



Relational – Lesson 4

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27 “God created man in his own image.”

Key Point: God created us to have a relationship with him!

Bible Verse: Genesis 3, John 3:16–18

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures in sequential order on the table, floor, or in a pocket chart if available.
- Key Point

- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

God created the heavens and the earth. He made day and night, seas and dry land, flowers, trees, all the animals, and even people! And it was good! He also made a beautiful garden called Eden. **God put Adam and Eve in the Garden to "work it and watch over it. (1)"**

There was one rule Adam and Eve were supposed to follow (2) in Eden. They were told by God, "You may eat the fruit of every tree in the garden-except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (3)." Adam and Eve chose to sin by eating the fruit (4). Because of their sin, they couldn't live in the Garden of Eden with God anymore. Because of sin, brokenness is in the world and life is not the way God wanted it to be for us. Adam and Eve broke their relationship with God and could not fix it (5) and neither can we.

God loves us so much that he wants us to

be in a good relationship with him (6). He doesn't want our relationship with him to be broken. Even though we choose sin, God chose to make a way to fix our relationship with him. **God sent his son Jesus to take the punishment for us** (7). He is the only person who NEVER disobeyed God or sinned.

Because **Jesus never sinned**, He did not deserve to be punished for sin. **But because he loves us, Jesus died on the cross and took all of our sin** (8) on himself. He took our punishment instead. If we trust him as the one who paid for our sin and we are sorry we disobeyed, he forgives and forgets all of our sin! **Not only does Jesus fix what we broke, but he makes it even better than before** (9)! The Bible says he makes us brand new. **Even though we do sin, we can have a relationship with God because of Jesus** (10). He loves us that much!

Sin is the cause of brokenness, but Jesus makes relationships with God whole again. We can choose to follow Jesus and have our sins forgotten and our relationship with him whole again.

Key Point: God created us to have a relationship with him!

Review Questions

1. **What breaks our relationship with God?** (Sin.)
2. **Who made a way to fix our relationship with God?** (Jesus, God.)
3. **Who does God want a relationship with?** (Us.)
4. **Who lived a perfect life and never sinned?** (Jesus.)
5. **Who took the punishment for our sin?** (Jesus.)
6. **Who should we follow?** (Jesus.)

ACTIVITIES:

Tumbling Tower

Supplies

Blocks (in room)

See how high the children can make a tower of blocks without it falling. Then, tell them to remove the bottom block. When it topples, talk about how taking just one block out makes the whole building fall. If time permits, repeat and let each child who would like try to pull the block out have a turn.

Jesus Makes All Things New

Supplies

- Blank heart on red paper (one per child)
- Ephesians 2:10 heart on white paper (one per child)
- Half sheet of black paper (one per child)
- Crayons
- Glue sticks

Have the children tear the red blank red heart in half and then in half again. Then, have them glue the four torn pieces onto the black construction paper. Talk to them about how sin causes brokenness, but Christ makes relationships with God whole again. Next, have them glue the heart with the verse from Ephesians over the ripped/glued heart. Remind them that Jesus didn't just fix what was broken—he makes it brand new. Let them color their brand new hearts if time allows.

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn't matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

Tips for 2s: Give them only one thing at a time and do the crafts step-by-step. Also, you may find it easier to have the helper be in charge of the glue stick. Have the helper spread glue all over the paper as needed and have the children focus on sticking the items on the card stock.

A Way Back to God

Supplies

- Roll of painter's tape (one per bin)
- Large vinyl cross banner (one per bin)
- "God" sign (one per bin)

Use painter's tape to create two parallel lines six feet apart. Have the children line up shoulder-to-shoulder behind one of the lines. Then place the "God" sign on the other side of the opposite line. [The lines will represent the edges of a deep valley.] Have the children all line up behind the line and then say something along the lines of the following:

Sometimes we do things we shouldn't do. We disobey, and that is called sin. Can anyone give me an example of disobeying? (Allow for answers and provide help if needed.)

When we make wrong choices, no matter how small, it is called sin. Sin separates us from God. Let's pretend these two lines are the edges of a deep valley or hole in the ground. We are on one side, and God is on the other side. Sin separates us from God, and we cannot get across. (Hold up the "God" sign on the other side.) **But there is good news!**

Jesus died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. (Unroll and lay the big cross banner down to bridge the gap.) When we tell Jesus we are sorry for disobeying and ask him to be in charge of our lives, Jesus forgives our sins. He loves us so much that he made a way for us to be in a relationship with him. The cross is like a bridge. Because of Jesus paying for our sin on the cross, we have a way to get back to a relationship with God. (Let the children walk across to the other side to be with God.) That is GOOD NEWS!

Teachers/Leaders: If need be, please use a damp paper towel to wipe off the banner and gently/ neatly roll it back up after the activity. These will be used for future lessons and we want to take good care of them!