Talking to Children about Salvation

Faith is a lifelong journey of discovering who God is, and who we are ‘in Christ’ (2 Cor. 5:17). Salvation is about being right with God, and recognizing God’s love for us, and His forgiveness of our sin. The following questions can be used to have a conversation with your child about their personal commitment to follow Christ and put their faith in him. A child’s answers may be fairly simple to these questions, but we have added some things you can say to help your child grasp these spiritual concepts. The scripture verses are important to read together as well.


Examples of a child’s responses: “God created the world and everything in it”. “God loves all people”. “He wants to be with us forever”.

Who is Jesus? Look up John 3:16.

“Jesus is God’s Son.”

What is Sin? Look up Romans 3:23.

Sin can be a hard concept for kids to understand. In Global Village we describe sin as ‘the wrong things we do’ (like lying, hurting others, having mean thoughts), or disobeying God’s commands. You can share with your child some of the things you may do wrong as an example to help your child name things in their own life that they do wrong. Sample response: “Sin separates us from God”, or “The bad things I do like disobeying my parents, hurting someone, or lying”.

What did Jesus do on the Cross? Look up 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.

“Jesus died on the cross”, or “Jesus died for our sins.”

Why did He have to die? Look up John 3:16.

“So we could be forgiven”, or “To make a way for us to be with God forever.”

What happens to my sin when I ask Jesus to forgive me? Look up Romans 10:9.

“Jesus takes away my sins,” or “Jesus helps me to do the right thing the next time”.

PARENTS: If you don’t feel like your child understands what sin is, or what Jesus has done for them, it’s okay to say something like: “I’d like us to keep talking about this more over the next few months.”

If you feel like your child is ready to acknowledge Jesus as Lord of their life, we invite you to pray a prayer like this with your child: Dear Jesus, I know that I sin and that I need you to forgive me. Thank you for dying on the cross. Because of this, I am forgiven. I want you to be the Leader of my life. I put my faith and trust in you. Amen.

And now it is time to celebrate their decision to let Jesus be the Lord of their life!