



**Mustard Seed Sunday School Summary for June 15, 2008
Released on Wednesday, June 11, 2008**

“Jesus Forgives Us”

MEMORY VERSE: "By his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Hebrews 9:12).

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: Hebrews 9:11–18

- 11** But Christ being come a high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;
12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh;
14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.
16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.
17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.
18 Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood.

Hebrews 10:12–14, 17–18

- 12** But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.
14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.
17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.
18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach the children that Jesus can and will forgive their sin.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Old Testament worship pointed people to look for Jesus' coming.
2. Everyone is a sinner.
3. Each person must repent of his sin and ask Jesus to forgive him.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, bring a picture of Jesus dying on the cross, and a completed cross from Helping to Remember.

For Telling How to Live, you need the cross from Helping to Remember.

For Helping to Remember, bring a 2-by-11-inch strip of red card stock and a 2-by-11-inch square of white construction paper for each student. You will also need glue sticks (or white glue), safety scissors, and markers.

TEACHER'S NOTES / TELLING THE LESSON:

The writer of Hebrews wanted the Jewish believers to understand that the old covenant and worship were never intended to provide salvation from sin. The blood of the animal sacrifices simply demonstrated that one life was being given for another life. It was symbolic of the future death of Jesus. He was the real atonement for sin. Sacrifices were only a picture to point the worshipers to who was coming in the future—the very Lamb of God, whose blood would take away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

Both the tabernacle and the beautiful temple were earthly, made with human hands. God's eternal plan centered around the sinless tabernacle of His Son, the Lamb of God, whose blood would be shed once for all people. Christ presented His own holy blood to God the Father one time as payment for the sin of the whole world, purchasing eternal life for all who believe.

Christ not only forgives our sin; He also gives us the power to turn away from sin and live holy lives. The Hebrew believers needed to stop all their dead works (Heb. 9:14) and concentrate on serving God. Sacrifices and washings could never provide forgiveness or eternal life. As believers, they had already inherited the promise of eternal life.

Hebrews 9:15-18 speaks of a new testament, or covenant. A "last will and testament" becomes effective only at the death of the testator. When Christ died, the new testament was put into effect. Through His death, His children have already inherited the blessings of His testament. Our sin is forgiven; we have eternal life.

In God's eyes, His children are perfect. Hebrews 10:14 states that Christ's one offering of Himself to the Father gives us His own perfection. His blood did away with our sins. He remembers them no more (vs. 17).

Only God could do this. When someone wrongs us, we can forgive them, but forgetting that wrong is another story. How wonderful that when I trusted in Jesus as my Saviour, He not only forgave my sin but also forgot it! "He hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Eph. 1:6-7).

BEGINNING THE LESSON

"Yes! Another homerun!" yelled Dan as Caleb smacked the ball with the bat and took off for first base.

Tom dashed across home plate with Mary close behind him.

The neighborhood friends had been playing baseball all afternoon. As Caleb ran toward home for another run, Dan's father walked toward them carrying a new ball.

"Look at this brand-new kickball. It is time for a different game. Does anyone want to play?" he asked.

Quickly teams were chosen. But when Dan's team lined up to kick, he noticed that Caleb was still holding the baseball bat and his glove.

"Why do you have that bat? We are not playing baseball anymore."

"I know," replied Caleb, "but I am used to batting the ball, so I thought I would just keep using the bat in this game too."

"This is a whole new game, Caleb," said Dan. "Put your baseball glove and bat away. You do not need them anymore. Now it is time to kick the ball!"

This is a bit like the lesson the Jewish believers needed to learn. They were used to worshipping God in the temple. They were used to offering animal sacrifices for their sin. They were used to having the priest pray to God for them.

They needed to understand that the old way was finished. It was time for a new way to worship God.

TELLING THE LESSON

The old covenant was finished. Before Jesus died on the cross, it was necessary for the Jews to obey the Old Testament law, to eat certain foods, to bring animal sacrifices to the temple, and to have the priest pray to God for them.

All of these were just pictures to teach the Jews. God was reminding people to look for a Saviour who would one day come as the perfect sacrifice for sin. (Display picture of Jesus dying on the cross.)

When the Old Testament priest sprinkled the blood of the animal sacrifice on the altar, it was a picture of Jesus' blood being shed to pay for sin.

Did any of these Old Testament practices really provide forgiveness of sin? Could the blood of a cow or a lamb or a goat take away sin? No, it was just a picture. The picture is not the real thing.

When the Jews obeyed God's commandments, they showed that they wanted to do right. But none of these good works saved them. No one could keep all the laws. It was impossible. Even people who loved God with all their hearts could not keep every law.

Think about yourself. Do you always obey? Have you told a lie? Are you always kind to your brother or sister? No.

The Bible tells us that every person is a sinner. Everyone sins. No one can always do what is right. We cannot do anything to get rid of our sin.

No one ever has come to God by being good and obeying the law. Instead, those who truly believed God looked for the coming of the Messiah, the perfect sacrifice. (Point to picture.)

Jesus is the perfect, holy Son of God. He was sinless when He lived on earth as a man. Jesus did not need to die for His own sin; He had none.

When He died on the cross, Jesus shed His blood. He was the perfect sacrifice. Jesus offered His blood to the Father as payment for our sin.

When we repent of our sin, Jesus forgives us. (Show cross sample.) He gives us eternal life with Him. Jesus is the only way to God.

In the Old Testament the priest had to offer many, many sacrifices for sin. He did this year after year. Jesus did not die many times.

