

Memory Verse:

Galatians 2:16: A man is justified. . . by faith in Jesus Christ.

Aim Questions for 2's & 3's:

1. In today's Bible Adventure, who did Paul write his letter to? (*Christians or churches in Galatia.*)
2. When a person has faith in Jesus, whose family does he belong to? (*God's.*)
3. Who takes away our sin when we have faith in Him? (*Jesus.*)

Aim Questions for 4's, 5's & K:


1. What did the Judaizers say to the Galatians about becoming a part of God's family? (*You have to keep the Jewish rules to be in God's family.*)
2. What did Paul teach the Gentiles? (*Gentiles become part of God's family by faith in Christ, not by keeping the Jewish rules.*)
3. How did Abraham get into God's family? (*Abraham had faith in God's promise to bless him with a land and a son.*)
4. How do I become "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned"--justified? (*Say the memory verse.*)


Key for symbols:


- This box symbol represents ideas that can be used for two-year-olds through kindergarten. Please remember to slow down the pace for two-year-olds and keep the pace moving for five-year-olds.
- ② This symbol represents ideas that are best used for two- and three-year-olds.
- ④ This symbol represents ideas that are best used for four-year-olds through kindergarten.


Hook:


- Mail Center:** Line up several shoe boxes as cubbyholes for mail. Provide paper, envelopes, and pencils to write letters. Have the children write their letters and put the mail in the different mail boxes. Which box got the most mail? Whose mailbox do you think this is? "In today's Bible Adventure, Paul continues to write the Christians in Galatia. His letter was carried by men to several different churches in the area. They did not have mailboxes like we do today, but friends would carry their mail and hand it to the Christians in Galatia."
- "Which One Is Different?" Center:** Make up several sets of objects such as plastic farm animals, toy cars, plastic fruit, rocks, Legos, or cups. Place one set of items along with an odd piece on a tray. Show the children the tray and have the children look without saying anything. After the tray has passed before each child, have them say together which item was different from the others. Older children can tackle harder sets such as a zoo animal among farm animals, a piece of fruit in with vegetables, or a red item in with orange objects that are the same except for color. "Jews and Gentiles were allowed to be in the Galatian church. They may have looked different to each other, but Paul wrote to tell the Christian Galatians that God loved them all."


 **Adopt a Stuffed Animal Center:** Bring in lots of stuffed animals and pretend with the children that they are adopting pets into their families. How will the child take care of the new family member? What does the pet eat? Where will he sleep? What rules will the pets have to follow?


 **Home Center:** Provide the children with a kitchen area, living area, and bedroom area. Have dress up clothes for children to play with and act out a family having dinner, going to church, reminding the children of family rules, etc. Talk about being different members of a family and have each child pretend to be a specific person. "What does that person do in a family? Who does the dishes? Who reads the Bible to the family? Who makes the rules? Who cleans his own room? In today's Bible Adventure, we'll learn that God has a family, too. Faith in Jesus is what gets us into God's family."


 **GAL03ECGF1 Picture:** Provide a picture for each child, and rice, macaroni, dried peas, or beans. Have the children glue these items onto the dinner plates and in the serving bowls of the picture. Talk about some rules that their families have while the children are working. "Why do we have rules? (Rules keep us from being selfish and doing things our own way.) Do rules keep us from sinning? (No. They only tell us what is right to do.) Who can help us not to sin? (Jesus.) Who died for our sins? (Jesus.)"

 **Judaizer's Circle of Rules:** Divide the children into two groups. Have group A be the Judaizers who form an inner circle holding hands. Group B (the Gentiles) is standing around the outside of the circle. Have a teacher be Paul. Have group A sing "Paul Wrote a Letter," second verse ("Keep the Jewish rules! Keep the Jewish rules! Faith in Christ! Faith in Christ! Not enough!"). Sing a couple of times and then have "Paul" break through the circle saying, "Man is justified by faith in Jesus, not by rules" (or something similar). Then have everyone join hands to make one big circle and sing the first verse of "Paul Wrote a Letter." Sing a couple of times and end with a big "HOORAY!"

 **Objects in a Bag Review:** Place several things in a bag like a spoon, carrot, dish rag, toy, book, clothes item, soap, etc. Be sure to include a child's gospel tract from the first Galatians lesson (GAL01EC) or a small picture of Jesus. First, let a child put his hand in the bag and guess what he thinks he feels. Then ask him how he would use this at home. "What would you do with a carrot? (Eat it!) Would that help you be right with God? (No!) Faith in Jesus, believing that He died for your sins, is the only way to be right with God." Continue going through the same process with other children.

 **"Follow the Rules" Obstacle Course Game:** Provide several obstacles for the children to encounter. Cut the ends out of a large box (or ask for the nylon "tunnel" from the Children's Department) so the children can crawl through it. Include a hula hoop to step into, pull up over you, and place on the floor again. Give instructions on how to walk on pieces of flat wood. Place tape on the floor to follow under a table and over a chair and through the obstacles. Ask the children to crawl on the tape on the floor. If anyone doesn't follow the rules of the course, he has to sit out for a minute or two! Did the Israelites have to follow rules to be right with God? No, but the Judaizers thought they did.


 **Family Pictures:** Either ask children to find pictures of families in magazines or make up their own families with catalog pictures. Glue these on a sheet of paper or on a large piece of butcher paper. Talk about being in a family and things they like to do together. Tell the children that today they will learn how we can become a member of God's family.


