Lesson 3: We Are Redeemed

Overview:

Key Focus: Through Christ, we are redeemed from the curse.

Bible Story: The Great Exchange

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 28:15, Colossians 1:14, Galatians 3:13

Memory Verse: Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Two clear cups, water, and a variety of condiments or spices
- Small ball
- Gather items to represent curses of the Law: sickness (bottle of medicine or cough syrup), poverty (empty coin purse or wallet), slavery to sin (sign saying SIN), and spiritual death (picture of gravestone with R. I. P.). Put the items in a bag.
- Gather items to represent redemption from the curses: healing (sign saying HEALING), prosperity (bag of coins or pretend money), freedom from sin (symbol of a cross), and heaven (sign saying HEAVEN). Put these items in a different bag than the curses.

Classroom Prep:

- Print out two copies of this lesson's Declaration/Affirmation.

Engage:

Display one clear cup of water. Add the condiments as you talk about the cup being your life but each sin during your life is like the condiments you are adding. **This cup is full of things I don't want to drink. If this is my only cup and the only way for me to get rid of this mess is to drink it, I would have to so that I could have a clean cup again. When my life is full of my sins**

of not obeying God's ways, it is quite a mess. The only way to get rid of those sins is to pay the price for the sins. Pick up the cup and act like you will have to drink it. Then have a helper come and switch the cup and drink the clean water. **I'm so grateful that I was saved from drinking that mess and the cups were exchanged so that I could drink the clean water. Today we are going to learn about a big exchange that happened for each one of us.**

Memory Verse Activity:
Display and discuss the verse. Gather the group in a large circle and toss the small ball to someone who says the first word of the verse and passes the ball to the person on his/her right to say the next word. At the end of the verse, the last child throws the ball to someone and starts the verse again.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Bible Story:

Hold up your Bible and point to the sections that are the Old Testament. **In the Old Testament, God spoke to Moses and gave the Law so people would know what God expected. The list of rules is called the Ten Commandments, and no one can keep all of the rules. The purpose of the rules was to show that people aren't able to be perfect. Since everyone breaks the rules, everyone is guilty of breaking them and sinning.**

Read Deuteronomy 28:15. **The next 53 verses tell the curses and bad things that will come upon the people who don't obey what God says. Let's talk about four of these curses that belong to people who don't follow God's ways.** Select four volunteers to take an item from the bag and talk about what it represents. Have them stay in the front holding their item. **These verses list curses of sicknesses, problems with their food crops that would cause them to be poor, slavery by their enemies, and death. We know God is love, but these things don't sound very loving. Would God leave people without a solution to the sin problem and curses?** (No.) **The plan was created at the time of creation, but the plan didn't happen immediately after sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God.**

God's plan meant that there would have to be payment for the sin. Someone would pay the price and exchange places with the people who owed the debt caused by sin. God planned for Jesus to come to the earth to redeem us. Redeem means to exchange something for something else. Jesus exchanged Himself for all of us who sin. He took on our debt of sin and all the curses of the Law. Jesus could redeem us from sin because He lived a perfect life. He chose to die on a cross to pay the price of all sin. He exchanged places with us. We should have to pay for our sins, but He did. Read Colossians 1:14. **When Jesus paid the price of sin and His blood bought our forgiveness of sins, we stopped being under the curse of the Law. The great exchange happened at the cross.** Read Galatians 3:13. **This verse makes sure**

everyone understands the great exchange was done, and now people can accept Jesus' payment of sin and be saved from sin's curses talked about in the Law of the Old Testament.

Jesus redeemed His followers from those curses of sin. He exchanged the curses for His blessings. Take the second bag and as you take out an item, exchange it with the item representing the curse. **Sickness was exchanged with healing** (sign saying HEALING). **Poverty was exchanged with prosperity** (bag of coins or pretend money). **Slavery to sin was exchanged with salvation and freedom from sin** (symbol of a cross). **Spiritual death was exchanged with** heaven (sign saying HEAVEN). **We can receive these exchanges when we say "yes" to Jesus paying for our sins and become part of God's family. Christian is the name we call believers in Jesus who have accepted His gift of salvation, which is the forgiveness of sins.** Lead a cheer for Jesus Christ redeeming Christians.

Bible Story Questions:

- **Why did God give rules or the Law?** (God gave rules to show people that they weren't perfect.)
- **What were four of the curses of the Law?** (There were four curses: sickness, poverty, slavery to sin, and spiritual death.)
- **What does "redeem" mean?** (Redeemed means to exchange things because the price was already paid or purchased.)
- **What did Jesus redeem Christians from?** (Jesus redeemed Christians from the curse of the Law, which is paying the price of sin.)
- **What things did Jesus exchange for the four curses of the Law? (**Jesus exchanged the curses for healing, prosperity, salvation from sin, and heaven.)
- **Which of the four things you've been redeemed from are you happiest about receiving?** (Answers will vary.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Divide the group into two teams and have them line up. Set two chairs 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 their line's chair and reads or repeats (have a helper ready to read for the child) today's Declaration. After reading the statements, 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.

