



SERVICE ORDER

WEEK 1: Salvation Is...

NOTES: Print out Series Summary and hand a copy to each SG leader. Meet with SG leaders before the service and go over the big themes of the series, how to discipline, tickets/candy, offering.

GAME TIME:

- **(A/V)** Have an upbeat song ready to go
- "Hand to Mouth": See game for supply list

TUNE TIME: (Sample: Change to reflect real song set)

- Song 1
- Song 2
- Song 3

REMIND TIME:

- **(A/V)** Opening series video, PowerPoints, and 1 video clip
- **(A/V)** Display the Trait-N-Tagline PowerPoint
- Go over OBEY – I can stop, pause, and make the right choice.

TEACH TIME:

- **(A/V)** Bring up first Powerpoint on screen
- **Engage Them:** Talk about locks and keys to set up the lesson on the keys to salvation
- **Teach Them:** Teaching the concept of sin, redemption, and salvation
- **Challenge Them:** Spotlight verse, close in prayer

GIVE TIME: (Sample: Change to reflect whatever campaign you're working on)

- Ex. Malaria nets in Africa
- **(A/V)** Bring up goal Powerpoint on screen

CLOSE TIME:

- Announcements, up-coming events, hand out flyers
- Ticket Drawing
- Closing Song: ??
- Keep groups together: Do Relate Time Sheets until parents come

EXIT: Distribute Parent Take-Away card directly to parents

TEACH them

2nd Segment: (15 min. – Then turn over to small groups)

The intent with this section is to **tell the Bible story** in a compelling, animated, and interesting way. A good communicator uses the following script only as a guideline to speak, but never reading from it, as children can lose interest. Make the story come alive with voice inflections, funny anecdotes and noises, and passionate emotion. We intentionally give great latitude for the speaker to make it 'their own', using props, involving kids...whatever you can do to help the kids remember the Bible lesson.

BIBLE text

Romans 5:1-11 – The meaning of “salvation”

PROPS n things

- PowerPoints from OBEY_PP_KingdomKeys_wk1 file in Speaker_Materials directory
- 1 empty pizza box
- Acquire and play the song “I've Been Redeemed” © by Carman
- A set of 3 keys on a key ring
- Rescue ring with a rope attached
- Water wings
- Float noodle
- A ducky float tube – supposed to be a prop to produce silly laughter
- “Sin” Prop:
 - 1 balloon
 - 1 hardboiled egg with cracks in it
 - Take the egg and write the words “sin nature”
 - Insert the egg into the balloon so that when the balloon is blown up, the egg is on the inside floating around
 - With a Sharpie® Marker, write on the balloon words like:
Lying Stealing Cheating Gossip Jealousy

BEGIN speaking

Show slide (“Part 1: Salvation Is...”)

All month long, we are going to be talking about how you can really know if you are a Christian, and if you are not a Christian, what it looks like when you are one. To do so, we need to understand what keys open the door to Jesus' home, which He calls heaven. You are not too young to understand the main keys that separate Christianity from other faiths, and it's important for you to be able to talk about your faith and to know what you believe and why you believe it.

SALVATION:

(Holding up set of keys) Before we get into talking about the three keys to our Christian faith it's important to ask "why" is this important. We want to help you understand the "why" behind the "what." The Kingdom Keys only become important to those who want to spend eternity in the kingdom, which is heaven. The door of heaven is unlocked for those that experience **salvation**. Salvation is the key to get into heaven. Let's look at what the word "salvation" means.

Show slide ("Salvation")

Access to: SALVATION – "Rescue from the power and punishment of sin."

(Put on water wings, duck float tube and noodle while you are talking.) When you were young, your parents took safe measures to make sure you were safe in and around the water. You might have looked something like this. **(Allow for laughter.)** But what if you really ended up in a sticky situation where you needed to be rescued, and you didn't have all this stuff? What would you do?

I need some help from the audience. **(Invite a kid up front)** Let's say that *(name)* is out playing in the ocean. Suddenly, a humungus wave comes crashing down on his head and knocks him off his feet! He tries to get up, but a strong rip tide – an undercurrent - grips his legs and pulls him out to sea. *(Name)* is in big trouble and needs to be rescued in a hurry! **(Picking up the rescue ring)** If a boat can get to him, they might throw a rescue ring with a rope attached and pull him in. *(Name)* is saved; he's rescued from the punishment of the ocean.

