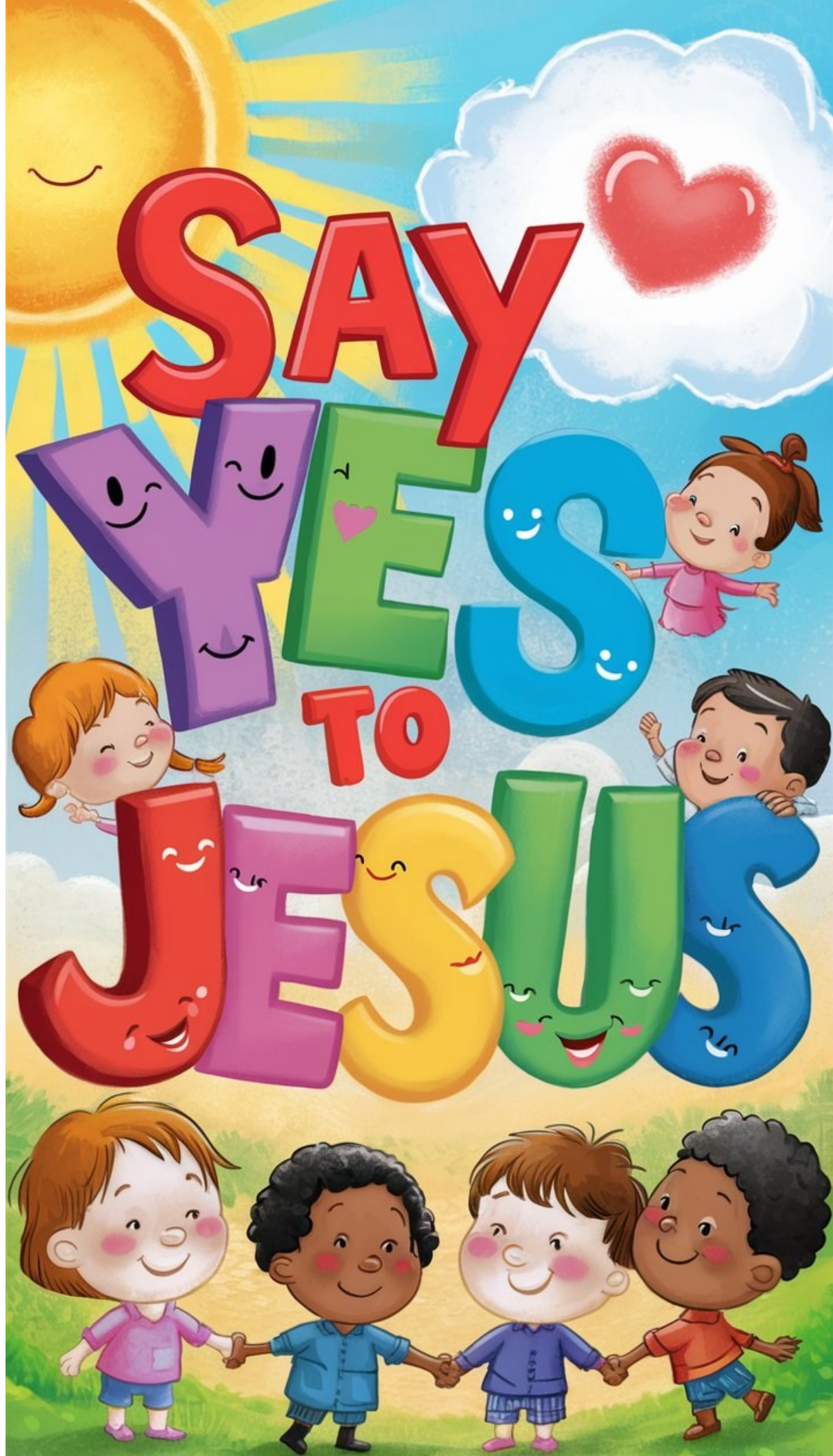






Year 2—Quarter 2 God's Big Plan

Say Yes to Jesus

Review

We have been learning about God's big plan. Here's what we have learned so far:

1. God the Creator - Before anything else, there was God. He made the whole world out of nothing, and it was all good! God made people to be friends with Him.

2. Adam and Eve Disobey God - But the first two people, Adam and Eve, chose to do things their own way, which made God sad. This is called sin, and it's when we do things that God doesn't want us to do. Because of sin, things started to go wrong in the world.

3. God Sent Jesus - What Adam ruined in the garden, Jesus redeemed on the cross. Sin made a big mess in the world, and it seemed like nothing could fix it. But God had a plan! He sent Jesus, who is God but also a person, to make things right. Jesus died for us and then came back to life,

showing that He's stronger than sin and death. This is how Jesus saves us from the wrong things we do.

4. Jesus Beat Death - When Jesus beat death, He started fixing the world. Even though we still see things that aren't right, Jesus gives us love and hope. One day, He will make everything perfect.

Today's lesson is: Saying "Yes" to Jesus: For now, we can choose to say sorry for our wrongs and follow Jesus.

So, you have said "yes" to Jesus:

This is exactly who God says you are.

- You are loved. (Ephesians 2:4)
- You are forgiven. (Colossians 3:13)
- You are a child of God. (1 John 3:1)
- You are made in the image of God and reflect His nature. (Galatians 5:22)

Power Point

We can say sorry for our wrongs and follow Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

2 Corinthians 5:17,
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Apply the Lesson

Spectators or Players?

