

# Stainless Steel

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Jesus was without sin.

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 5:21

**Memory Verse:** God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:21

## The Children's Sermon

**You'll Need:**

**-Black or dark nail polish, gauze or makeup pad soaked in nail polish remover, ziplock bag**

I have a question for you. Who is Jesus? (Kids might say God's son, etc.) That's right. You know who Jesus is, but the other day when I asked a group of kids if Jesus ever sinned... Boy was I surprised at the answer! Did Jesus ever sin? NO. That's right! Jesus is holy and perfect like his Father. You know when God created the world, He created who? That's right Adam and Eve and everything was perfect. There was no sin. But God loved us and he created us with a choice. He didn't say, "YOU HAVE TO LOVE ME!" Adam and Eve chose not to obey God and through them sin entered the world. Ever since then, we all sin. That means you and me. But God did not say, " YOU HAVE TO!". Instead He said, "I love you." And He gave us Jesus to pay the price for our sins.

Let me give you an example. Let's see what a mess I can make. (Paint your thumb.) Let's say this nail polish is sin. See how it stains my nail. Now let's say this white cloth is Jesus. Jesus, who is perfectly clean and sinless. Now watch. (Remove the paint with

the cloth.) Now look. The stain is on the cloth, just like Jesus took our stain on himself. Your parents or grandparents can't pay for your sins. Why not? They have sins of their own. God's sinless and perfect son took on your sins and paid the price for you. Now you have a choice. To love Him and accept His gift, or not. Note: Put the nail polish soaked cloth in the ziplock bag to keep it moist until you need it.

Now, let's talk more about Jesus as Sin-Bearer. Imagine you're playing in the mud, and you get all dirty. You can't clean yourself with more mud, right? You need clean water. Jesus is like that clean water. Our hearts get dirty with sin, and Jesus cleans us up.

Sometimes, we try to clean our sins by being good, but it's like trying to wipe mud off with a muddy hand. It doesn't work. We need Jesus because He's the only one who can make us clean from sin. Just like the cloth took the nail polish off my thumb, Jesus takes our sins away when we ask Him to.

Jesus as Sin-Bearer means He carries our sins away from us. It's like if you had a heavy backpack full of rocks, and it was too heavy for you to carry. Jesus comes and takes the backpack from you. He carries it so you don't have to. That's what He did when He died on the cross. He took all of our sins—the lies, the unkind words, the bad thoughts—and He carried them for us.

But why would Jesus do this? Why would He take our sins and make us clean? Because He loves us so much. He wants us to be close to Him. Sin keeps us away from Jesus, but He made a way to bring us back. Just like a bridge helps you get across a river, Jesus helps us get back to God.

Now, you might wonder, how do we let Jesus take our sins? It's simple. We just need to talk to Him. Tell Jesus you're sorry for your sins and ask Him to be your Sin-Bearer. It's like saying, "Jesus, I can't clean this mess myself. I need You to help me." And guess what? He will! He's always ready to clean our hearts and make us new.

Remember, even after Jesus cleans our hearts, we might still make mistakes. But the good news is, Jesus is always there to help us. He's like the best friend who never gives up on you. You can always go to Him and ask for help to do better.

So, let's think about how we can live knowing Jesus as our Sin-Bearer. We can be kind to others, share, and help those in need. When we live like Jesus, we show others how amazing His love is. We become little lights that shine bright for Him.

And if you ever feel like you're not good enough or you've made too big of a mistake, remember the nail polish and the cloth. Just like the cloth took away the nail polish, Jesus can take away any sin, no matter how big. All you have to do is ask Him.

To end, let's say a little prayer together. You can repeat after me if you want: "Dear Jesus, thank you for being our Sin-Bearer. Thank you for loving us so much that You took our sins away. Help us to live in a way that shows Your love to others. We love You, Jesus. Amen."

## Bible Memory Verse

**God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:21**

You Will Need:

-White and black construction paper

-Scissors

-Glue sticks

-Markers

Get Ready:

-Cut the white construction paper into strips before class.

-Cut the black construction paper into shapes that resemble 'sins' (e.g., angry faces, sad faces, etc.).

Do This:

1. Give each child a strip of white construction paper and several black 'sin' shapes.

Explain that the white strip represents Jesus, who was without sin, and the black shapes represent our sins.

2. Have the children glue the black shapes onto the white strip while you discuss how Jesus took our sins upon Himself, even though He was without sin.

3. Encourage the children to write '2 Corinthians 5:21' on their strip with markers.

Conclude by explaining that because of Jesus, we can be made right with God, just like the strip was once all white and pure.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- White and black construction paper

- Scissors

- Markers or crayons

- Glue sticks

- A large poster board

Get Ready:

- Cut out several small shapes (like hearts or stars) from both the white and black construction paper.
- Write "Jesus was without sin" on the top of the large poster board and draw a big cross in the center.

