



GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL: Family Guide

Talking about the gospel, the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, may lead to some questions. It may move kids to think about taking steps towards following Jesus. With simply a Bible and prayer, you have everything you need to have a conversation with your child about following Jesus. This page has some simple language to help you have that conversation. If your child isn't ready to make this choice, that's okay! Continue to pray with and for your child that one day he or she will be ready.

GOD'S BIG STORY



1. CREATION

The Bible tells us that God created everything. It was perfect! God lived with His people and their hearts were filled with happiness. Nothing ever made them sad or lonely or sick or afraid. This is how God wants it to be.

God created us because He loves us. He will never force us to love Him back and gives us a choice whether we want to have a relationship with Him.



2. FALL

Satan, God's enemy, tells Adam and Eve the big lie, that God didn't really love them. Adam and Eve believe they don't need God. They do what they want instead of what God wants, which is called sin, and it separates Adam and Eve from God.

This is the Fall. Sin causes God's perfect creation to become broken. People experience sadness, loneliness, sickness, and fear. This is not how God wants the world to be.

We see how the world is broken around us today: people do not care for God's creation. People are unkind to each other. We see this inside of us, too. We think, say, and do things that upset God because it hurts His creation. Just like Adam and Eve, our sin keeps us from being with God. God is perfect and can't be close to our sin.

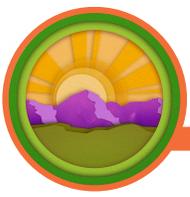


3. RESCUE

From the very beginning, God promised to send a rescuer. In the Bible, John 3:16 says, "God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life."

Jesus is the Son of God! He came to earth as a baby and lived a perfect life. Jesus was kind, filled with love, and showed us how God wants us to live. Then Jesus, who never sinned, chose to die to take the punishment for all our wrong choices so we can be with God now and forever!

We all sin and when we believe that Jesus is our rescuer, or Savior, God doesn't see our sin anymore. God forgives us completely. Jesus rose from the dead so we can live with Him now and forever. We are invited to be a part of God's rescue plan for the world by telling others about what Jesus did for us.



4. NEW CREATION

The world is still broken and there is still sin, but God promises that one day Jesus will come back. God WILL make the world perfect again. God will wipe away all sadness, loneliness, sickness, and death forever. Do you know what else? We will be with Him forever!

MAKING THE DECISION TO FOLLOW JESUS

At some point, we all have to decide if we will believe in Jesus and choose to follow Him or not. If your child seems ready to make the decision, you can:



THIS IS THE GOSPEL



What does it mean that Jesus is our rescuer?

What do we need to be rescued from?

Still not sure how to answer those questions? Check out our family-friendly video, which uses visuals to help explain the Gospel



TALK TO GOD and TALK TO YOUR CHILD

1. Pray! Ask God for help. "God, I need you to speak through me right now..."
2. Follow the Holy Spirit's leading.
3. Talk to your child about the good news of the gospel. Ask questions.
4. Help them take their next step in making the decision to follow Jesus. Try the ABC method:



ABC METHOD

ADMIT honestly that you're a sinner and don't always choose to do the things God wants you to do. (Romans 3:23, 6:23; 1 John 1:9)

BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God. Believe that He died for your sins so that you can be forgiven. Believe that Jesus rose from the dead so that you, too, can live with Jesus forever. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4; John 3:16; Acts 4:12; Romans 5:8)

CHOOSE Jesus and Him alone as your Rescuer and Savior. Pray and tell God that you choose Him. Celebrate! (Romans 10:9-10, 13)