



Released

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8:36

RRR Series: Redemption; Resolve; and the Return.

Classroom & Arena Style Lessons

LITTLE WRANGLERS

Redemption Messages:

#1 Hard Question/Easy Answer

#2 Living Free or Free Living

#3 Redeemed from What to What?

Resolve Messages:

#1 Stand your Ground

#2 Resolved to Lift up Jesus

#3 What Does God Expect of Us?

Return Messages:

#1 Ready or Not!

#2 Rapture & Banquet

#3 The Judgments

#4 Forever & Ever, Amen!

Ron and Francine Singleterry
Wrangler Church Ministries©2015
www.wranglerchurch.com



Released

Little Wranglers REDEMPTION LESSON #1: **Hard Question-Easy Answer**

Matthew 19:16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

Illustration:

This message can be illustrated inside a classroom or an outside setting. There are two different ways or approaches to accomplish the lesson depending upon which setting you are in. With Little Wranglers I prefer the classroom, but that is entirely at your discretion.

*You will need **two** different colors of objects such as ping pong balls or felt pieces. To illustrate how to set this illustration up, I will refer to ping pong balls.*

*You will need **two** baskets or buckets or some kind of containers, one for each set of balls.*

Use a simple setup on a table top within view of the students. Throughout the Lesson you will place balls into the baskets as they represent good things and not so good things in life.

One color set of objects will represent good deeds such as: Keeping the Commandments and other acts of "goodness."

The other color set of objects will represent "sin" such as disobedience, back-talking, fighting, etc. Attached to this basket in the bottom or somewhere obvious, is a ball [or whatever object you are using] that cannot be removed. Glue it in! Then explain this one is the "sin nature" and everyone has it to deal with. It just will not go away no matter how many right things you do to offset it; just won't happen.

We can never get rid of the "sin nature" as it will keep on causing a problem in life.

Throughout the lesson whenever you see a need to break up the teaching with the illustration, then insert a moment where the children help you decide which basket the colored ball goes into and talk about the "good" deed or the "sin" that is represented.

Remember the point of the lesson is that no matter how many good deeds we do, that sin nature is still in the basket and nothing can fix that except accepting Jesus as your Savior and allowing His Shed Blood to count us worthy of Heaven.

Alternative Arena Style: Have either a roper or a barrel racer exhibit. Then ask them about all of their "perfect" performances and their "not so perfect." Emphasize that even a top notch performance will have a "flaw". There are NO perfect "runs" in this life.

Introduction:

Most People want to be known for good things that they have done.

Grown-ups are often engaged in community service events like Relay for Life, Habitat for Humanity, and other humanitarian beneficial activities. These are good deeds and needful for the benefit of mankind as a whole. Assisting the elderly, assisting a neighbor, or just doing the right thing is honorable.

You don't have to be a "Christian" or "go to church" to be a part of any of these good deeds; so anyone with some character or basic "want to help" spirit can be involved.

I was brought up to lend a hand when and wherever I was able to. It's just part of the cowboy culture.

People get involved in all kinds of "good" things from rescuing lost pets to "clean up the park" days. And you can always find a "benefit" to raise money for a worthy cause.

Some people invent great things. Thomas Edison invented the light bulb.

These people have a right to be proud of what they have done, but have you ever wondered what God thinks of their good deeds?

I was taught that my good name was my greatest possession. That really applies to everyone.

Proverbs 22:1a A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches

If you promise something then keep your promise! Don't cheat people or steal from them.

Help others whenever you can. If you are really nice to everyone and keep your promises, will that get you to Heaven? And another question that goes right behind that one: Will that get you "brownie" points or "earn" you "favor" with God?

The Bible gives us an answer.

There was a GOOD man that sought out Jesus to ask a question that is still being asked today. People continue to ask "What good thing can I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer we find in the Bible is always the same.

Matthew 19:16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

God's Word says that we don't have anything good enough to earn Heaven.

However, it is really easy to get to Heaven. And yet, most people will miss it!

The Conversation between a Good Man and Jesus

Read Matthew 19:16-26

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,

19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

- He came to Jesus and called him “Good Master” or “teacher.” Jesus gets right to the point with the man: **He points out that the good man was looking for another good man to get advice from.** This is just in case he has missed out on some good deeds that he needs to do in order to go to Heaven.

At this point you can setup your illustration and talk about good deeds in the good deed basket and sinful actions into the sinful basket [which already has ONE thing in it, the SIN NATURE.]

- Jesus first pointed out the commandments directed toward being good or kind to others. Jesus establishes that we do have control over our actions and that He wants us to treat others right.

Put “good works” into the good deeds basket.

- Jesus then points out the HEART CONDITION problem that the rich young man could never conquer. We are to have no other gods [including the love of riches] and we must love the Lord God with all our heart, soul, and mind. This is where Jesus stops the young man and deflates his big ego. This young man was born with the same sin nature that everyone else has. No matter how much we control our actions, our inner thoughts condemn us. Jesus said if we are even inwardly angry at someone then we have broken God’s Law.
- The rich young man wanted to be sinless instead of repent of his sins.