 **Preparation for Snack Idea:** Early in the class time, ask the children to tell you some of the classroom rules. Tell them that a new rule would be added this one time. Show the children on a clock what time the snack will be served today. Refer to the clock on several occasions during the lesson and talk about how close that time was coming for them to eat. It is important that the snack time "rule" be kept.

④ **Colored Paper Necklace Identification:** Separate children into four groups and give each a square of different colored construction paper--red, yellow, green, or blue. They could place a happy face sticker on each and lace yarn through the hole punched in each. Wear these to identify family groups during Family Rules Game (Look).



Book:
Presentation Ideas -

 Show the **GAL03ECGF1**, **GAL03ECGF2**, **GAL03ECGF3**, and **GAL03ECGF4** pictures as you tell the Bible Adventure. Keep the pictures for review in future lessons.

 **Galatians Mailbox:** Take Paul's letter out of the classroom mailbox before the story and return it after the Bible Adventure.

Bible Adventure for 2's & 3's-

(Show the review GAL01ECGF6 picture.) Paul wrote many things to the Christians in Galatia. He told them that Jews and Gentiles were now part of God's family when they had faith in Jesus Christ. Paul wrote that God loves all kinds of people and wants them to be in His family.

(Show the GAL03ECGF1 picture.) Let's talk about families. Do families have rules for the children in the family? Yes, each family has rules. In our house, the rule is that the whole family eats together at 6:00 P.M. *(Insert your own family rules.)* Another rule we have is that we pray and thank God for the food before we eat. It's a rule we have. We have a family rule that the children go to bed at 8:00 P.M. If you were a child in our family, you would have to obey the rules.

Why do people have rules for their families? Rules keep us from being selfish and from trying to do everything our own way. Rules help us behave in a good way. Rules show us what is the right thing to do.

Do the rules make us into children who belong in the family? No. If I go to your house and keep your family rules, it doesn't make me a child of your parents. To become a child in your family, I would have to be born into your family or be adopted by your parents.

God has a family and He has rules for His family. Keeping the rules does not get us into God's family. The Judaizers or false teachers told the new Christians to keep the Jewish rules and that would get them into heaven. Paul wrote that the rules don't make you good enough to go to heaven. The rules help you know the right thing, but only faith in Jesus helps you do the right thing.

(Show the GAL03ECGF4 picture.) God wants His family members to love Him and be clean in their hearts. God wants His people to be free of selfish sin. But God knew that His people could not be perfect. He knew that each of us would sin no matter how hard we tried not to. That is why God sent His perfect Son, Jesus, who never had even one sin, to take our punishment. Jesus takes away our sin if we have faith in Him. Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned"--justified. The people in God's family are free of selfish sin.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for helping us to want to obey Your rules and for forgiving us when we do sin. Thank You for giving us Jesus so we can become part of Your family. In Jesus' name, amen.

Bible Adventure for 4's, 5's & K-

(Show the review GAL01ECGF6 picture.) Paul wrote in his letter to the Galatians, "God chose me to be a missionary to tell the Gentiles how they could become part of God's family along with the Jews. God loves all kinds of people and wants Gentiles to be in His family, too." The Judaizers didn't care about the Gentiles or faith in Jesus. They cared more about what people thought of them than about what God thought of them.

(Show the GAL03ECGF1 picture.) Let's talk about families. Do families have rules for the children in the family? Yes, each family has rules. At our house, the rule is that the whole family eats together at 6:00 P.M. *(Insert your own family rules.)* Another rule we have is that we pray and thank God for the food before we eat. It's a rule we have. We have a family rule that the children go to bed at 8:00 P.M. If you were a child in our family, you would have to obey the rules.

Why do people have rules for their families? Rules keep us from being selfish and from trying to do everything our own way. Rules help us behave in a good way. Rules show us what is the right thing to do.

Do the rules make us into children who belong in the family? No. If I go to your house and keep your family rules, it doesn't make me a child of your parents. To become a child in your family, I would have to be born into your family or be adopted by your parents.

God has a family, and He has rules for his family. Keeping the rules does not get us into God's family. The Judaizers said, "Keep the Jewish rules and you will be good enough to live in heaven with God." Paul said, "The rules don't make you good enough to go to heaven. The rules tell you what is right to do, but they don't help you do the right thing. Only faith in Jesus helps you do the right thing."

(Show the GAL03ECGF2 picture.) Paul wrote, "God chose Abraham to be in His family. Abraham was Jewish. God promised to give Abraham a land (point to the land of Canaan bubble) and a son (point to the baby Isaac bubble)."

Abraham believed God's promise and left his home and parents. God led Abraham to the land of Canaan (the land of milk and honey). Even though Abraham did not own the land, he believed that God would keep His promise to give the land to his children and grandchildren.

Abraham's wife, Sarah, did not have baby Isaac until she was very old, but Abraham believed God's promise that He would give her a baby. He believed that through Isaac, all the people of the earth—Jews and Gentiles—would be blessed.

(Show the GAL03ECGF3 picture.) Moses was Jewish because he was a descendant of Abraham. God gave Moses the rules He wanted for the people in His family. God said, "Don't worship idols. Don't tell lies. Don't take (steal) what doesn't belong to you. Honor your father and mother." These are some of God's rules, and when a person disobeys even one of God's rules, it is called sin. God hates sin and doesn't want any sin in His family.

(Show the GAL03ECGF4 picture.) God said, "I want the people in My family to be different from the selfish people who don't love Me. I want you to be clean in your hearts and free of selfish sin." But God knew that His people could not be perfect. He knew that each of us would sin at least once, no matter how hard we tried not to. That's why God sent His perfect Son, Jesus, who never had even one sin, to take our punishment. Jesus takes away our sin if we have faith in Him. Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned"—justified. Faith in Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned." Let's say our memory verse together.

