



How to Lead a Child to Christ

As you work with children and build relationships with them, it's likely that an opportunity will come to share the gospel! This is one of the most exciting moments we can hope for, but it can also be a little intimidating! Here are a few reminders and tips to help prepare you.

Changing Hearts

Remember that God is the One who changes hearts! We are simply His vessels. Be faithful to do what God has asked you to do, and don't be discouraged if it doesn't end as you had hoped! The Lord is using you to do exactly what He desires in the life of that child, in that moment. Don't underestimate how your conversation today may impact them years down the road!

What You Say

There isn't a right or wrong way to share about God's gift of salvation. There are lots of ways to help walk a child through understanding the gospel. (Several of those resources are on the back page.) Remember that none of these resources are meant to be used word-for-word, but are just a guide for you!

One very simple way to communicate the gospel to kids is with the ABC's (see details below). Another great phrase to use is, "Make God the boss of your life."

One of the most challenging things to communicate to kids can be that they are sinners. It's hard for us to look at sweet little ones and tell them they're sinners. But that's why we need Jesus! They need to know that they're separated from Jesus before they understand that they need Him to save them.

Don't force it! It's okay if a child isn't ready to choose to follow Jesus. Just explain God's Word to them clearly, and continue to pray for that child.

Prayer

If a child decides that he wants to pray and chooses to follow Jesus, remember that it's not about the words of a prayer ... but about a **heart** change! That's the key thing to continually emphasize! Some kids may want to pray by themselves - and you can silently sit with them. Others may have no idea where to begin ... You can pray, and they can repeat after you.

A really great way to walk through this is to ask the child, "Why do you want to be saved? Tell God that." Pause while the child prays. Then ask, "Who is Jesus to you? Tell God that." After the child prays, say, "What do you need to do now? (Commit your life to Him.) Tell God that." This is a good technique for making it personal to a child!

Be Intentional

Always look for opportunities to share the gospel with kids! Be intentional as they're playing games, talking about their weeks, sharing stories about their lives, or making crafts. Ask questions. Love them. And watch as God brings opportunities to talk with them about following Jesus!

Younger Kids

There may be preschoolers who are ready to choose to follow Jesus, but most kids will be in elementary school before they make that decision. If you work with toddlers or preschoolers, don't be discouraged that they aren't ready yet ... Be faithful to plant God's Word in their hearts, and know that He will use that as they grow!

More to the Story

Always remember that a child praying to choose Jesus isn't the end of the story! It's the beginning ...



ABC's

1. Admit you're a sinner

Romans 3:23, Isaiah 53:6, James 2:10, Romans 3:10-12, John 3:3, Acts 4:12, Acts 19:18

2. Believe in Jesus

Acts 16:31, Luke 5:32, Luke 13:3, Hebrews 11:6, Romans 2:4, Romans 10:17, John 3:16, John 20:21

3. Confess your sins / Commit to following Jesus

Romans 10:9-10, Acts 19:18, 1 John 1:9, 1 John 4:15

The Roman Road

Romans 3:23 – All have sinned.

Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death.

Romans 5:8 – But God showed His love for us in this - that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:23b – But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus.

Romans 6:1-4, Romans 10:9-10, 13

Salvation

God's Part – John 3:16

Christ's Part – Romans 5:8

Man's Part – John 6:37

The Four Spiritual Laws

God LOVES you and offers a wonderful PLAN for your life. –

John 3:16, John 10:10

Man is SINFUL and SEPARATED from God.

Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life. –

Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

Jesus Christ is God's ONLY provision for man's sin.

Through Him, you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life. –

Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 15:3-6

We must individually RECEIVE Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives. –

John 1:12, John 3:1-8

Four Words of Salvation

1. Needed – Romans 3:3

2. Provided – 1 Peter 2:24

3. Offered – Ephesians 2:8

4. Accepted – 1 John 5:12

Questions to Ask

About The Need for Salvation:

- What is sin?
- What is God's punishment for sin?
- Have you ever sinned or done anything wrong?

About God's Plan for Salvation:

- Who is Jesus?
- What did Jesus do for you?
- Why is Jesus the only One who could die for your sins?
- What happened to Jesus after His death?

About Choosing Jesus:

- Would you like to ask Jesus to be your Forever Friend and become a child of God?
- Are you willing to turn away from your sin and follow Jesus?

Prayer Example

Dear Jesus, I admit that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay the price for my sins so I wouldn't have to. Please forgive me of my sins. I want You to be my Forever Friend. Help me to change the way I live so I can become more like You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Volunteer Resources