

LIVING WATER

BIG IDEA

Sin hurts our connection with God and leads to eternal death if we do not have the living water of salvation. A flame will pop a balloon and make the balloon useless, but if the balloon is filled with water it is protected.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 3:23-24

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON

- Cast: Dr. Hydro, a scientist (lab coat, glasses, messy hair – optional)
- Props: Light colored latex balloons, 8-9”, candle, matches, damp washcloth, water

GAME

- 2 flags – make from bandanas or old cloth
- Bright cloth strips or rope to mark boundaries (optional)

CRAFT

- Large buttons with holes big enough for string to go through (one per child)
- Strong string or yarn (about one yard per child)

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheets (1 per child)



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT

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PREPARATION

Inflate three balloons with air and tie closed. Fill the fourth balloon with water and tie it closed (if water faucet is not available use a couple bottles of water that can be squeezed). Set the three air filled balloons and candle on a table where the audience can see. Keep water filled balloon, matches and damp washcloth near by but out of sight of the audience.

Note: This object lesson is in the form of a conversation led by “Dr. Hydro. The rest of the team members should spread out amongst the kids and help the conversation flow if the kids get too squarely or silly. Questions prompts are outlined below. Practice the skit and balloon and candle experiment ahead of time so you understand how it works.

SKIT

Hi kids! I am Dr. Hydro and I love two things. I love Jesus and I love science. I was in my laboratory the other day working on an experiment with balloons and I learned something really cool that reminded me about Jesus. I'm going to show you my experiment, but I'll need your help.

Can anyone tell me what it means to be perfect? Do you know anyone who is perfect? (God)

What is Sin? What happens when we sin? Is any person perfect and without sin?

Light candle. Let's say that this candle represents sin. And let's say this balloon represents our connection with God. If the balloon breaks, so does our connection with God. And all it takes is one little sin. Can someone name a sin?

When someone names a sin hold the first air-filled balloon over the flame until it pops.

Can someone else name a sin? When someone names a second sin hold the second air-filled balloon over the flame until it pops. Repeat question and popping with the third balloon.

You see, committing any sin is like putting a nice balloon too close to the hot fire and it pops, it is no longer perfect. Remember, the air-filled balloon represented our connection with God.

Hand the balloon to a child and ask, Can you fix my balloon?
Hand the second balloon to a child and ask, Can you fix my balloon?
Hand the third balloon to a child and ask, Can you fix my balloon?
No one can fix my balloon. No body can fix the connection with God.

So what do we do? I've got it! We simply won't sin any more. That should work, right? Is it possible to decide to never, ever sin again and to live a completely sin-free life? (no) A verse in the bible reminds us that all have sinned are no longer close to the glory of God, just like the popped balloons.

There is a way though, a way to stay connected with God even when we sin. God made a way, does anybody know what he did to save us from sin? (Allow the children to express what they know about Jesus life and death and resurrection. Lead them with continued questions such as: Who did God send to earth? What happened to Jesus? Did he stay dead? Where is he now? Why did he die?)

So we know that since Jesus died for our sins, we can be protected and our connection with God can be protected because he forgives us. The bible says that Whoever believes in Jesus...streams of living water will flow from within him.

Show water filled balloon. This balloon is filled with water and in some ways water is similar to salvation. You see, both water and salvation are given to us free, and yet they are priceless. Water and salvation are available to everyone in the whole world for free. Water comes down in the form of rain everywhere on every person no

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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT.)

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matter their age or size or nationality or circumstances. We would die with out water...and we will die without salvation.

A person who has accepted Jesus is full of living water, like this balloon. So what do you think will happen when he is put into the fire?

Hold the balloon 1-2 inches from the flame for 10 seconds then put the balloon into the flame so the flame wraps around it. Take the balloon off the flame and wipe off the black soot with the washcloth.

The balloon did not pop! This balloon is filled with water, which takes away the heat of the flame and protects the balloon from bursting. Jesus does the same thing for us, when we are filled with his living water we are protected from being destroyed by sin and our communication with God remains strong.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) What were the balloons filled with?
- 2) What did they represent?
- 3) What happened when the air filled balloon encountered the flame?
- 4) What did the flame represent?
- 5) What happened when the water filled balloon encountered the flame?
- 6) What did the water represent?
- 7) Who is the Living Water?
- 8) How can we have Living Water?

SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- *Have the speaker speak as himself rather than Dr. Hydra.*
- *Skip the costumes*
- *Use small balloons such as waterballons if water is limited in your community.*

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CRAFT & GAME

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• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: BUTTON WHIZZER

Kids will make spinning button toy with string and a large button.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors

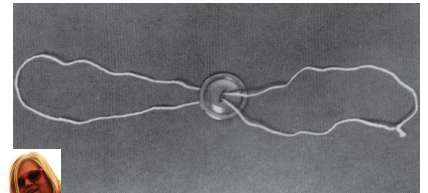
DIRECTIONS

- Thread the end of the string through one of the button holes
- Pull string about half way through button
- Thread the end of the string through the opposite button hole
- Tie ends of thread together
- Slide button to the middle of the strings
- Hold the ends of the string so that the button hangs in the middle creating a V shape
- Rotate string in circles so the button begins to wind up the string and pull the string inward
- Gently pull hands apart so that the button whizzes and the strings move in and out
- By pulling gently with the rhythm of the toy the button can continue whizzing

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Large buttons with holes big enough for string to go through (one per child)
- Strong string or yarn (about one yard per child)

EXAMPLE



• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: CAPTURE THE FLAG

A fun and interactive game for kids and teams to get to know one another's names.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- 2 flags – make from bandanas or old cloth
- Bright cloth strips or rope to mark boundaries (opt.)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Separate children into 2 teams. Divide play area into two equal sides. Each team set up their flag in a visible place on their territory.
- Each team sends part of their group into the “enemy territory” to capture the opponent’s flag. The other part of the group stays to guard the tag. If a player is tagged while in the “enemy territory” the player must go back to his own side and touch his flag before he is able to play again.
- The team that successfully grabs the opponent’s flag and brings it to their own side without being tagged, wins.

SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTIONS

- If the group is large separate younger kids and older kids
- Play a simple game of tag

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Kids Club



