are pastures with lots of good grass for sheep. The shepherds would take care of the sheep and then those sheep were used in the temple for the sacrifice of sins. David was a shepherd in those fields of Bethlehem before he killed Goliath and later became King David. Do you remember who the first visitors were when Jesus was born in Bethlehem?** (shepherds) **The very shepherds, who were watching over the sheep for the temple sacrifice, went to see the little baby who would become the sacrifice for sins!**

Jesus grew up and one day His cousin John was baptizing people and saying that God would send someone who could fix the sin problem. As John was talking, Jesus showed up! Let's read question number 6. (What special name was Jesus called?) Read John 1:29. **What special name was Jesus called?** (the Lamb of God) **What did John say was Jesus' job on Earth?** (Jesus' job was to take away the sin of the world.) **The people standing around John could see that Jesus was a man. I'm sure they wondered how a man could fix the sin problem because no person had been able to fix or pay the price of sin yet. John knew that Jesus wasn't an ordinary man, so he told the people what he knew about Jesus.** Read John 1:30–36. **What other name did John call Jesus?** (the Son of God) **John confirmed to everyone that Jesus was both the Son of God and the Son of Man, exactly what we learned in last week's lesson.**

Let's read question number 7. (How did the price of sin get paid?) **The New Testament tells us that even though Jesus did not sin, He loved us so much that He was willing to pay the ultimate price for sin—His death on a cross. Jesus was the sacrifice —the Lamb of God— who**

gave His life so we could be forgiven of our sins and in a relationship with God. All we have to do is accept Jesus' payment of His life to cover the price of our sins. Jesus did the hard part, to accept Jesus paying for our sins. It is like when you go to a store and buy something and as you leave, the store might check your receipt to verify that you did pay for the items. All we have to do is accept Jesus' receipt showing He already paid! Cheer for Jesus paying the price of sin.

Bible Story Questions:

- **What is sin?** (Sin is disobeying God.)
- **What did sin do to people's relationship with God?** (Sin broke the relationship with God.)
- **How could sin be removed and relationship with God restored**? (Blood had to be shed through death to remove the sin and restore the relationship with God.)
- **Who could fix the sin problem?** (Only Jesus could fix the sin problem.)
- **What was special about the town where Jesus was born?** (The lambs sacrificed in the temple came from the pastures around Bethlehem.)
- **What special name was Jesus called?** (Jesus was called the Lamb of God.)
- **How did the price of sin get paid?** (Jesus paid the extremely high price of sin by dying on a cross.)
- **What do you need to do to have the price of your sins paid?** (The only thing I can do is to accept what Jesus already did!)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Divide the group into two teams and have them line up. Set a chair at the opposite end of the room and place a copy of today's Declaration on each chair. When you signal, the first person in each line hops to the chair and reads or repeats (have a helper ready to read for the child) today's Declaration. After completing the statement, the child walks backward to the end of the line and the next child in line repeats the activity. Continue several times so each child participates at least once.

Craft Idea:

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Help the children roll out long playdough snakes and form the letters to spell JESUS. If you have stuffed lamb toys, let the children use them to repeat, "Jesus is the Lamb of God."

Discussion:

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Sacrifices or offerings were made during the Old Testament times because Jesus hadn't come to pay the price for sin yet. Have small groups research the five different types of Old Testament sacrifices. Depending on the size of your group, each group could read and report about one type of sacrifice, or work together as a whole group to learn about all five sacrifices. Sacrifices: burnt offerings (Leviticus 1:1–3; Genesis 8:20, 22:13; Exodus 10:25–26, 32:6), grain offerings (Leviticus 2:1–11), peace offerings (Leviticus 7:11–21), sin offerings (Leviticus 4:1–3), trespass offerings (Leviticus 5:14-19), and peace offerings (Leviticus 7:11–21).

Worksheet:
Help the students complete the word search. Allow them to work in pairs. If students finish early, on the back of their papers, have them write a prayer of thanks to Jesus the Lamb of God.

Affirmation/Declaration:
Jesus was sinless. I am sinful.
Jesus paid the price for my sins, and all I do is accept it.

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
The concept of right/wrong and punishment for doing wrong is being eroded in today's culture. Just because moral absolutes change in a society, it doesn't mean God changed His standards or the price of sin. Love compelled Jesus to sacrifice Himself for our salvation. Encourage the children to live their biblical worldview no matter what others say or believe about right and wrong.

Missions Connections:
Many religions don't talk about forgiveness of sins but demand doing good things to outweigh the bad things. The fear is that a person never knows whether their good deeds are more than their bad ones. When we accept Jesus' sacrifice, we have peace because our debt is paid. Pray for missionaries to have opportunities to share about Jesus the Lamb of God. Remind the children that when they say "yes" to Jesus, they are part of the Great Commission to tell the world about Jesus. Their mission field is wherever their feet take them! Challenge the children to share about Jesus with at least one person this week.

