

## Trailblazers: 4th-5th Grades

**Needed: Bible, water, cornstarch, paper, pens**

### Bible Study

- **Distribute** Bibles.
- **Guide** your kid to **open his or her Bible** to John 3
- **Ask** him or her to read John 3:14-16

### Discussion Questions to Ask Kids:

1. How was the bronze serpent being lifted up like Jesus being lifted up?

Lead your kid to connect that like the serpent, Jesus was lifted up on the cross. He died for our sins and was raised from the dead. Like the Israelites with snakebites, we can't do anything to save ourselves. But we can look to Jesus for salvation. (Option: Read Num. 21:8-9.)

2. Can a person get into heaven by doing enough good things? Why or why not?

Emphasize that God wants us to obey Him, but the Bible says everyone sins. (Rom. 3:23) If we had to obey God perfectly to go to heaven, no one would ever get to heaven! We are accepted by God when we trust in Jesus, who lived a perfect life and died the death we deserve for our sins. (Option: Read Eph. 2:8-9.)

3. How is being apart from God like being in the dark? How can we bring friends and family members into the light of the gospel?

Explain that the Bible says that Jesus is the light of the world. Before we trust in Jesus, we live in darkness. Discuss the difficulty of seeing in the dark. God lights up the path of our lives and shows us what is true. We can tell others about what Jesus has done and pray for them. (Option: Read Eph. 5:8-10.)

### Option 1 Activity:

1. **Make** oobleck, a substance that acts like both a solid and a liquid.
2. **Pour** 1 cup of water into a disposable bowl. Gradually **add** 1½ cups cornstarch. **Stir** thoroughly or mix with your hands. **Adjust** the consistency of the oobleck by adding more water or cornstarch.
3. **Show** your kid how the oobleck reacts to touch by slowly **pulling** your fingers through it. It will flow and drip like a liquid. **Poke or punch** the oobleck. **Applying pressure** to the mixture will make it feel hard like a solid.
4. **Invite** your kid to knead it, roll it, or pour it.

**Say**, "Jesus taught that we must be born again to enter God's kingdom. Without Jesus, we are spiritually dead. Our hearts are hard, and we love sin more than we love God. But God can soften people's hearts. Jesus offers new life to those who trust in Him for salvation."

### **Option 2 Activity:**Journaling

1. **Give** your kid a piece of paper and a pen.
2. Guide your kid to think about and answer the questions listed on the page:
  - a. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
  - b. What does the story teach me about myself?
  - c. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
  - d. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
  - e. How does this story help me to live on mission better?
3. As your kid journals, invite them to share their ideas.
4. Then pray, thanking God for making the way for us to have new life when we trust in Jesus.