Much like the power of a strong under-current in the ocean, sin is a strong under-current in our lives that is constantly trying to pull us under and tempt us to think bad thoughts, do bad stuff, and say mean words. Stealing, lying, selfishness, envy, anger, hatred are just some examples of sin. **Salvation** is what happens when Jesus throws us the rescue ring and pulls us out from the strong under-current of sin.

HEAVEN:

So, we have salvation...so what? What does it get us? Where does it take us? **(Walking over to the "heaven" door)** Salvation gets us connected to God, and when we are connected to God, we will be with Him in heaven.

Show slide ("Heaven")

HEAVEN – “We will forever belong to God and be with Jesus.”

“Salvation” is the key to get into “heaven.” Heaven is many things and we could talk about what it looks like, and how big it is, who’s going to be there, and all the amazing things we get to see and do there. But the most important thing - the only important thing is this: **We will forever belong to God and be with Jesus.** Isn’t that cool?!! To be in heaven with Jesus should be the desire of your heart...nothing else should be more important than spending eternity with Jesus. Over the next few weeks, we’re going to help you understand the 3 master keys that play an important part on our journey to heaven.

Now, when we talk about salvation, the need to be rescued, we have to talk about the very thing that we need rescuing from - the thing that keeps us apart from God. That “thing” is “sin”.

Show slide ("Sin: My Sins")

Now, many of you know what sin is? To commit a sin means to disobey God in what you think, do, and say. There is not a day that goes by where we don’t sin in one way or another.

But this is just one part of sin. There are two parts to sin – two layers of sin; one is visible and one is not so visible because it’s on the inside of us. Let me explain:

(Hold up the balloon.)

Obviously, this is a balloon – but I don’t want you to think of it as a balloon; I want you to think of it as “sin”. The outside of this balloon – the part that is visible to everyone are the sins I commit on a regular basis: lying, cheating, gossip, stealing, jealousy, bad thoughts – stuff like that.

Show slide ("Sin: My Sin Nature")

(Peering in on the inside of the balloon) But there is another part to sin – the part that we don’t see and the part that we don’t talk about so often. Inside of me is the source of my sin called my “sin nature.” While my sin is outward in the things I think, do and say, my “sin nature” points to something that is terribly wrong within me.

Here’s how our lives work: We commit outward sin in what we think, do and say – and then we ask for forgiveness, right? But then, after a little while, we just end up sinning again. Then we ask for forgiveness again. But then, after a little while, we sin again. It’s like it’s this horrible circle – sinning and being forgiven and then sinning again. Why is that?

It's because of our sin nature; that thing that is inside of us that keeps on making us sin. **(Moving your hand around the outside of the balloon)** Once I have received forgiveness of sins, I make a new discovery – the discovery of my sin nature – on the inside – in my heart, my soul. I realize not only that I have committed sins before God, **(looking on the inside)** but that there is something incredibly wrong within me.

There is an inward force, a power within me that draws me to sin – to think things, do things, say things that God does not approve of. **(Smelling the egg, making a nasty face)** Like this rotten egg, I stink inside my heart, inside my soul, with sin – and there is nothing I can do on my own to get away from my stinky, sinful self - no matter how much I ask for forgiveness. I've had this sin since I was born, because I got it from Adam, who sinned in the Garden of Eden way back in Genesis. We all have this same sin nature inside of us.

Even if I could behave nicely all the time, I need something more than that – I need to be rescued. **(Pointing to all the writing on the outside of the balloon)** I need forgiveness for what I have done, **(looking on the inside of the balloon at the egg)** but I also need to be rescued from what I am. **(Pointing to the outside of the balloon)** I need forgiveness of my sins – **(Shaking the balloon a bit, looking on the inside)**, but I also need to be rescued from the power of sin that lives within me.

THE CURE: REDEMPTION

Sin is like a horrible disease; it causes great sadness and pain for God because sin separates us from being with Him, and He doesn't want that, and we shouldn't want that either. Even though no doctor or scientist will ever be able to come up with a surgery or formula to cure the disease of sin in our lives, fortunately for us, there is a cure....in fact...only one cure.

Show slide ("Redeemed")

(Pointing to the screen) And that cure is **being redeemed - it is the key to my rescue** – my salvation. Everyone say "salvation" **(Allow for response)**. Everyone say "rescue" **(allow for response)**. Right! Salvation and rescue are the same thing – we want to be saved, or rescued, from our sin, and the way God does that is through redeeming us.

Show slide ("Redeem")

What does "redeem" mean? It's an exchange. It means "paying a price in exchange for something". Here's an example of redeeming something:

(Give as many of the examples below as you wish.)