- He had a pride problem that he was not willing to admit. He was lying to himself thinking that he could be good enough to enter Heaven by his good deeds.
- He somehow thought that he could cancel out any laws he broke by replacing it with a good deed.

There is no amount of good deeds we can do to “fix” our sin nature.

Jesus died on the cross to PAY for our sins; His perfect sinless life as the Son of God, as the Lamb of God, was payment for all.

The only requirement Jesus demands of us is our repentance.

So the question is: **What GOOD thing can I do to have eternal life?** Does anyone here have an answer?

Encourage children to interact here for a moment.

The truth remains: **There is no amount of good deeds we can do to “fix” our sin nature. ONLY JESUS can make us ready for Heaven.**

Once you have accepted Jesus as Savior then you have “redemption” from your sin debt & are “released” or “freed” from being spiritually dead to being spiritually alive.

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8:36

SOMEDAY SOON YOU WILL KNOW THAT JESUS IS KNOCKING ON YOUR HEART'S DOOR AND WANTS YOU TO ASK HIM INTO YOUR HEART. BE LISTENING!

Teacher: While this age group is not typically “ready” to accept Jesus, you will get feedback from children that say they have Him in their hearts. We do not offer a “salvation opportunity” to this age group in a public setting, but have had parents & children approach us about salvation at an early age. These situations can be dealt with aside from the lesson time in a private setting with a parent. Questions and curiosity and a desire to please Jesus are excellent, but this does not mean the child fully understands the need for repentance and salvation yet. We present many messages with the intent to PLANT THE SEEDS so that when they are “ready” then they will understand the desire in the heart.



Released

Released/Redemption/Living Free or Free Living/Little Wranglers
Ron Singletery
Wrangler Church Ministries©2015

Little Wranglers REDEMPTION LESSON #2: **Living Free or Free Living**

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 Thessalonians 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

Illustration:

This message can be illustrated inside a classroom or an outside setting.

A horse trainer might have various “tools” or “helps” that can be added to this illustration concerning “training” the horse. If you have an individual that you can utilize for the lesson to make the points, then this makes for an excellent arena or round-pen illustrated lesson.

Without constraints, without training and discipline, the “free” horse becomes useless, frustrated, and even can become dangerous. This point can be emphasized along throughout the lesson as appropriate.

If you are in a classroom setting have a picture or a PowerPoint picture of a horse. Do a little online research to better understanding a few basics of “training” such as getting a horse accustomed to certain types of tack including the basics of setting a saddle. This will aid in your presentation of the lesson.

Introduction:

Training and obedience are two big words that are very important!

[Have a picture of training a horse or training a dog.]

What can happen if you are not trained or obedient? [Allow feedback.]

Things like accidents, you will miss out on opportunities to do fun things, and you will be “sinning” because obedience to parents is a life protecting rule setup by God!

Disobedience shows that you are ungrateful or unthankful as well.

A grateful person should have no problems wanting to please.

Living Loose:

1 Thessalonians 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

You cannot do “just a little bit wrong.”

What is “right” and what is “wrong” has always been the argument people have used. That is nothing new.

You will hear: What’s wrong with that? Or Why not?

When my grandparents were young, the “sinful” list of things was different than it was when I was a youth. And today the “sinful” list of things is different than when I was a youth. This will no doubt continue to change.

However what is sinful and what is not really doesn’t change at all!

People change their lists of do this and don’t do that, but the Bible, God’s Word, will never change. It stays the same. So let’s go back to what the Bible has to say!

What is sinful can become very confusing and frustrating to both the young and the old.

Living in Liberty

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Understand that morality is for our protection rather than our restriction.

Some things are just common sense.

We know, for example, that if someone drinks booze and drives that not only can the driver be arrested or fined; we also know that a drunk driver can kill someone with his vehicle. This is unacceptable behavior.

We know that if you take a gun into a bank and rob it, that this is armed robbery and this is wrong. You can go to prison for a long time for this. This is unacceptable behavior.

Doing right is just good common sense!

So then what does Jesus expect of us?

God does not change, nor does His Word.

Grace **empowers us** to live holy lives. He gives us the strength to do right!

TO THE TEACHER:

Basing our expectations of what is "right" and what is "wrong" on culture and deciding to "draw the line" as culturally permissible leaves us wide open to human error. The Word of God is still the correct "standard." And the human sin nature will never allow us to attain to that standard completely, thus... I needed Christ!

For this age group, try to convey that the Bible is our standard, not what people just think is right and wrong.

Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

SUMMARY

So how does this tie back to the horse and his trainer? The Horse left to himself without any direction, without any training, without any GUIDE, is still a horse, and he may think he has no bounds or consequences.

But we know from common sense this is not the case. Left to himself, he will never be capable of use to his owner. He will be frustrated and perhaps even dangerous.

So it is with the human. If left to himself, in his own untrained total “free” state, then he will be frustrated, won’t be able to hold a job, can’t fit in with other people, and yes, perhaps even dangerous.

The rules and disciplines are there to protect the person and those around him.

But before you can be “trained” you must be willing to listen to what God has to say! And that doesn’t just come “naturally.”