Prayer: Dear God, we can be in Your family if Jesus forgives our sins. Thank You for helping me want to obey Your rules and for forgiving me when I sin. Thank You for Paul who wrote a letter so that we can know about faith in Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.



Look:

Aim Questions: Cut out large pictures of people to make up a family with father, mother, and children. Write the questions on the backs of the pictures, and then ask for a specific member of the family when you are asking for the next question to be read.

Memory Verse: Say the memory verse with the class a couple of times. Define justified with the words "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned." Our faith in Jesus makes us clean of sin.

Snack: Prepare strawberry and lemon gelatin squares. As the children eat the red Jello, talk about how red reminds us of Jesus dying for our sins. The yellow Jello reminds us of the light of eternal life in heaven for those who are in God's family. Discuss how we become members of God's family. Option: cut the Jello with a cross cookie cutter.

Finger Gelatin

Two 8-ounces gelatin

2 1/2 cups boiling water or boiling apple juice (Do not add cold water.)

Stir for three minutes or until completely dissolved. Pour into a 9 by 13-inch pan. Refrigerate for at least three hours before cutting. Dip the bottom of the pan into warm water fifteen seconds before cutting.

Transition Idea: Each time the children move from one area to another, have them follow a "silly" rule as they move. Some ideas might include: keep hands over head, walk with hands on knees, walk backwards, walk with finger on nose. "Remember that most rules are good and we want to follow them. But following rules will not get us into God's family or into heaven. Only faith in Jesus will get us into God's family."

"Families" Finger Play:

We all live in families,

You and me.

(Point to others and self.)

What kinds of families?

Let me see!

(Thinking pose.)

Tall ones and short ones;

(Lift arm high, then low.)

Big ones and small ones.


(Spread arms wide, then close together.)


But no matter what,


We're a family!


(Hug self.)


God has a family, *(Point up.)*
 Of those who love Him.
 We follow the rules, *(Nod head "yes.")*
 And not just a whim.
 Jesus helps us,
 Not to be mean. *(Shake head "no.")*
 He washes our sin,
 And makes us all clean! *(Hug self.)*


 **Button Pass Verse Review:** Provide one large button for each child and on three of them, place a sticker of Jesus. While music is playing, the children pass the buttons from one to another very quickly and without looking at their button. When the music stops, the children with the “Jesus” button say the memory verse together.

 **Dab the Sins Away: (GAL03ECGF8)** Give each child a GF8 picture and let them color the pictures. The children could glue bits of fabric to the pictures, if desired. Talk about the wrong things the children are doing. Let each child put a Jesus sticker to put in the child’s heart. As you talk about Jesus dying and taking the punishment we deserve for our sins, making us clean and justified, let the children put a dab of ink on each of the sin pictures. Six “Bingo dabbers” are available if requested from the Children’s Department.

 **God’s Family Flower: (GAL03ECGF9 and GAL03ECGF10)** You will need one circle and eight petals per student. Copy the circle with the cross and the petal patterns onto cardstock paper. Glue or staple the petals onto the back of the circle. Punch a hole through the top petal and tie a piece of yarn through the hole so the flowers can hang on the wall. The children can color the pictures on the petals as you talk about how God adopts us into His family through faith in His Son Jesus.

 **God’s Family Flower #2: (GAL03ECGF9)** For older children, let them cut out their own petals from colored construction paper and staple or glue them to the circle. Bring magazines with pictures of families for the children to cut out and glue on their petals. There are many families in the world, but God has only one way to get into His family in heaven—faith in Jesus Christ.

 **God’s Family Booklet: (GAL03ECGF12)** Give each child a GF12 page and fold the page in fourths to make a booklet. Let the children talk about family rules as they color the first page. Ask them if keeping the family rules make them a child of the family. Talk about how God gave Moses rules for the people in His family, but keeping the Jewish rules did not take away sin. It was always faith (Abraham’s) that made people right with God. When Jesus died to take the punishment that we deserve, our faith in Him makes us a member of His family.

 **Follow the Rules Game:** Give the children a colored paper or block in one of three different colors and one of each color for the teacher. Arrange the class in a circle and give each color an action to perform. The reds will jump up and down when the teacher holds up the red color. The yellows will reach down and touch their toes when the yellow is held up. The blues will turn around when the blue color is held up. Practice each action each group is to perform. Then tell the children to watch carefully as you hold up a color. For the younger ages, hold up the colors in a predictable pattern--red, blue, yellow, red, blue, yellow, etc. If it is too easy for the older children, after the first few rounds, have the children pass their color to the left. Repeat the game using the same actions but with the new colors.

④ **Family Rules Game:** Divide the children into four family groups with all members of one family identified with a necklace color. With an adult in charge of each group, discuss rules they have at home. Assign a child that is not afraid to talk in front of others to be the dad and to share the rules with the rest of the class. (You might encourage them to act out their rules for the other families.) As each group shares, ask them, “If I come and visit your family and follow your rules, does that make me a member of your family? If I follow rules, does that make me member of God’s family? No! If I put my faith in Jesus who makes me clean from my sins, does that make me part of God’s family? Yes!”