- **(Pick up the pizza box)** Your mom calls the pizza place and orders a large pizza. She agrees to pay \$20 for the pizza. The delivery man shows up at your door. She yells from the back room, "Honey, can you pay the pizza guy? The money is on

the counter!" You grab the money and open the door. You hand him the \$20, and he hands you the pizza. You **redeemed** your pizza by paying the \$20. You paid a price in exchange for the pizza. The pizza place no longer owns the pizza – you do, because you paid the price.

How about this example:

- Your friend wants your peanut butter and jelly sandwich. He asks, "How much for your P-n-J?" You say, "One bullfrog." He says, "Deal!" You agree on the amount to be paid for your yummy P-n-J in exchange for 1 bullfrog. Your friend runs home and gets his pet bullfrog, "Manny," and brings it back to you. He pays the agreed upon amount (1 bullfrog) in exchange for your sandwich. Your friend **redeemed** his sandwich by paying the price of the bullfrog. You no longer own the sandwich; he does, because he paid the price.

Or...what about this:

You and your friend wandered into Marshmallow Forest. It's awesome! You can pick marshmallows right off the marshmallow trees and eat as many as you want without getting sick! But after a while, you get bored and start a marshmallow fight with your friend. The chief of police comes screeching up in his marshmobile, and yells, "Hey! You're under arrest for disturbing the peace!" You go to Marshmallow Jail, and unless someone pays your fine, which is 35 packets of hot cocoa mix, you will be in the slammer for a long time. However, your friend gets away, and gathers all your friends to help raise the amount to spring you from Marshmallow Jail. He gathers up all the 35 packets of hot cocoa mix and rushes back to Marshmallow Forest and down to the police station. He hands the marshal of Marshmallow Jail the 35 packets of hot cocoa mix in exchange for your freedom. Your super cool friend **redeemed** you by paying the required amount to get you out of jail and now you are free. Even though you committed the crime, **you've been redeemed** because your fine of 35 packets of hot cocoa mix was paid in full. Yippee!

(If you are doing the kidTOUGH ticket system) At the end of the service, your small group leader will hand you a ticket if you displayed good behavior today. You can **redeem** your treat by handing the ticket back to your small group leader. The ticket is the agreed upon amount in exchange for ownership of the piece of candy! For your good behavior, you get to **redeem a piece of candy with your ticket!**

Are you starting to understand the concept of "**being redeemed**"?

Show slide ("I Am Redeemed")

When it comes to our spiritual lives, Jesus had his own way of **redeeming us**. Remember, we are dead in our sins and we can't do anything about that on our own. "Death" means to be separated from God - forever. God doesn't want that for us; He wants all of us to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4). So, God sent His son, Jesus, to earth to **redeem**

you, and to **redeem** me; to rescue us from certain death. How? By paying a price in exchange for our life. Jesus took your place, and died for you on the cross. He died so you might live. The blood that He spilled on the cross is His payment; it's His type of bullfrog; it's His type of hot cocoa packet; it's His type of raffle ticket that was given as redemption for your sins and mine. **(Pointing to the screen)** As you see up on the screen, Jesus paid a price (His life) in exchange for something, or in this case, someone (our life). We deserve death and punishment because of our sin nature. We are the stinky egg, remember? But Jesus would not leave us to rot! He died, so that we might live. Kids.... that's the ultimate example of "being redeemed," one that we are forever grateful to God for, because His grace has been offered to us through the blood and death of Jesus. Wow! What a God we serve!

(If you have someone that plays guitar, have them help you, or you can get this song off of iTunes from many different singers.)

There's an old preschool song that I used to sing when I was little. It goes like this.

Show slide ("I've Been Redeemed")

I've been redeemed (echo) By the blood of the Lamb (echo)
I've been redeemed (echo) By the blood of the Lamb (echo)
I've been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb,
Saved and sanctified I am, All my sins are washed away, I've been redeemed

That little preschool song is a great picture of how Jesus redeemed us by what He did for us on the cross.

Show slide ("Take-Away Point")

Let's all say our Take-Away point together: **"Salvation means I've been rescued from sin by what Jesus did on the cross."**

Jesus wants to save us – rescue us – from our own sin by redeeming us. He exchanged His life so that we might live forever. That's an exciting gift that Jesus has offered to everyone. And the best thing about this gift is that it is free! We just have to accept it and live our lives in a way that pleases God.

EVALUATE their understanding

Okay kids...let's huddle up and face your small group leaders. Small group leaders, go through the **STEP 2 - EVALUATE** section on your small group leader sheet with your kids.

(While small groups are going, use this time to check your notes, reset your props, and walk around to some of the groups and listen to how it's going.)