One day you will understand and know that Jesus is knocking on your heart’s door and asking you to open it for Him to come into your life as Savior. Listen for that time!

Activity Page follows:



Training and Obedience are very important! OBEY RIGHT AWAY!
Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child.....



Released

*Released/Redemption/Redeemed from What to What/ Little Wranglers
Ron and Singleterry
Wrangler Church Ministries©2015*

Little Wranglers **REDEMPTION LESSON #3: Redeemed from What to What?**

Hebrews 9:12

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Illustration Setup:

This message can be illustrated inside a classroom or an outside setting.

Arena Style: A horse, the horse trailer, and the horse's owner: Ask around until you find someone that is willing to bring one or two horses to demonstrate how to trailer up a horse. It is especially helpful if they have two horses; one that will trailer-up easy and one that is hesitant.

Classroom setting: Use a www.youtube.com "horse trailer" video. **NOTE:** It is extremely important that you screen these thoroughly before class! Some will appear brutal to young kids and some will have language that is not acceptable; obviously you are looking for an acceptable video.

Lesson with Illustration:

Have you ever watched someone try to load a horse on a trailer when he was not willing to go?

It can be a rodeo!

There can be any number of reasons why he won't load.

[Talk through a few; demonstrate a few.]

But in the end he either WILL load or he WON'T load on any given day. He just doesn't see where he is going. He doesn't TRUST the owner to have his best interest at heart or he just is stubborn.

There were some folks like this that just didn't get it. They didn't TRUST that God had a better plan!

The Children of Israel were God's chosen people. We read about them in the Old Testament sacrificing animals for burnt offerings to get forgiveness for their sins. They had been doing this for hundreds of years before Jesus came to earth as a baby.

They were in fact doing this as a picture of what Jesus was going to do someday out in the future as the LAMB OF GOD [JESUS the Messiah.]

Then one day He did leave Heaven and was born in Bethlehem as a baby.

He came to earth to be the PERFECT sacrifice once and for all.

In your Bible you see both the Old and the New Testaments. [Hold up a Bible and show them it is divided into two main parts. The Old Testament is the time before Jesus came to earth and the New Testament written after Jesus came to earth.]

The New Testament in your Bible starts around the time of Jesus birth on earth and takes us to events that will happen in the future at the end of this earth's time and the beginning of Eternity.

When Jesus came to earth the Children of Israel [the Jews, Hebrews, Israelites] had a difficult time stopping doing "church" like they knew how to do it. They were used to sacrifices and priests that did all the ceremonies to represent when Christ would come to be the Redeemer, the Lamb of God, and the Perfect last sacrifice.

They were confused and did not understand fully that "it is finished" as Jesus said on the cross. He had fulfilled the promise of redeeming our salvation, our payment for sin. HE WAS THE LAMB OF GOD.

They were much like this horse.

He needs to trailer-up for his benefit so he can get to his destination. He cannot see his destination, nor can he understand what awaits him once he arrives at his destination. Therefore, he may balk at getting on board.

The Plan:

The entire Bible fits together in a big plan of God's. It is not an accident. God has a plan.

The Old and the New Testaments tie together with this very special plan that God put in place before He created the earth.

***Revelation 13:8b
..... of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.***

Born-again Christians are REDEEMED. But redeemed from what?

To the Teacher:

To better understand the transition from the Old to the New Testaments, take the time in private study to read the Book of Hebrews. This is the best background available anywhere for this lesson.

Also on our website is the Adult Lessons outline for the Book of Hebrews that is a secondary aid:

Hebrews: The Crossing Point

To what? And by what? And in a youngster's vernacular "What for?"

Redemption is a big word for a Big Plan

Redeemed from sin:

Romans 5:12
Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Because Adam & Eve sinned, we all have a "sin nature" that is now exposed. Because of this "sin nature" we are sinners.

Redeemed by His Blood:

Ephesians 1:7a
In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.....

No one is perfect. Just look at your siblings! Or better yet, just look in the mirror! Heaven is perfect; we are not. God made a way to wash away our sins so that we can enter Heaven if we will accept His Redemption.

Ephesians 2:8
For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God...

So there is a "transition" a "change" a "crossing over" from the time you have not accepted the Redemption for your sins to the time when you have accepted His shed blood.

John 3:3
Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Understand that you must be born again in order to go to Heaven. There is no "in between" on this.

John 14:6
Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

This is "redemption". Redemption is the act of being saved **from sin**. We are "stuck" with the "sin nature" until we are out of this physical body, but we can be "redeemed" if we accept Jesus payment for our sins.

Summary:

We know better than the horse, of course. We know that he can't get to where he is going unless he trailers up! But we may be like him in more ways than we like to think about. Just as he must TRUST his owner to get into the trailer; we must TRUST Jesus to take us to our intended destination of Heaven.

One day soon, you will know that Jesus is asking you to do just that, to trust Him.

To the Teacher:

Our children's faith will be challenged, as will ours, by the "world system."

It is extremely vital and essential that we teach more than ideas, more than just a few select "stories" from the scripture.

It is vital they are taught the very foundations lain down by the Creator.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