④ **“Faith in Jesus” Game: (GAL03ECGF5, GAL03ECGF6, and GAL03ECGF7)** Provide a two-page game sheet (GF5 and GF6), a GF7 picture sheet, and a large button for each child. Color and cut the GF7 picture sheet apart. Turn over the pictures on the table. As a child selects a picture, if it is of Jesus, he can move ahead two spaces. If he turns over a “good works” picture, he stays in the same

space. Doing good things doesn't make us right with God. To be right with God, we must put our faith in Jesus and trust Him. Then we become a member of His family.

- ④ **“The Bible Says” Game:** Seat the children in a semi-circle. The teacher will open the Bible and either read a phrase from Galatians chapter three or pretend and make something up. Examples might be singing “Mary Had a Little Lamb” or beginning a story of “The Three Bears.” The children will take turns saying if it is what the Bible says or if it is something the teacher is making up. Try to allow each child a turn.

Songs:

- Galatians 2:16, Memory Verse Song** (tune: “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)
Teacher: A man is justified
By faith in Jesus Christ
Galatians two, sixteen says, justified by faith.
(Repeat)
- Students echo:
A man is justified
By faith in Jesus Christ
Galatians two, sixteen says, justified by faith.

- Just As If I'd Never Sinned** (tune: “Are You Sleeping?”)
Just as if I'd never sinned,
I'm just-i-fied by
Faith in Christ.
Justified by fa-aith
Justified by fa-aith
Just-i-fied by
Faith in Christ.

- Faith in Jesus** (tune: “Ring Around the Rosie”) Join hands and walk in a circle.
Faith i-in Jesus. Faith i-in Jesus.
Sins forgiven. Sins forgiven.
We all shout “Hooray!” (arms up in air)
- Faith i-in Jesus. Faith i-in Jesus.
Justified. Justified.
We all shout “Hooray!”
- Faith i-in Jesus. Faith i-in Jesus.
God's family. God's family.
We all get a hug. (Circle of children move to center with arms around those on each side.)



Took:

- Take a Picture:** Take the children's pictures today and process the film for next Sunday's Took activity. The children will give their mummies a picture for the refrigerator. If a child is absent this week but comes next week, look at next week's lesson for ideas on how to handle it.
- Cross Necklace: (GAL03ECGF11)** Decorate the cross with glitter glue, markers, yarn, and stickers. Talk about God sending Jesus to take the punishment we deserve for all our sins. When we put our faith and trust in Jesus, then God sees us as if we had never sinned. He sees us justified by our faith in Jesus. Sing “Just As If I'd Never Sinned” as the children work.
- Paper Doll Chain: (GAL03ECGF13)** Materials needed: Cut out paper dolls for each child, an array of ink pads (different colors), a wet towel, and a dry towel. The children learned that many people of all different backgrounds, colors, and lifestyles are part of God's family. With this project, they can make different colored faces on each paper doll in the chain. The chain will represent the Gentiles as well as the Jews who can have faith in Jesus. Those who have submitted their lives to God are all part of the same family no matter what they look like, what color their skin is, or the color of their hair.

④ **Stamped Cross Necklace: (GAL03ECGF11)** Cut a piece of white or light yellow colored construction paper into 4 equal squares. Punch a hole in each to tie yarn for a necklace. Cut pieces of sponge into strips. Provide disposable pie plates with brown tempera paint. Children can dip the sponge strips into the paint and stamp on the square paper in the shape of a cross. After they have dried, wear them home remembering to tell others that Jesus died for their sins so they could be in God's family.

☐ **Preschool Page for Parents: (GAL03ECPPP)** Send a page home with each child, encouraging parents to reinforce the Bible truths at home. Spend a few minutes before the children go home creatively reviewing the song and memory verse.



Abiding by family rules is not what makes us part of a family.



It was Abraham's faith in God's promises for a land and a son that made him part of God's family.



God gave Moses His rules because he wants His children to be different (holy).



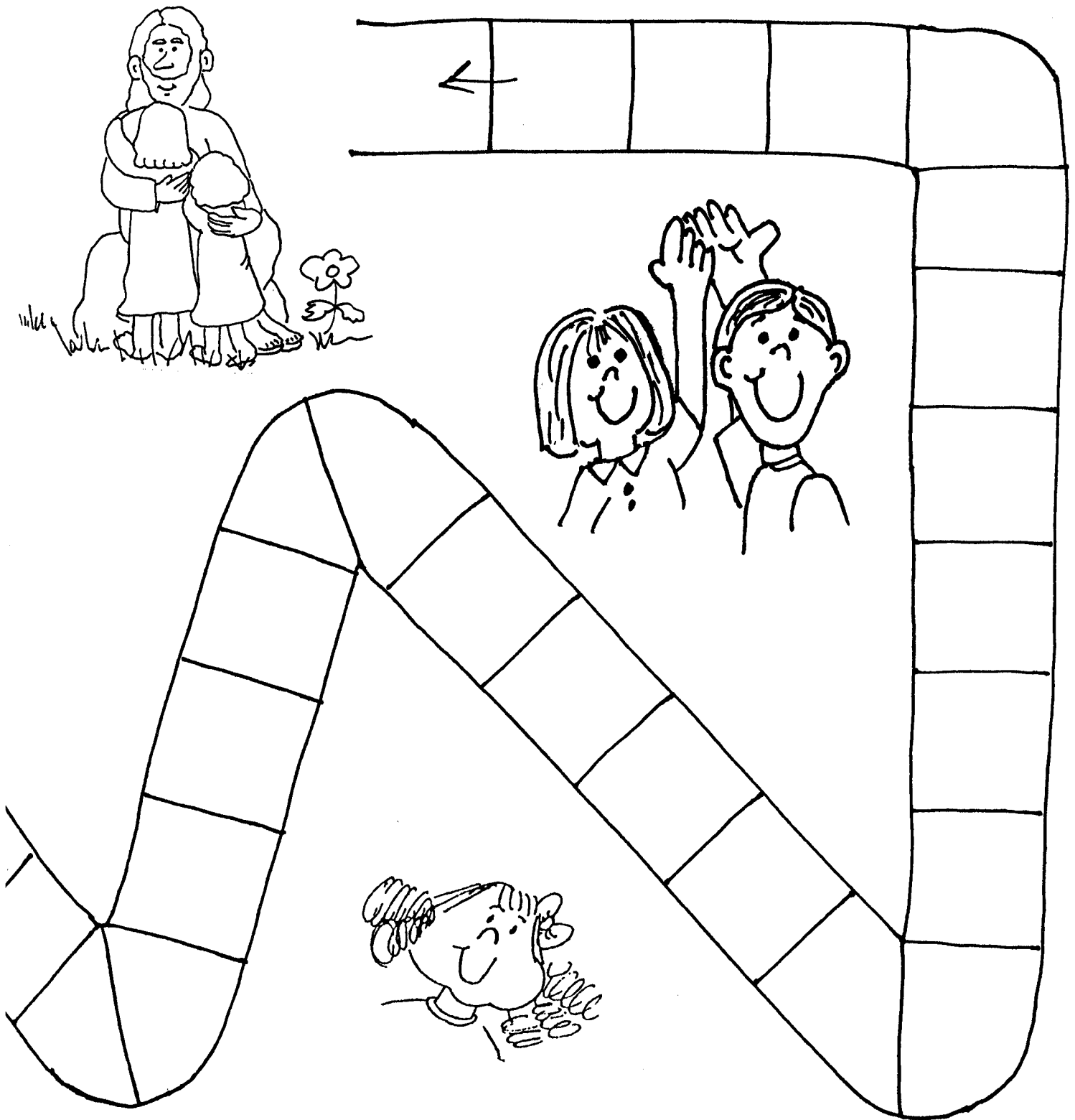
Faith in Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd never sinned"--justified.

"I want to be in God's family."
Faith in Jesus makes me
part of God's family!

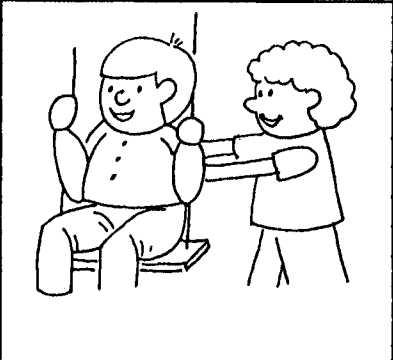
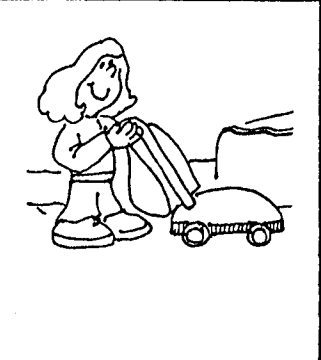
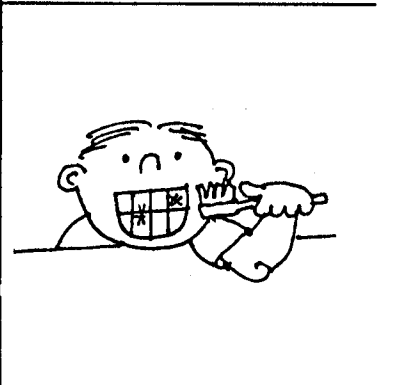
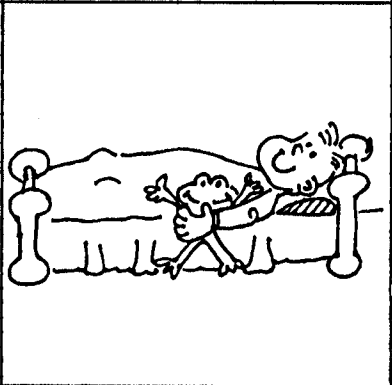
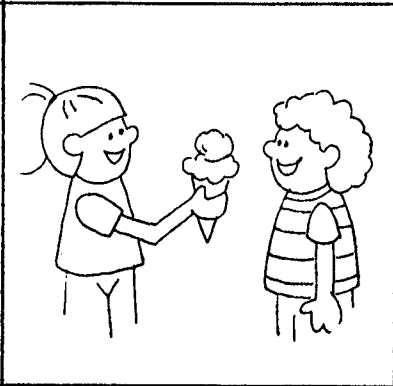


A man is justified...
by faith in Jesus Christ.
Gal. 2:16





Mix up the game cards and put them upside down.
Each player receives a button for a game piece.
If he chooses a "doing good" picture, he stays in place
because doing good things doesn't help us into God's family.
If he chooses a picture of Jesus, he moves ahead 2 spaces.
The winner is the first person to reach Jesus-signifying
that they put their faith in Him.