Turn to Hebrews 10 in your Bible. (Help students locate this.) Look at verse 12. What number do you see in this verse? (One.) Look at verse 14. What number is there? (One.)

The Bible says Jesus made one sacrifice, or one offering. He died once for all sin. No other sacrifices need to be made. God is completely satisfied because Jesus' blood takes care of the payment for the sin of the whole world.

It was hard for the Jewish believers to stop following the system of sacrifices. They had done these things many years. Now it was time for a new way of worship. Jesus' blood had paid the price for all sin. No more sacrifices were needed.

When Jesus left earth, He went to be with God the Father. The book of Hebrews tells us that Jesus is sitting at the right side of God the Father. That is the place of highest

honor. What a wonderful Saviour Jesus is! He shed His blood for our sin so that God can forgive us. He gives us eternal life.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Some people think there are many ways to heaven, but there is only one real way. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Jesus is the only way to eternal life with God. He is the only one who can forgive our sin.

If you know John 3:16, say it with me: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Believing in Jesus means understanding that you are a sinner. God says everyone has sinned. Each of us has told a lie or disobeyed his parents or wanted to have his own way. None of us has loved God most of all.

Repent of your sin. Confess it to Jesus. Be sorry for your sin, and turn away from it. God will forgive you. (Point to cross.)

In fact, God says that He will not even remember our sins anymore. They are gone forever.

Confessing our sin and trusting Jesus is the only way to live with God forever in heaven. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to pay for our sin. If we ask Him, Jesus forgives us.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Give each student a strip of card stock. He should cut a 5-inch piece off one end, write "Forgives" across this piece, and then glue it to the longer piece to form a cross. He should then write "Jesus" at the top of the vertical strip, cut a small heart out of the white square, and write "Us" on the heart. He should glue the heart on the bottom part of the cross. Now you should see "Jesus Forgives Us" on each cross.

After the glue dries, the student can use this craft as a bookmark. Display yours in the room alongside previous weeks' visuals. Discuss more uses for it. It could be used to explain the gospel to someone else.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"By his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Hebrews 9:12).

The Old Testament priests offered the blood of animals for sin year after year.

Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. He was without sin. He died one time and presented His blood to God as payment for our sin. Jesus provided eternal life for everyone who believes in Him.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "Jesus, Our Leader" which reveals a Christ who leads and corrects us so that we can share in His holiness. Read Hebrews 12:1-13.

Lesson Summarized by:

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**Jesus Forgives Us (Hebrews 9:11–18; 10:12–14,
17–18.)**

L S R S K R O W G U A M D E R
O E S E Q T A B E R N A C L E
O I N C D S L P C E E N S P M
T M O A K E U T S D A A E N E
S E I L C R M I M T N R C R M
T N S V G H M P I C F W O B B
O E S E B O R R T E S T N U E
O D E S R G E I C I A V S L R
F O R P O H F T S I O H C L Y
S O G D N I X U D T T N I S L
P L S I E T N E M A T S E T O
O B N D N A M G O A T S N E H
T Q A O F F E R I N G S C B L
P V R L A N R E T E W T E M S
W I T H O U T I R I P S I N S

BLOOD
CHRIST
ENEMIES
GOATS
INHERITANCE
OFFERING
PURGE
SANCTIFIED
SPOT
TRANSGRESSIONS

BULLS
CONSCIENCE
ETERNAL
GOD
MAN
PERFECT
REDEMPTION
SINS
TABERNACLE
WITHOUT

CALVES
DEAD
FOOTSTOOL
HOLY
MEDIATOR
PROMISE
REMEMBER
SPIRIT
TESTAMENT
WORKS

30 of 30 words were placed into the puzzle.

Jesus Forgives Us Solution (Hebrews 9:11-18; 10:12-14, 17-18.)

L S R S K R O W + + + + D E R
O E S E + T A B E R N A C L E
O I N C D + + P + E E N S P M
T M O A + E U + S D A A E + E
S E I L C R M I + T N R C R M
T N S V G H M P I C F + O B B
O E S E + O R R T E + T N U E
O D E S R G E I C I A + S L R
F O R P O H F T S I O + C L Y
S O G D N I + + D T + N I S L
P L S I E T N E M A T S E T O
O B N D N A M G O A T S N + H
T + A O F F E R I N G + C + +
+ + R L A N R E T E + + E + +
W I T H O U T I R I P S I N S

(Over, Down, Direction)

BLOOD (2, 12, N)
BULLS (14, 6, S)
CALVES (4, 3, S)
CHRIST (5, 5, SE)
CONSCIENCE (13, 5, S)
DEAD (10, 4, NE)
ENEMIES (2, 7, N)
ETERNAL (10, 14, W)
FOOTSTOOL (1, 9, N)
GOATS (8, 12, E)
GOD (6, 8, SW)
HOLY (15, 12, N)
INHERITANCE (4, 11, NE)
MAN (7, 12, W)
MEDIATOR (7, 12, NE)
OFFERING (4, 13, E)
PERFECT (14, 3, SW)
PROMISE (4, 9, NE)
PURGE (8, 3, SW)
REDEMPTION (3, 1, SE)
REMEMBER (15, 1, S)
SANCTIFIED (13, 3, SW)
SINS (12, 15, E)
SPIRIT (12, 15, W)
SPOT (1, 10, S)
TABERNACLE (6, 2, E)
TESTAMENT (14, 11, W)
TRANSGRESSIONS (3, 15, N)
WITHOUT (1, 15, E)
WORKS (8, 1, W)