

# Jesus Explains Why God Sent Him

June 14th, 2020

## Read John 3:12-21

**Explain** to your children that God loves us very much and He wishes that we could all be with Him (2 Peter 3:9), but our sin separates us from God.

Whenever we do mean things - lying to parents, not sharing with friends, making fun of someone at school, etc. - this makes God sad. Those things that make God sad are called sin, and sin makes this world dark. Fortunately, God knew that we could not be perfect, so He sent Jesus to save us from our sins.

Jesus is the light of the world, meaning that His love shined bright in a dark world filled with sin! When we model our lives after Christ - when we say and do the things Jesus said and did - His light shines through us and brightens up the world around us.

**Read John 3:19-21 again**, but this time have the lights turned off in the room.

As you read these verses, have your child turn on the lights (or a flashlight) whenever you read the word "light". Have them turn the lights back off right away, so that they can turn them on the next time you read the word "light".

## Activity: Saved By the Light

Materials Needed: a transparent cup or bowl, water, pepper, dish soap, phone flashlight

Fill the cup with water and set it on top of your phone flashlight so that the light shines through it.

**Explain** that this cup and water represent creation/the world God created.

**SUNDAY STUDIES**  
*for Kids*

**Optional:** Read Genesis chapter 1 and explain that the world was perfect when God created it. There was no darkness - sin had not entered the world - only light. But then, in Genesis chapter 3, Adam and Eve did something that God told them not to do, and the world suddenly was not quite as bright...sin and darkness appeared for the first time. Sprinkle a little bit of pepper into the water.

**Ask** your children to name some things that would not make God happy. Every time they name a sin, have them shake some pepper into the water. Continue having them name sins and shaking pepper into the water until the water is completely covered with pepper.

**Explain** that this is what happened to the world over time. As humans multiplied and the world became more and more filled with sin, the world became a darker place and the light of God was covered by the darkness of sinful humans. God loves His creation, though, and He wanted to save humans from their sin and darkness.

**Ask** your children if they remember who it is that saves us from our sins (Jesus). Then explain that God sent His Son, Jesus, to take away our sins.

Get out the dish soap and have them put some on their finger. Tell them that this soap represents Jesus when He came to earth. Explain to them that Jesus was the light of the world and anywhere He went, darkness fled. Have them dip their finger into the center of the peppery water and watch what happens when Jesus encounters darkness. It flees! Notice how the light from the flashlight (God) shines brightly now that it's not covered up by the dark pepper (sin).

**Explain** to your children that this same thing happens whenever we are saved by Jesus. Whenever we believe in Jesus (Romans 10:9), repent of our sins (Acts 2:38), re-orient our lives to make God the center of everything we do (Matthew 6:33), and have our sins washed away in baptism (Acts 22:16), Jesus wipes away our sins and shines brightly through us!