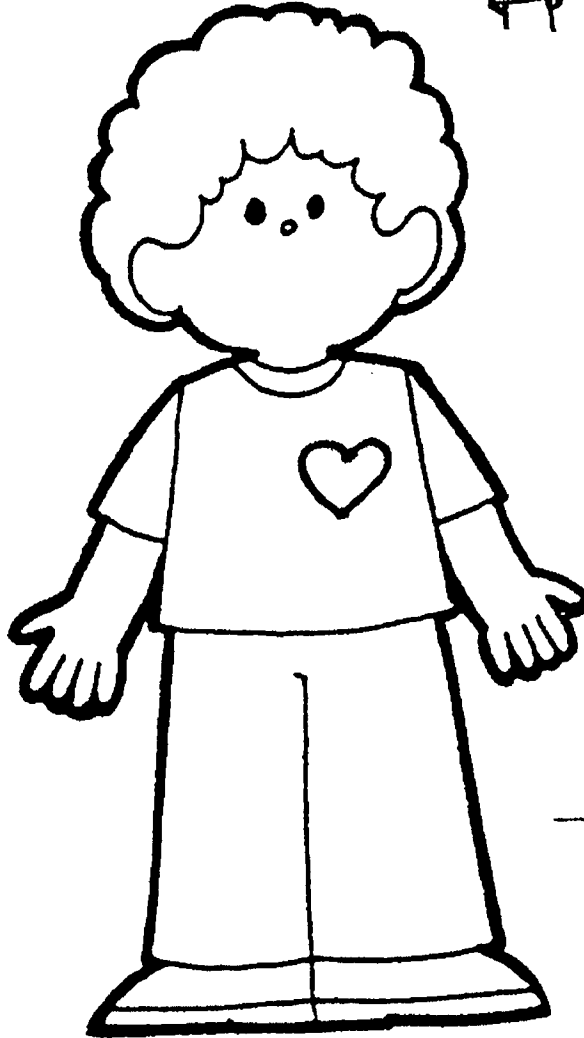


Faith in Jesus

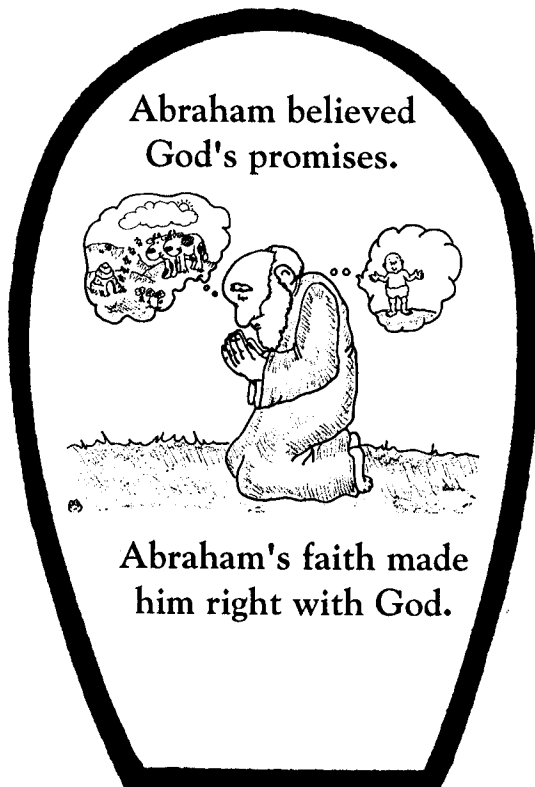
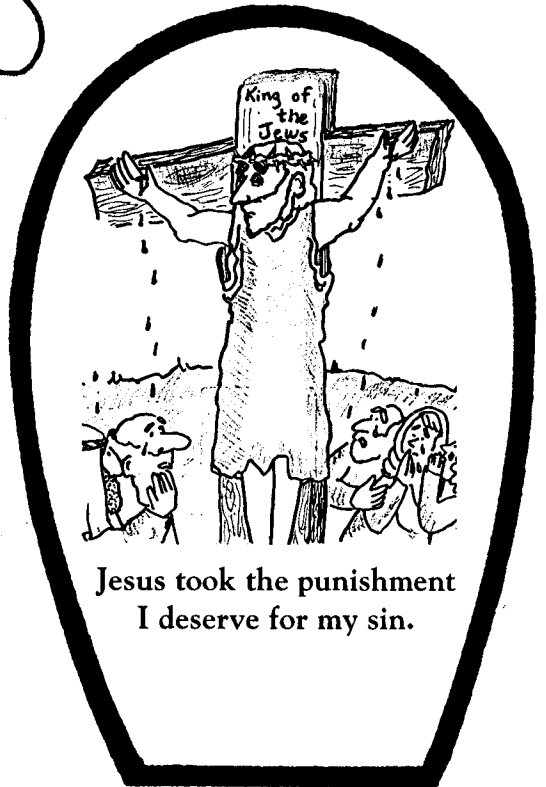
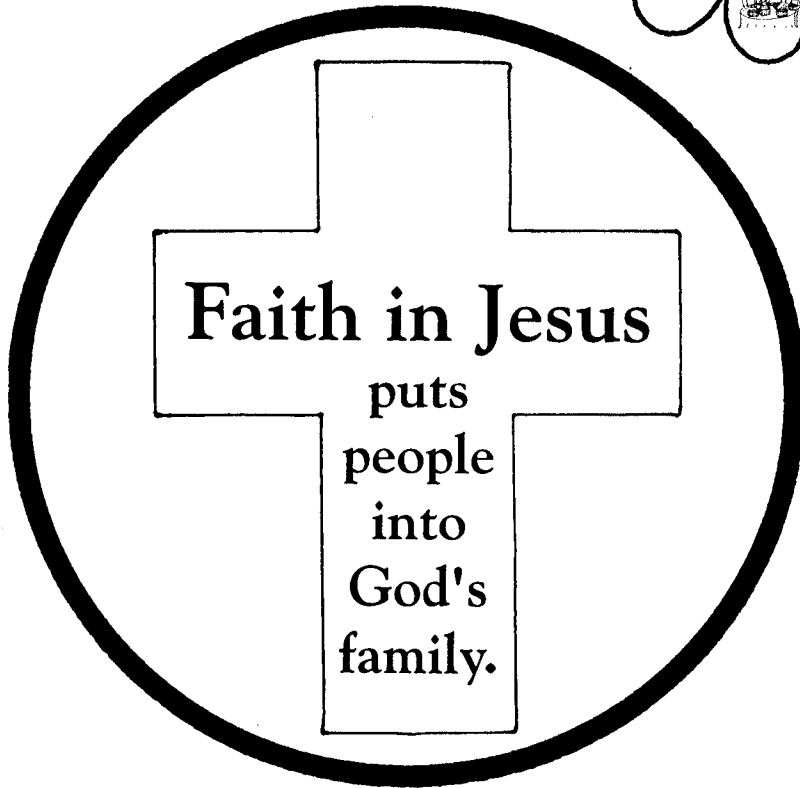
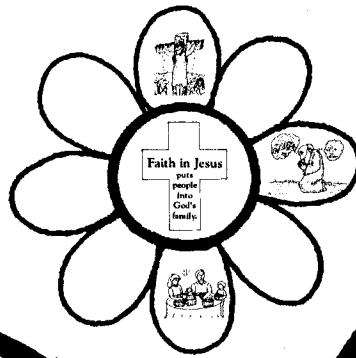
makes me
"just-as-if-
I'd never
sinned."
(justified)

