

# Way Truth Life

A Children's Ministry  
Resource

**AT-HOME ACTIVITIES**

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# HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

These activities are for families to do at home to spark discussions about the weekly lessons. They can be done any day of the week.

If you'd like, these activities can also be modified to be used during part of your children's worship service.

# Week 1:

# Amazing Grace

**Scripture:** *John 1:35-42*

This past Sunday in church, we talked about Jesus taking away the sins of the world. This week try this fun experiment at home to help get a better picture of what happens in our hearts when Jesus forgives our sins.

### ***What you need:***

- 1 empty glass
- 1 can of a dark soft drink
- 1 bottle of bleach

### ***What you do:***

Get a trusted adult to help you with this. Pour the soft drink into the empty glass. Only fill the glass  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way full. Next, take the bleach and slowly and carefully pour it into the glass and watch what happens. Be careful to not over-fill the glass.

### ***What does this mean?***

The soft drink represents the power sin has in our lives before God takes action.

**Sin keeps us from seeing and following God clearly.**

Without any help, that soft drink would stay dark and not change. But like the bleach clears out the dark color of the soda, God clears the power of sin from our lives. This is Jesus's saving grace! Sin doesn't control us and we are a new person for Christ! With his grace covering our lives, we are given a fresh start and a new life!

# Week 2:

# Seeking Grace

**Scripture:** Acts 10:1-48

### **What you need:**

- Bible
- Paper and markers

### **What you do:**

First, re-read our story from this week (Acts 10:1-48). Then, write down or discuss what God taught Peter (and us) about having love for everyone.

Play a game called “sardines.” This game is a lot like hide and seek, but it is played backwards. Only one person hides. Let’s call this person the Hider. Everyone else counts to 20 to give them enough time to go and hide. After counting, everyone individually goes and seeks for the Hider. When someone finds him or her, they hide with the Hider and wait for everyone else to find them. The game ends when everyone has found the Hider and all are grouped together! Play as many rounds as you can, giving each family member a chance to be the first Hider.

### **What does this mean?**

Remember what God does for every person? God seeks us out with all he has. He is not a God who sits back and expects us to go and find him. Instead, he runs after us and seeks us even when we don’t know him. He gently speaks to our hearts. He can speak through our friends and our family. He’s constantly seeking a relationship with us. This is God’s Seeking Grace!

# Week 3:

# Saving Grace

**Scripture:** *Luke 18:35—19:10*

## *What you need:*

- Bible
- Mobius strip handout
- Pencil
- Stapler or tape
- Scissors

## *What you do:*

First, create a regular paper loop. On the handout, cut out one of the rectangles. Make a loop with the paper by lining up the two ends. Tape or staple the ends to create the loop.

Second, create a Mobius strip. Cut out another rectangle on the handout to create a second strip of paper. This time, before connecting the ends to create a loop, flip over one end of the strip and then line up the two ends. Tape or staple the ends to create the Mobius strip.

**What do you think will happen if you draw a line around the first loop you created? What about the Mobius strip? Let's find out.**

Begin with the regular paper loop you created first. Using a pencil, pick a starting point and draw a line around the outside of the shape without picking up your pencil. Continue drawing until you end up back where you started the line.

Did you finish? Is there any part of the paper that didn't get drawn on? That's right, the inside of the loop! You can only draw on one side of the paper when you try this with a regular loop.

Now, try the same thing with the Mobius strip. Pick a starting point and, without picking up your pencil, draw a line along the strip of paper until you end up back where you started. You might have to twist the paper strip as you go. That's okay; just don't pick up your pencil until you get back to your starting point.

Did you finish? Was there any part of the paper you didn't draw on? Did it feel like you drew a longer line? That's because you did! With a Mobius strip, your line covers BOTH sides of the paper and you never had to pick up your pencil. How awesome is that! A Mobius strip lets you draw a line twice as long than a regular loop.

### ***What does this mean?***

God's saving grace is similar to turning a regular paper loop into a Mobius strip. Before God's saving grace, it's kind of like we're only living half of a life. But God's love and grace comes along and turns our life into so much more! Like turning a loop into a Mobius strip.

We're free from the power of sin. We're free to see others the way God sees them. We're free to live in forgiveness and live in God's love. We're free to become more like Jesus each day. In other words, God changes your life from a regular loop to a Mobius strip. It's like God's love doubles the awesomeness of life. Life with God has so much more to offer than life without him!

Zacchaeus and the blind beggar both realized this and had very big reactions to God's saving grace. Both of their lives changed and became so much more. