

BELIEVE AND CONFESS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ROMANS 10:9-17



The STORY

Read about believing and confessing in Romans 10:9-17.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What does Paul say we should do in this passage? (We should confess with our mouths that Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead.)
- What does it mean to confess with your mouth? (That's just another way of telling us that we should speak it or say it with our mouths to others. Confession can be a telling of what we did wrong or it can be a telling of what we believe. Here Paul means to tell others what we believe about Jesus.)
- What does it mean to believe in your heart? (Your heart is that place where you have hope and trust, love and hate. God wants you to believe with all your heart.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: person praying with their heart showing with a cross and a drop of blood. Engage the children by asking:

- Why is there a cross on the person's heart? (That represents his belief in his heart that Jesus died and was raised from the dead.)
- Why is there a drop of blood in the heart? (To remind us that Jesus shed His blood on the cross to cover our sins.)
- Who helps a person go from having a sinful unbelieving heart to a trusting faith-filled, believing heart? (God changes our hearts by the power and work of the Holy Spirit.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- What did Paul mean when he wrote, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news"? (It is a beautiful thing for people to tell others about Jesus.)
- What is the good news that people tell others about? (The good news is the message of the Gospel that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins and then rose again on the third day that we might be justified.)
- Why is it important to preach the Gospel to those who have never heard? (The Bible tells us that the Gospel story is the power of God unto salvation. It is our joy to share the story with others and watch God use it to open their blinded eyes. We are all called to share the wonderful news of the Gospel.)

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

This is one of the clearest passages which indicate our responsibility toward God in order to receive salvation.

We must believe that the Jesus who was crucified was also raised from the dead. Though this belief is a requirement for salvation, we don't just believe unless God extends his saving grace to us since we were completely dead in our sins. When we hear the words of the Gospel, the Spirit of God uses them to effect change in our heart so that we might believe and confess.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