Color the pictures and talk about the wrong things that the children are doing. Put a Jesus sticker on the child's heart and draw a smile on his face. Dab all the sins away with an ink "dabber" or mark through the picture with an "X."

A man is
justified...
by faith in
Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16



God's Family Flower

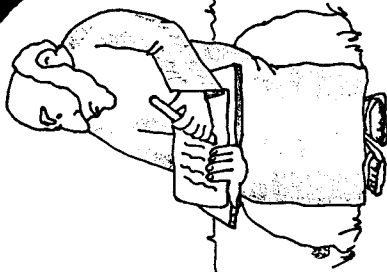


A man is
justified...
by faith in
Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16



Following God's rules without
faith in Christ does not
put us in God's family.

Justified
means
"just-as-if-I'd
never-sinned."

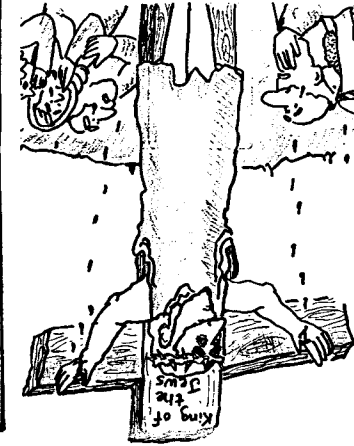


Paul wrote a letter
to the Galatians.



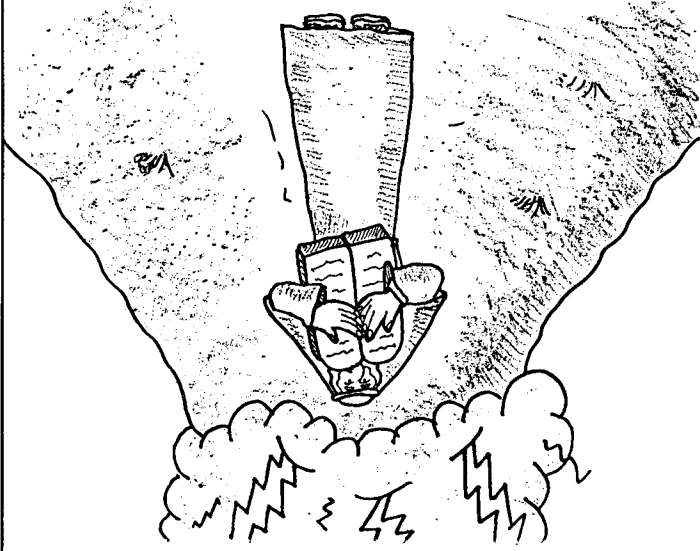
Faith in Jesus makes
Jews and Gentiles
right with God.

**A man is justified...
by faith in Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16**

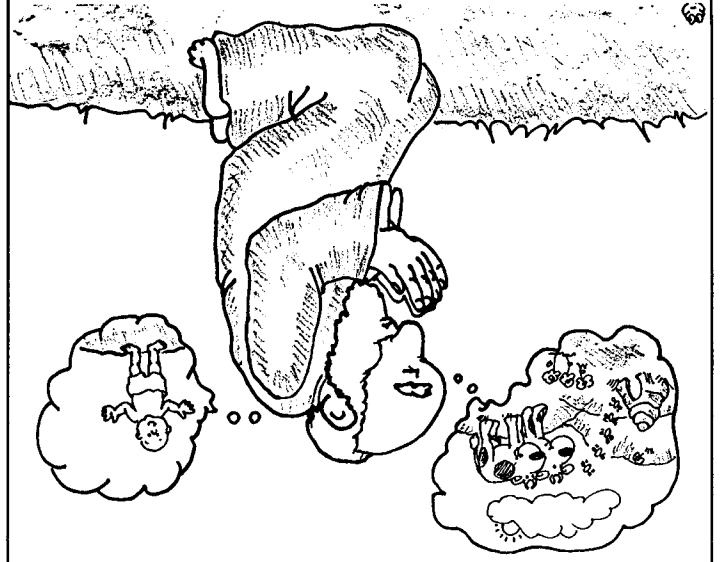


**A man is justified...
by faith in Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16**

3. God gave Moses His rules because He wanted His children to be different (holy).



2. It was Abraham's faith in God's promises of a land and a son that made him part of God's family.



Keeping family rules is not what makes me a member of a family.

