**July 19th, 2020 Elementary Sunday School Lesson
ROMAN'S ROAD: Hear, Believe, confess**

***The children will learn the importance of hearing God’s word and responding to faith.
by Leah Pittsinger***

**ACTIVITY: SOUNDS OF NATURE (Materials: pdf, paper, pencil, clipboard or Bible)**

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:** Choose a safe place outside where the children can sit and listen to the sounds. Give each child a handout, pencil, and a clipboard or bible to write on. Encourage the children to remain quiet so it’s easier to stay focused as they listen. Backup Plan: Play nature noises on your phone or computer.

**Application:** What did we have to do to hear the sounds (be still/quiet, stay calm, focus, etc.)? What did we learn from listening to the sounds (that the birds seem happy, the airplanes can be loud, the wind is blowing the leaves off the trees, etc.)? Well, these things are also true if we want to hear from the Lord: we must be still, focused, and think about what He wants us to learn from His word. And even though there are distractions, we can still focus on the Lord and hear the message He has for us. Listening to what God has to say is the first step in learning about Jesus and believing in Him.

**OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**MEMORY WORK “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9 NIV**

Write the verse on a white board or poster board and read it to the class. While sitting at a table, say one or two words of the verse and then roll the ball to a child. Then he or she will say a few more words and roll the ball to another child. Repeat the activity until the children are familiar with the verse and can recite it from memory.

**SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION**

**Introduction:** Last week we learned that eternal life is God’s gift to us because Jesus died for our sins. Today we will learn the importance of hearing the gospel message, believing in Jesus, and confessing our faith. Furthermore, we will learn about a very special job that every believer is given when we become followers of Jesus.

**Read Romans 10:9-17 (Belief leads to salvation.)**

**Discussion Questions:**
1. What is the “gospel?”*(That Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, was buried for three days, and then came back to life. Jesus proved He was God’s Son and gives us victory over sin and death when we believe in Him.)*
2. How are we saved? *(By declaring “Jesus is Lord” and believing in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead.)*
3. What leads us to belief? *(Our hearts.)*
4. How do we confess/profess our faith?*(With our mouths.)*
5. Who does the Lord bless? *(Those who call on His name.)*
6. How can others know the good news of the gospel?*(By hearing the message.)*
7. Who is supposed to share the message? *(Every believer!)*
8. Will everyone believe the message? *(No.)*
9. What can be the result of hearing the message? *(Faith.)*
10. Then why is it important that we share the message of Jesus Christ with others? (So they too might be saved!)

**Conclusion:** Hearing, believing, and confessing our faith in Jesus leads to salvation. But not everyone who hears about Jesus will choose to follow Him. However, it’s important that we share the message of Jesus’ life with others because we never know if someone’s heart is ready to follow Him. God wants His children to spread the message so more people will believe and spend eternity with Him. Who can you tell about Jesus? Share the message with that person this week!

**CRAFT: MEGAPHONES OF PRAISE (Materials: cardstock/paper, stapler/tape, markers, stickers, etc.)**

***A Sunday school craft that helps children confess their belief in Jesus.***

**PREPARATION:** Place a piece of card stock paper at each child’s place. Spread out the craft supplies across a table so they are within reach of all the children. Lastly, prepare an example craft by following the directions below*.*

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:** Ask the children to decorate the card stock paper. You may suggest that children draw pictures or write words/symbols that represent praise (such as music notes). Once completed, help each child roll up his or her paper into a megaphone shape by rolling one end tighter than the other end. Then staple/tape the megaphones so they stay in place. Children may practice using their megaphones to share messages of praise.

**Application:**We confess our belief in Jesus by talking about our faith in Him, singing praise songs, praying, and offering words of encouragement. Let’s take turns using our megaphones to praise God and confess our belief in Him!

**APPLICATION** Sing the following words to the tune of “Hot Cross Buns” to review the lesson. If desired, children may create additional verses to the song.

Hear, believe, confess,
Hear, believe, confess,
The word of God, tells us so,
Hear, believe, confess

Hear, believe, confess,
Hear, believe, confess,
Tell the world, Jesus lives,
Hear, believe, confess

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**What we learned:** Today we learned the importance of hearing the gospel message, believing in Jesus, and confessing our faith. Furthermore, we learned about a very special job that every believer is given when we become followers of Jesus: sharing the salvation message with others! Not everyone who hears about Jesus will choose to follow Him, but it’s still important to share the message of Jesus’ life with others because we never know if someone’s heart is ready to follow Him. God wants His children to spread the message so more people will believe and spend eternity with Him. Who can you tell about Jesus? Share the message with that person this week! Scriptures used: Romans 10:9-17

**Memory Verse:** “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9 NIV Write the verse on a piece of paper and read it with your child. While sitting at a table, say one or two words of the verse and then roll the ball to him or her. Then your child will say a few more words and roll the ball back to you. Continue the activity until the verse is complete. Then consider playing additional rounds to become more familiar with the verse.

**Suggested Parent/Child Activity:** Sing the following words to the tune of “Hot Cross Buns” to review the lesson. If desired, you may create additional verses to the song. Hear, believe, confess, Hear, believe, confess, The word of God, tells us so, Hear, believe, confess Hear, believe, confess, Hear, believe, confess, Tell the world, Jesus lives, Hear, believe, confess

**Daily Prayer:** Thank You, God, for teaching us that hearing, believing, and confessing our faith is how we believe in Jesus! Help us tell others about You. And thank You for Jesus’ example and for His sacrifice. Amen.