Do this:

1. Start by explaining that in 1 Corinthians 5:21, we learn that Jesus was without sin, which means He never did anything wrong. Tell them that the white shapes represent good choices (no sin), and the black shapes represent bad choices (sin).
2. Ask each child to think of good things they can do (like helping, sharing, being kind) and write or draw these on the white shapes. On the black shapes, have them think of things that are not good (like lying, being selfish, not listening) and write or draw these actions.
3. Then, let each child glue their white shapes on the cross on the poster board to show that Jesus was without sin and did only good things. The black shapes can be placed around the cross but not on it, showing that Jesus did not do these things. This visual helps them understand that Jesus was different because He never sinned, and He helps us to make good choices too.

## Snack Activity: Sinless Sweets

You'll Need:

- Marshmallows
- Chocolate chips
- Pretzel sticks
- Small paper plates

- Microwave-safe bowl

Get Ready: Gather all your materials on a clean table. Parents or teachers, please help with the microwave part.

Do this:

1. Tell the kids, 'Just like these marshmallows are white and clean, Jesus was without sin. 1 Corinthians 5:21 tells us He never did anything wrong.' Place one marshmallow on each paper plate.
2. Next, say, 'Even though we make mistakes, Jesus loves us and helps us to be better.' Help the kids push three chocolate chips into their marshmallow to represent eyes and a mouth.
3. Finally, explain, 'These pretzel sticks will remind us of the cross, a symbol of Jesus' love and how He takes away our sins.' Let the kids stick four pretzel sticks into the marshmallow to make it stand like a little person. Microwave each plate for just 10 seconds to soften the marshmallow (adults only). Finish by saying, 'As the marshmallow softens, remember how Jesus' love changes us and makes our hearts soft and kind.'

## Game Activity: Sin-Free Hopscotch

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- A small stone or beanbag
- A clear, flat area of pavement or sidewalk

Get Ready: Draw a large hopscotch grid on the pavement. Instead of numbers in each square, write words that represent sins (like 'lying', 'stealing', 'bullying') in some squares

and in others write good deeds ('sharing', 'helping', 'loving'). Leave one square at the end labeled 'Jesus'.

Do this:

1. Each player takes a turn tossing their stone or beanbag onto the hopscotch grid, aiming for any square. Before they start hopping, they must say 'Jesus was without sin' and then hop over the square where their stone landed, only stepping in squares of good deeds, to reach 'Jesus' at the end. If they step on a 'sin' square or miss a square, they start over.
2. Once reaching the 'Jesus' square, the player must say 'Because of Jesus, we can be forgiven for our sins' and hop back, still avoiding the 'sin' squares.
3. The game continues until all players have successfully reached the 'Jesus' square and returned. Discuss how avoiding 'sin' squares and reaching 'Jesus' represents how Jesus lived a sin-free life and helps us to strive to avoid sin.

## Craft Activity: Pure Heart Suncatcher

You'll Need:

- Tissue paper (white and various colors)
- Clear contact paper
- Black construction paper
- Scissors
- Marker
- String

Get Ready: Cut the black construction paper into the shape of a heart, large enough to be a frame. Then, cut out the inside of the heart, leaving about an inch thick border. Cut two pieces of contact paper that are slightly larger than your heart frame.

Do this:

1. Place one piece of the contact paper sticky side up on the table. Carefully place your black heart frame onto the contact paper.
2. Tear the colored tissue paper into small pieces and stick them inside the heart frame on the sticky contact paper, covering it completely with a beautiful, colorful design. The white tissue paper can represent purity and sinlessness, reminding us that Jesus was without sin.
3. Once the heart is filled, take the second piece of contact paper and place it sticky side down on top of your heart, sealing the tissue paper in place. Trim any excess contact paper around the edges.
4. Punch a hole at the top of the heart and thread a string through it so you can hang your Pure Heart Suncatcher in a window. As the light shines through, remember 1 Corinthians 5:21 and how Jesus, pure and without sin, shines His light through us.

## Prayer Activity: Sinless Sand Art Prayer

You'll Need:

- A clear plastic or glass jar for each child
- Different colors of sand
- Small crosses or stickers of crosses
- 1 Corinthians 5:21 written on a small piece of paper

Get Ready: Before the class, write out 1 Corinthians 5:21 on small pieces of paper, one for each child. Prepare a space where kids can easily fill their jars without making too much of a mess.

Do this:



1. Start by explaining that Jesus was without sin, which means He never did anything wrong. 1 Corinthians 5:21 tells us that He became sin for us so that we could become the righteousness of God in Him. This means Jesus took our place so we could be close to God.
2. Give each child a jar and let them fill it with layers of colored sand, explaining that each color represents different things in the world, but none of the layers can represent Jesus because He was without sin. The sand layers can represent us and the world around us.
3. Once they have filled their jars, give them a small cross. This cross can be placed on top or stuck to the inside of the jar's lid. Explain that the cross represents Jesus, who is pure and without sin, coming into our lives. Place the written scripture inside the jar or stick it to the jar as a reminder that Jesus took away our sins and made us right with God.