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Set a chair in the center of the children sitting in a circle. **Whoever sits in that chair has to pay the price for sin. Who will pay?** Have the children shout, "Jesus." **Whoever sits in that chair gets blessed by God. Who wants to sit in the chair now?** Select a volunteer

to sit in the chair and have everyone say, "__ is blessed by God." Continue this pattern until every child has participated by sitting in the chair.

Discussion:

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Lead a Bible study of the curses listed in Deuteronomy 28:15–68. Point out how awful it would be to live under all those curses, but we are free from them through Jesus' blood that redeemed us.

Worksheet:
Guide the children to find Ruth in their Bibles. Read the page together and select someone to read the verse containing the answer. Have the children write in the answer. After children have filled in the story of Ruth, help them write every other letter to discover the word "Redeemer" completes the final sentence. On the back of their papers, have them draw a picture of Ruth's redemption or write an interview with her about her redemption story.

Affirmation/Declaration:
Christ redeemed me from the curse.
God is for me, not against me.
I am blessed and not cursed.

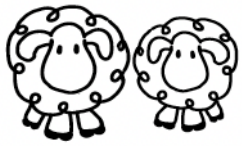
Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
Many people don't understand that Jesus redeemed them from the curses of the Law. It isn't negative to teach children about the Law, they need to learn that they are sinners who aren't perfect. When people of all ages understand the Law condemns them, Jesus's offer of salvation and redemption from the curse of the Law becomes the answer they need to the sin problem. As the children learn the truth, they can share the Redeemer with everyone they talk to at school, home, and neighborhood. When children live showing they are redeemed, others can see God's Word in action.

Missions Connection:
Many cultures have strict rules that must be followed. They don't know about Jesus the Redeemer who died to set them free. Pray that missionaries have divine opportunities to share about salvation and the exchange that Jesus did to pay for all sin. Let the children take turns praying for your church's missionaries, and missionaries in their favorite countries.

Family Connection:
Children understand the power of grace shown by not receiving a consequence they deserved. Talk about situations where your child has been the recipient of being redeemed from a punishment for breaking a house rule. Remind your child about being redeemed by Jesus from a worse punishment of sin. Look for situations this week that your child might be able to receive or offer redemption.

Prayer Points:
Take time to pray for any prayer requests shared by the children. Then have the children take turns saying thank you to God for redeeming them. Remind them we pray to God the Father in the name of Jesus.



Name _____

Lesson 3: We Are Redeemed

The story of Ruth shows a picture of being redeemed.
Look up the verses. Use the correct word to fill in the story.

Ruth 1:5 The story begins when Naomi's husband and sons _ _ _ _.

Ruth 1:19 Ruth would not leave her mother-in-law. They went to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Ruth 2:2 They were poor, so Ruth picked _ _ _ _ _ in the field.

Ruth 4:9 Boaz _ _ _ _ _ _ _ all that belonged to Naomi's husband.

Ruth 4:14 Blessed be the LORD has not left you without a close _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to be your redeemer.

Ruth 4:15 Naomi's grandson was a restorer of _ _ _ _ in her old age.

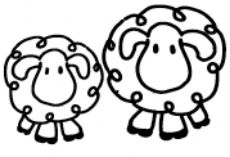
Ruth 4:22 Ruth's son Obed was the grandfather to _ _ _ _ _.

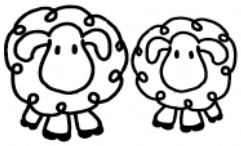
Write the first letter and skip the next. Continue this pattern to discover the word.

R N e v d p e l e k m w e a r s

Jesus is our _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a picture or write a journal entry for Ruth.*





ANSWERS

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Ruth 1:5 The story begins when Naomi's husband and sons died.

Ruth 1:19 Ruth would not leave her mother-in-law. They went to Bethlehem.

Ruth 2:2 They were poor, so Ruth picked grain in the field.

Ruth 4:9 Boaz bought all that belonged to Naomi's husband.

Ruth 4:14 Blessed be the LORD has not left you without a close relative to be your redeemer.

Ruth 4:15 Naomi's grandson was a restorer of life in her old age.

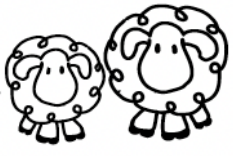
Ruth 4:22 Ruth's son Obed was the grandfather to David.

Write the first letter and skip the next. Continue this pattern to discover the word.

R N e v d p e l e k m w e a r s

Jesus is our R e d e e m e r.

BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a picture or write a journal entry for Ruth.*



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