

Revive - Victory Over Death!

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Reviving our soul, mind, and heart.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Memory Verse: But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Corinthians 15:57

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids! Today, we're going to talk about something really cool and important. It's about what happens when we die, and how we can have victory over death. Now, I know talking about dying might sound a bit scary, but I promise, what I'm about to share with you is actually really amazing and comforting!

First off, let's talk about what happens when we leave this world. The Bible tells us that our bodies will change into something way cooler and more amazing. It's like when you see a caterpillar turn into a butterfly. Our bodies will be transformed into glorious bodies. That means no more boo-boos, no more feeling sick, and no more pain. Imagine never having a scraped knee again! That's part of the victory over death we're talking about.

Now, you might wonder, what happens next after we get these awesome, new bodies? Well, the Bible tells us that we get to have victory over death. That means death is not the end; it's actually the beginning of something even more wonderful. It's like finishing a really good book and finding out there's a sequel that's even better. Apostle Paul, a guy who wrote a lot of the Bible, tells us that because of this, we should stand firm and

keep doing good things, knowing that what we do for God is super important and always worth it.

Let's talk a bit more about this victory over death. Imagine you're playing a video game, and you have a special power that means you can never lose. That's kind of what Jesus gives us when it comes to life. Because He loves us so much, He made sure that even when our bodies stop working here on Earth, we get to live forever with Him in heaven. And that's the ultimate victory!

But how do we get this victory over death? It's actually pretty simple. It's all about believing in Jesus and following Him. It's like being on Jesus' team. When we choose to be on His team, He shares His victory with us, and we get to be part of something really special.

Now, I want you to imagine something really fun. Think about the happiest day you've ever had. Maybe it was your birthday, or a holiday, or a day when you had a lot of fun with your friends. Heaven is going to be even better than that, but it will last forever! That's something really exciting to look forward to.

Also, remember how we talked about doing good things because it's important to God? Well, every kind thing you do, like helping a friend, being kind to your siblings, or even just smiling at someone who looks sad, all those things matter a lot. They're like seeds you plant that grow into beautiful flowers in heaven. That's part of how we share in the victory over death too, by spreading love and kindness everywhere we go.

Now, let's talk a bit about saying goodbye. Sometimes, we have to say goodbye to people we love, like grandparents, pets, or friends. It can make us feel really sad. But

because of Jesus and His victory over death, we can have hope that goodbye isn't forever. We'll see them again in heaven, and that's a really comforting thought.

Before we finish, I want you to know that it's okay to have questions about all of this. Talking about heaven, dying, and what comes after can bring up a lot of thoughts and feelings. Always remember that you can talk to your parents, your teachers, or me about anything that's on your mind. We're here to help you understand and feel secure in the victory over death that Jesus gives us.

Let's pray together: Dear Lord, thank you for giving us victory over death through Jesus. Help us to remember that because of Him, we have nothing to fear. Help us to live our lives full of joy, kindness, and love, knowing that the best is yet to come. Amen.

So, kids, keep holding onto the victory over death we have through Jesus. Keep spreading kindness and love, and remember, the best is definitely yet to come!

Bible Memory Verse

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Corinthians 15:57

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into large heart shapes, one for each child.
- Write the memory verse on a board or large piece of paper where all the children can see it.

Do This:

1. Give each child a heart-shaped piece of paper and markers or crayons. Explain that the heart represents our soul, mind, and heart being revived through Jesus' victory.
2. Ask the children to decorate their hearts with colors, stickers, and anything that makes them think of victory and joy. While they work, encourage them to memorize the verse by repeating it together a few times.
3. Once everyone is done, gather the children and let them share their artwork. Ask them to say the memory verse out loud. Conclude by discussing how believing in Jesus and his victory over death can fill our hearts with joy and revive our souls.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Colorful construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors (child-safe)
- Glue sticks
- Heart, soul, and mind cut-out templates (heart shapes, human figures, and brain shapes)
- Bible verse cards (1 Corinthians 15:50-58 printed or written out)

Get Ready:

1. Pre-cut shapes using the templates: hearts, human figures (souls), and brains (minds) from the construction paper.

2. Prepare Bible verse cards with simplified phrases or key verses from 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 that focus on the theme of reviving our soul, mind, and heart.
3. Set up a crafting area with all materials easily accessible for children.