Ask: Which is more difficult, being a spectator (fan) or actually being on the field, playing in the game?

Or, Which is more difficult, being at a concert listening to music or being on stage as a musician playing the music?

Being a player is much more difficult than being a spectator isn't it? And being a follower of Jesus is much more difficult than being just a "fan" of Jesus.

Today we want to encourage you to say "yes" to Jesus, but we also want you to know this it is a BIG promise you are making to God and that you are agreeing to keep your promise your whole lifetime,

even when you are an adult. When you say "yes" to Jesus, you are giving up all your old ways of living in selfishness and disobedience to God and letting God help you live His way. What should you do?

1. Pray from the heart
2. Obey the Holy Spirit
3. Worship with the church
4. Share your faith with others
5. Read the Bible daily

Year 2—Quarter 2 God's Big Plan

Object Lesson: Matchbox Puzzle

Topic: God Can Do the Impossible

A puzzle is shown where one matchstick is standing up and a second stick is placed on top of a nickel and leaned against the standing stick. The puzzle is to figure out how to get the nickel out from under the leaning stick without making it fall.

Materials: A box of wooden matches, 3 wooden matches, nickel

Setup: Take the cover off the matchbox. Empty the box and turn it upside down. At one end punch a small hole with the end of one of the matches just big enough to insert a match in, but still holds it snug. Place the box upside down and have the nickel, 3 matches and the box top with the striking strip beside it.

Introduction: Today I have a puzzle to see if we can solve together. I have a box, some matches, and a nickel. (Pick up one of the matches and place it in the hole in the box so it is standing straight up with the head on top.) To set it up, I will stand this match up putting it through a hole in the box. (Pick up the nickel.) Now this nickel will go on the box next to the match. And then, (pick up another match and place the bottom end on the nickel and lean it against the standing match so the two match heads are in contact with each other), this match is on the nickel and leaning on the standing match.

Now, our puzzle is set up. Here is the puzzle. How can I remove the nickel from underneath the match without touching either of the matches or knocking the leaning match down? (Let the kids offer suggestions and try some of them to see if they will work. If someone guesses the answer, say we will try that later. Are there any other thoughts?)

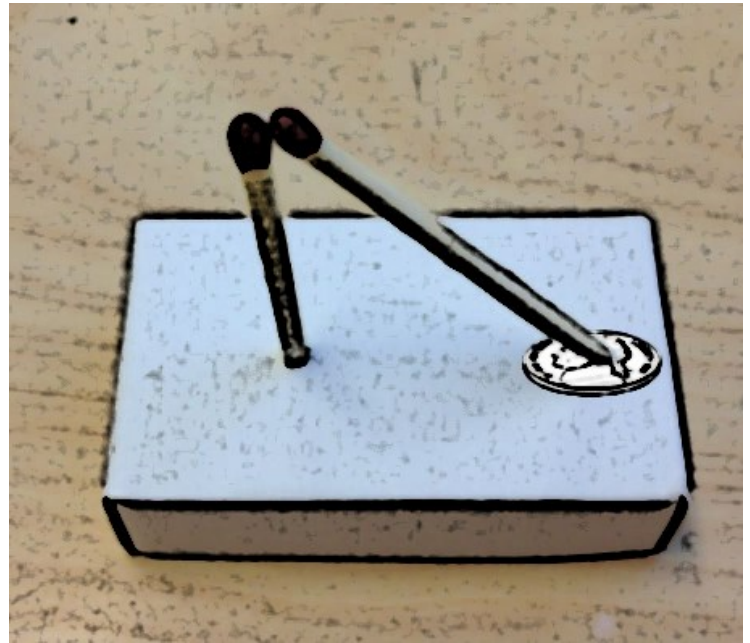
Science Demonstration:

This seems to be an impossible assignment. There are several things at work here. First, there is gravity. Gravity is pulling on the leaning match and if it moves off the standing match it will fall. Whatever we do, the match has to stay leaning against the other.

Another force at work is friction. When you try to move the nickel, it will not simply slide out from under the match. Friction will pull the base of the match along with the nickel, causing the match to fall.

There is a way to do it. (Pick up the third match and the box top with the strike strip.) Believe it or not, I can use fire to accomplish what I want. The fire will cause it to overcome both the force of gravity and the friction. Do you believe it? Shall we find out?

(Light the match and then use it to light the center of



the leaning match. Practice ahead of time to know what part of the match to light. The flame will burn up the match and ignite both matches on the box. As the leaning match burns, it will lift up off the nickel.)

Science Explanation:

How did this work? Fire tends to burn uphill, so when I lit the center of the leaning match, the fire moved up the matchstick until it reached the two heads and set them on fire. Since the two heads were together, when lit they were fused together. As the leaning match burned, a good bit of it began to burn off and the match lifted up.

Application:

This is something that seemed impossible to do, yet with a simple action, the impossible became possible. This works every time you try it.

Some things in life seem like an impossible puzzle. For example, we have learned that Adam and Eve disobeyed God and brought sin into our world and it seemed like everything was ruined. However, God had a plan to bring good out of the brokenness.

What that means is when things seem to be out of control in your life, God is still in control and is directing things to work out for your good. That does not mean it will be easy or the problems will go away. He will work out those problems for your good. They have to be there for him to work them out.

But along the way, you can have His peace, assurance, confidence that if God is allowing something that seems bad, he will work it for good. Will you trust this promise this week when hard things start happening to you?

Say Yes



TO JESUS