



# Jesus, What a Savior!

## An Introduction for Parents

### The Role of Parents

Under God, parents are the most important teachers in a child's life. God has given parents the following command for teaching their children:

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates*

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

For this reason, we have prepared a take home page for every lesson in this curriculum. These pages are to assist you in nurturing the faith of your child.

### Curriculum Overview

Children are sinners. That may not seem like a very profound statement but the fact that it is a truth that is often ignored or minimized should cause us to stop and examine it carefully. Children are sinners and the implications are eternal: "*The wages of sin is death*" (Romans 6:23). This *death* is not just physical death. It is a death that is much more terrible, namely, the eternal wrath of God. We need to seek out soul-healing treatment for our children. But we don't seek for the remedy unless we first understand that they are desperately sick. Too often we have tried to shield children from this important truth: *You are a helpless sinner who deserves to die!* When we hear those words we often react in a manner that seeks to protect our child's feelings. We are worried about hurting our child's self-esteem. Why not wait until children are older and can accept hard realities better? But reality is that our children are helpless sinners who deserve God's wrath just like all of us. And that is their biggest problem. Children need to hear the truth so that they, like us, can turn to the remedy—Jesus the Savior!

The curriculum uses selected Bible stories presented chronologically to present these key redemptive themes:

- the incomparable greatness and worth of God who is to be desired and treasured above all things
- the desperate condition of sinners who have fallen short of treasuring the glory of God and are helpless to save themselves
- the all-sufficient work of Jesus on the cross to save sinners who put their trust in Him

### Using the Take Home Sheets

Each take home page will include the following information to assist parents in initiating meaningful discussion with their child:

**Lesson Title**—The lesson titles have been carefully chosen to convey the overall theme of the lesson. They are purposefully worded in a manner that reinforces the centrality of God's greatness and worth.

**Themes**—These are the key concepts that are taught in the lesson. Many are repeated over and over again in the curriculum. Discuss these concepts with your child and think of ways that you can help your child respond to these concepts in his or her heart.

**Scripture**—Every lesson in this curriculum is Bible-based. The scripture references listed in this section are used in the lesson to reveal the key themes. Read through these Bible stories and texts at home and ask your child questions about the truths revealed in these texts. This will serve to reinforce the Biblical truths taught. Challenge your child to embrace and grow in faith.

**Memory verse**—Every lesson has one or two memory verses. These verses have been chosen to be both child-friendly and to give your child a strong Bible-based, theological foundation for redemption. All verses are taken from the NIV version of scripture. We cannot overemphasize the significance of memorized scripture in the walk of faith. Because Bible memory is so important, all of the verses are printed in large type on the back side of the take home page. Display these verses in a place where your child can see them throughout the week. Help your child learn these verses and discuss what the verse means. Pray with your child about their response to the word of God.

**Lesson summary**—This background information gives parents an *adult* overview of the lesson. It is meant to help parents understand the key theological redemptive themes that were presented in the lesson. For most parents, these are familiar biblical truths. For some parents who are new believers, the redemptive truths presented may be less familiar. This section will hopefully help parents in either situation to guide their child in God-centered, faith building discussions.