Family Connection:
Today's lesson focused on Jesus was the only person who could pay the price for sins. Talk about the household things that need to be paid for and who pays for them, such as food, electricity, bed, clothes, etc. Have your child thank the person who paid for each thing mentioned. Then mention that sin was paid for by Jesus and thank Jesus. Ask your child whether he or she would like to receive salvation and pray together.

Prayer Points:
Invite children to repeat this prayer to receive God's love gift of salvation.

Dear God,
Thank You for sending Jesus to fix the sin problem by dying on the cross for my sins. I know that I have sinned, and I am asking to be forgiven. I trust in Jesus as my Savior, and I choose to follow Him. Thank You for loving me and giving me the gift of eternal life.
In Jesus' name, amen.

Name _____

Lesson 2: Jesus Is the Lamb of God

Find the 20 ***bold*** *words in the puzzle.*

Adam and **Eve** broke God's only **rule** and **sinned**. The **price** of sin is **death**. In the Old **Testament**, the **priest** offered sacrifices of **animals** to **pay** for sins. **Jesus** came to the **earth** and **lived** a **life** without sin. He was **born** in **Bethlehem**, the **town** where the priests got the lambs for sacrifice. Jesus is the **Lamb** of **God**. He was the **sacrifice** for our sins.

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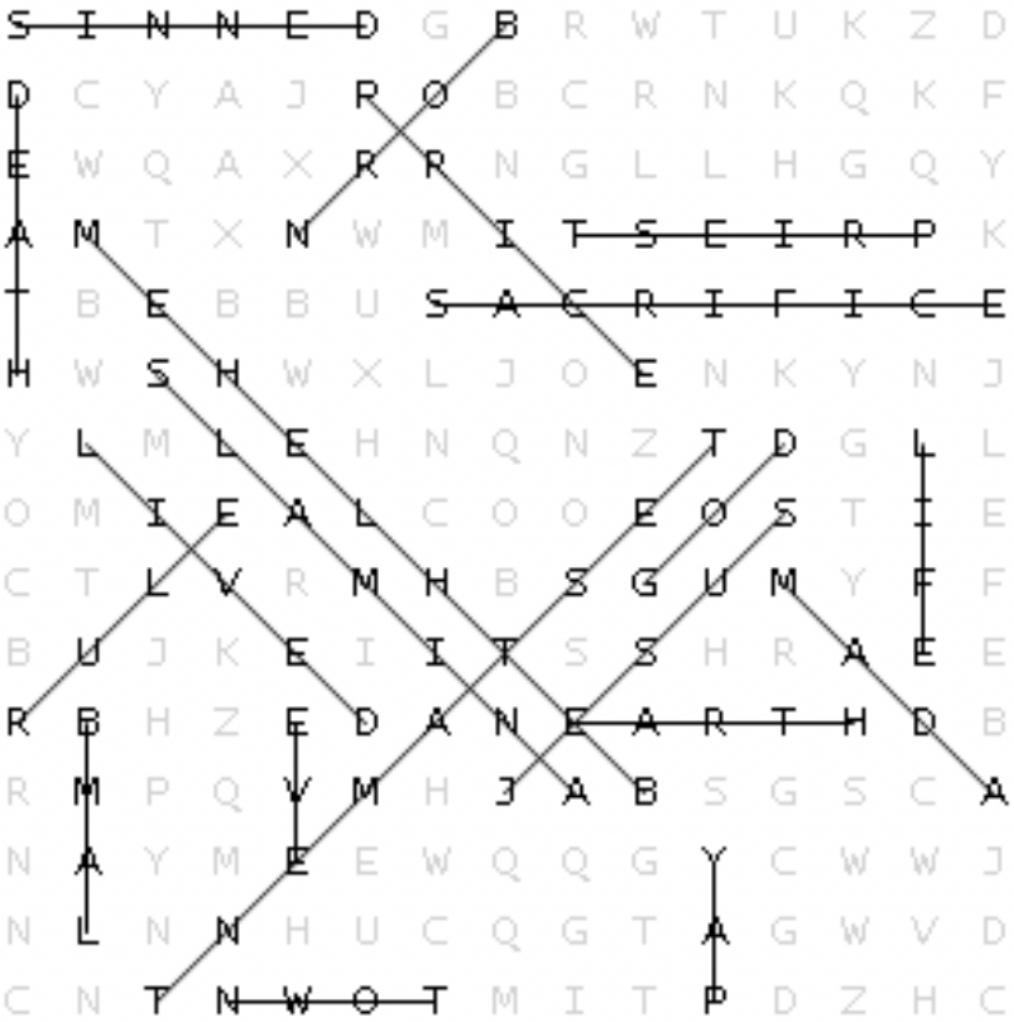
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ANSWERS

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