

Unit 9 Lesson 5 Jesus Gives Us a Place to Belong

Heartprint: Jesus Gives Us Forever Gifts

Memory Verse: John 3:3

May 30, 2021

Large Group video: <https://youtu.be/bE79BVDSZ-k>

Song: God Loves You and Me <https://youtu.be/y1yTuODbyxo>

Activity: Memory verse chain

Items Needed:

- None

Instructions: Have children sit in a circle on the floor. Tell them each person will say a part of the memory verse and do the motion to go with it:

- Jesus answered (point up)
- I tell you the truth (point to mouth, make a “T” with your hands)
- Unless you are born again (sign for “born”, sign for “again”)
- You cannot be in (shake head no and move arms side to side)
- God’s Kingdom (point up, put pretend crown on head)
- John 3:3 (hold hands in Bible/book shape)

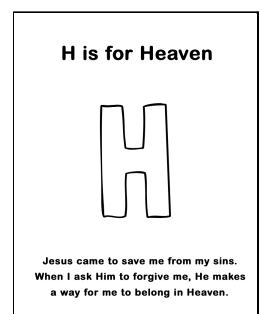
Connection Point: We are going to go around the circle practicing our memory verse to make sure we all know it since today is our last day to learn it. We know that following Jesus is the only way to get to Heaven, and Jesus has a place for us to belong in Heaven. When we ask Him to forgive us of our sins, we get to go to Heaven.

Craft: H is for Heaven craft

Items Needed:

- “H is for Heaven” template
- Paint/markers/crayons
- Glue
- Cotton Balls

Instructions: Option 1) Allow children to color their picture and glue cotton balls onto the shape of the H. **Option 2)** Allow children to paint their picture then glue cotton balls onto the shape of the H.



Connection Point: Jesus came to save us from our sins. When we accept Him and choose to follow Him, that is when we get to belong in Heaven. Heaven is a wonderful place where we will get to go one day. We will get to see God and Jesus. We will sing praises to them and tell them how amazing they are. Until we go to

Heaven, we get to tell everyone about Jesus. We are different from others because we love Jesus. Let's show them how wonderful it is to love Jesus by loving others and being kind to them no matter what.

Bible Lesson: Jesus gives us a place to belong

Memory Verse: Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth. Unless you are born again, you cannot be in God's Kingdom." John 3:3 ICB

This week's story is taken from Philippians 3:17-21:

Do you know what this is? (American flag) The American flag! The citizens of America put out the American flag to show they love being a citizen of this country.

We are citizens of the United States of America. We love being citizens of this country. July 4th we go out and celebrate with fireworks! Have you ever gone to see the fireworks and celebrate? When we go to a Fourth of July celebration, we see fireworks and the American flag. We do this to remember those who fought and died so that we could live in freedom. We celebrate what this country stands for.

In our scripture this week, Paul is talking to those who HAVE accepted Jesus as their Savior. Paul told them not to live as those who do not believe in Jesus as their Savior. Paul says they are enemies of Jesus. He says those enemies love the pleasure of this earth, but we are different because our eyes look toward something different. We look forward to our citizenship in Heaven.

Paul pleads with his new believers in Jesus. He says those who do not believe in Jesus live differently than how we live. They love what they can have now: money, food and things. Even if they gain all the money, food and things, they will not find life in Jesus when they die. Jesus tells us that He has so much power that when we die, He will transform our bodies to look more like Him. Jesus tells us that our citizenship is in Heaven. Heaven will be perfect; no more crying, no more hurting, no more hunger. Instead, we will rejoice that Jesus made a way for us to be in Heaven with God. Can you imagine being happy all the time? Heaven will be wonderful!

We love this country and love being a citizen of this country. We love the freedom it gives us. We love going to see fireworks on the 4th of July to celebrate this country and how it overcame all its enemies. When we see people with flags on their shirts or flags waving from their house, we know they are proud citizens of the United States; that's how we know they are citizens. But Paul said others will know who we are by the way we live. When we long to be citizens of Heaven, we love God's law and others notice.

But the United States will not be in Heaven. We will not have these flags; we will not celebrate the 4th of July. When we get to Heaven, we will worship God. We will praise Jesus who died for us so that we could become citizens of Heaven. We will worship God for saving us from the slavery of sin, so that we can live in freedom. We will worship a perfect God who gives us perfect bodies in heaven. We will worship a God who overcame death. As we look forward to that day, we can live like Jesus loving the laws of God. Others will see us living differently. We can tell people about Jesus - that our hope is in the One who died so that we can belong in Heaven.

When we love Jesus, we live differently.

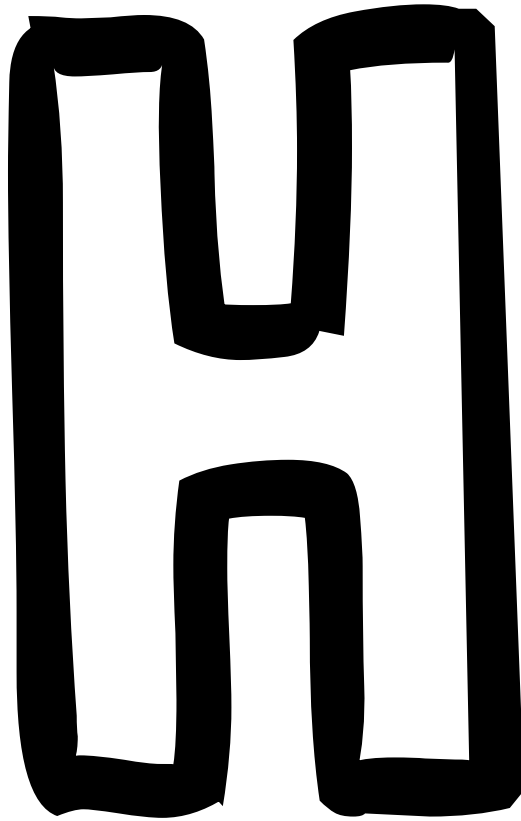
Let's pray:

God, we praise you because you sent your only son to die for us so that we can belong in Heaven. We praise you for your faithfulness and power. Help us keep our eyes on Jesus and his invitation to live in freedom from sin. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Questions:

1. What country do we live in? (U.S.)
2. Will heaven have pain and tears and hurting? (NO!)
3. Can Jesus transform our bodies so that they are perfect? (YES!)
4. Can Jesus give us citizenship (meaning where we can belong) in heaven when we believe in him? (YES!)
5. Do we live the same or different after we accept Jesus as our Savior? (Different)

H is for Heaven



Jesus came to save me from my sins.
When I ask Him to forgive me, He makes
a way for me to belong in Heaven.