WEEK 1: Salvation Is

 EXPLORE – their opinion

What kinds of locks do you have to work with in and around your house? (*Ideas if they get stuck: bicycle locks, computer passwords, bathroom locks*)

Have you ever been locked out of somewhere or locked in something? How did it make you feel? (*Scared? Upset? Claustrophobic? Why?*)

If you had a key that would get you into any place in the world, what would you like that key to open? (*It would be fun to have a key to Disneyland. Help them come up with some unique ideas.*)

STOP

 EVALUATE – their understanding

Having the right Kingdom Keys opens the door to _____ (*heaven, or salvation*)

Repeat after me: “**Salvation is the rescue from sin by what Jesus did on the cross.**” Define “salvation” in your own words. We can work together. Start with, “It’s like...”

I sin and disobey God with the bad and wrong things I think, do, and _____.

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| A. Swallow | B. Sing |
| C. Say | D. Dream |

I not only need saving from the bad and wrong things I do, but I need to be rescued from:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| A. Dragons | B. Burning marshmallows |
| C. My next-door neighbor | D. Who I am inside (sinful at the core) |

(*Help the kids understand that there are 2 types of sin: the things I do wrong, and the wrong thing that’s inside of me; my sin nature. Recall the rotten egg inside the balloon.*)

How did Jesus “redeem” you? What did He give in exchange for your life? (*He gave His own life in exchange for me. Help the kids recall the examples: pizza, P-n-J, marshmallow jail. Jesus exchanged His life for our life by dying on the cross. He “redeemed” us by His blood.*)

Digger Deeper: Let me get your thoughts now. Knowing that Jesus gave His life for yours, that He died so that you might live and spend eternity with Him, how does that make you feel?

Let’s go over today’s Take-Away point: “**Salvation is the rescue from sin by what Jesus did on the cross.**”

STOP

I CAN STOP.
PAUSE. AND MAKE
THE RIGHT CHOICE.Stop at the
Stop Sign,
and wait for further
instruction before
moving to
next segment.Don’t rush it!
Remember,
the goal is not to
just get through it,
but to **get it through.**Your 2 goals:
relate with them,
reinforce the lesson.

ENCOURAGE – their walk

You may hear someone say, “I was saved when I was a kid.” Or, someone might ask you, “Are you saved?” Well, now you know what that term means and where it comes from. It comes from the word “salvation,” which we learned today. Can someone tell me what salvation means? **(Take answers)** We learned about it in our lesson and it is today’s Take-Away Point: **“Salvation is the rescue from sin by what Jesus did on the cross.”** That’s why we call Jesus our “Savior,” because He saved us. He took all of our sins – past, present and future sins – and He forgave them.

Bow your heads and close your eyes as we pray: **“Dear God, thank You for giving Your Son, Jesus, for our salvation. He died so that we might live. It is my prayer that each of these kids will come to know You, believe that Jesus in Your Son and was raised from the dead, and obey and serve Him as their Lord and Savior all the days of their lives. We don’t understand how You can love us like You do, and we certainly cannot do anything to earn that love. Your love and Your grace is a free gift, and we thank You for that gift. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.”**



To help you form good obedient habits, you have a new set of OBEY Action Cards to take home. I want to encourage you to pick one up and do it this week. Once you complete it, bring it back to me for a fun prize.

MEMORIZE – God’s Word



SPOTLIGHT VERSE:

“God’s grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn’t come from anything you do. It is God’s gift.” Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIRV)

My favorite definition for God’s grace is: God giving us what we don’t deserve. God graciously granted us the gift of His Son. So, as we think about God’s grace towards us, let’s also look for opportunities to show grace to others. When they mess up, instead of making them feel horrible, give them grace, knowing that we all mess up from time to time.

PREPARE TO GIVE – (take cue from host or storyteller)

Let’s ask God to bless today’s offering: **“Dear God, part of how we show our love for You is through our obedience to what You say to us through Your Word, the Holy Spirit, and our time in prayer with You. Your Word speaks of giving so often that it’s hard to ignore it. You say to give with a cheerful heart. I pray that these kids will always give joyfully and abundantly, and not just out of obligation. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”**

EXPLORE
their opinion
EVALUATE
their understanding
ENCOURAGE
their walk

I CAN STOP.
PAUSE. AND MAKE
THE RIGHT CHOICE.



Encourage the kids to take a practical **ACTION** step in their faith journey this week.

Help them memorize this month’s **Spotlight Verse.**

Prepare to Give is for children’s programs that take an offering.