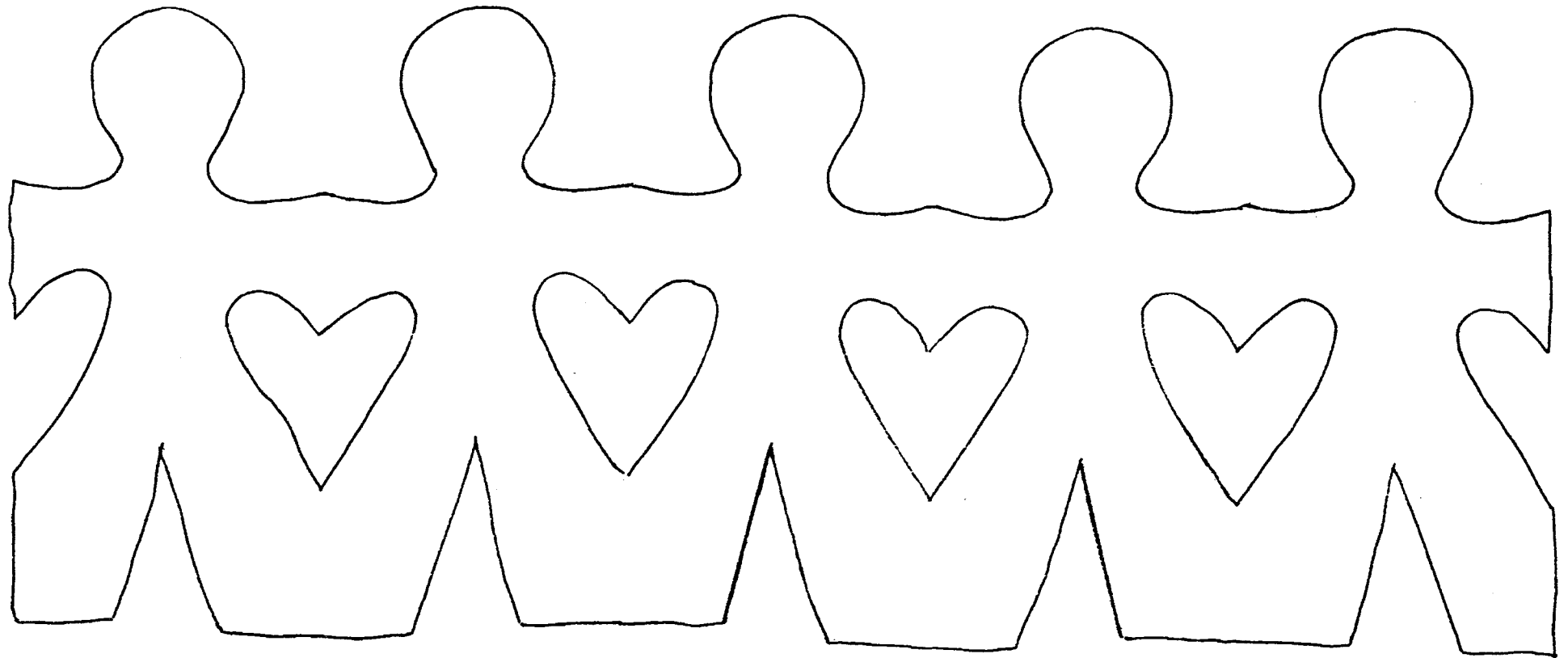


Faith in Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned" (justified). 4.



1.

A church family that loves each other.



A man is justified...by faith in Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16

P P P

Preschool Page for Parents
Extended Bible School Training in the Home

May 6, 2001
Galatians Chapters 3-4



This is what I learned today!

Today we learned that faith in Jesus will make us part of God's family. Paul wrote that God loves all kinds of people--Jews and Gentiles. He told the Galatians that God chose Abraham to be in His family and through him, all the people of the earth--Jews and Gentiles--would be blessed. Later, God gave Moses the rules He wanted for the people in His family. It is sin when we can't follow all of God's rules. He wants the people in His family to be clean in their hearts and free of selfish sin. But God knows that we can't be perfect and never sin. That's why He sent His perfect Son, Jesus, to take our punishment for sin. Jesus takes away our sin if we have faith in Him. Jesus makes me "just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned"--justified. Faith in Jesus makes me part of God's family.

Today's Memory Verse

**A man is justified. . .
by faith in Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16**

One Way into God's Family



Look through magazines and talk about different kinds of families you see. Then teach your children the "Families" Finger Play with hand motions.

We all live in families,
You and me. (Point to others and self.)
What kinds of families?
Let me see! (Thinking pose.)
Tall ones and short ones; (Lift arm high, then low.)
Big ones and small ones. (Spread arms wide, then close together.)

But no matter what,
We're a family! (Hug self.)

God has a family, (Point up.)
Of those who love Him.
We follow the rules, (Nod head "yes.")
And not just a whim.
Jesus helps us,
Not to be mean. (Shake head "no.")
He washes our sin,
And makes us all clean! (Hug self.)



Abraham was justified by faith.



Moses was justified by faith.

Faith in Jesus
makes me
"just-as-if-I'd-
never-sinned"
(justified).



A man is justified...
by faith in Jesus Christ.
Galatians 2:16