Do this:

1. **Introduction**: Start by explaining that just like we take care of our bodies by eating and exercising, our soul, mind, and heart need care to stay strong and healthy in God's love. Mention that today's activity will help us remember how to care for these parts of ourselves with God's word.
2. **Crafting Our Reminders**:
 - **Soul**: Have each child select a human figure cut-out. Ask them to think about what makes their soul happy and draw it on their cut-out. It could be praying, helping others, or spending time with family.
 - **Mind**: Next, give each child a brain shape. On it, they should write or draw things they can learn about God that make their mind strong, like Bible stories or verses.
 - **Heart**: Lastly, each child gets a heart shape. They should write or draw something about love – how they feel God's love or how they can show love to others.
3. **Bringing It Together**: Once they have their soul, mind, and heart ready, help them glue each piece onto a larger piece of construction paper to create a collage. As they work, encourage them to share what they've drawn or written and why it's important for keeping their soul, mind, and heart healthy in God.
4. **Reflection and Sharing**: After everyone has completed their collage, gather the children to share their work with the group. This is a great time for a group discussion about the different ways we can revive our soul, mind, and heart with God's help.

5. **Closing**: End with a group prayer, asking God to help everyone take care of their soul, mind, and heart every day. Hand out the Bible verse cards as a takeaway reminder of God's power to give us victory over death and sin, and how that revives us completely.

Snack Activity: Victory Garden Cups

You'll Need:

- Clear plastic cups
- Chocolate pudding (pre-made or mix)
- Oreo cookies (crushed)
- Gummy worms
- Plastic spoons
- Small paper flags and markers for decoration

Get Ready: Prepare the chocolate pudding according to the instructions on the package if you're not using pre-made pudding. Crush the Oreo cookies into small pieces to resemble dirt.

Do this:

1. Fill the bottom of each clear plastic cup with chocolate pudding to create the 'soil'. This represents the foundation of our faith, which is strong and nurturing.
2. Sprinkle the crushed Oreo cookies on top of the pudding to look like dirt. This reminds us that even when life gets a little 'messy', we can grow through what we go through.
3. Place a few gummy worms on top of the 'dirt'. The worms remind us that just like they revive the soil, we can revive our soul, mind, and heart with God's word and love.

4. Finally, let the kids decorate their small paper flags with words of victory or drawings that remind them of the victory we have through Jesus, as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:50-58. Stick the flag into the pudding cup. This activity not only provides a tasty treat but also a visual and tangible reminder of the eternal victory and the importance of nurturing our spiritual growth.

Game Activity: Heart, Mind, Soul Relay

You'll Need:

- A large open space
- Three sets of objects (like small balls or bean bags) labeled 'Heart', 'Mind', 'Soul'
- Three baskets or containers

Get Ready: Set up three stations in a large open space, each with a basket or container. Place the labeled objects (balls or bean bags) at a starting line a good distance away from the baskets. Divide the children into three teams, assigning each team to one of the concepts: Heart, Mind, or Soul.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that in 1 Corinthians 15:50-58, we learn about the importance of reviving our heart, mind, and soul to live a life that pleases God. Each team represents one part of what we need to revive.
2. On 'Go', the first player from each team races to grab an object from the starting line and then hops, skips, or runs to their team's basket to drop it in, then races back and tags the next player in line.
3. The game continues until all objects are in the baskets. Once done, gather the children and discuss how each part (Heart, Mind, Soul) is important and how we can work on reviving each part every day by being kind, thinking of others, and loving God.

Craft Activity: Heart, Mind, and Soul Butterflies

You'll Need:

- Coffee filters
- Washable markers (various colors)
- Spray bottle with water
- Clothespins
- Pipe cleaners (optional)
- Small googly eyes (optional)
- Glue (if using googly eyes)

Get Ready: Flatten out the coffee filters on a table covered with newspapers or a plastic sheet to protect the surface.

Do this:

1. Have the children draw on the coffee filters with the markers. They can make designs or color them however they like. Explain that the colors represent the different parts of us that God revives - our heart, mind, and soul, just like in 1 Corinthians 15:50-58.
2. Once they are done coloring, lightly spray the coffee filters with water. Watch as the colors blend together, symbolizing how God works in all parts of our lives to make something beautiful.
3. After the filters dry, gather them in the middle and clip them with a clothespin to create a butterfly shape. If you like, you can add pipe cleaners as antennas and glue on googly eyes. Share that the butterfly represents our transformation and victory through Christ, as mentioned in the Scripture.

Prayer Activity: Heart, Mind, and Soul Garden

You'll Need:

- Colorful construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors

Get Ready: Before the activity, cut out large heart shapes from the construction paper. Each child will need one heart.

Do this:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 together, focusing on how God gives us victory through Jesus. Explain that just like plants need water and sunlight to grow, our hearts, minds, and souls need God's love and words to grow strong and healthy.
2. Ask the children to think about things they can do to help their heart, mind, and soul grow in God's love (e.g., praying, reading the Bible, helping others). Have them draw or write these ideas on their paper hearts.
3. Create a 'Garden of Growth' on a wall or bulletin board in your classroom. Have each child present their heart and what they've written or drawn, then place their hearts in the garden. Conclude with a prayer asking God to help everyone's heart, mind, and soul grow in His love and victory.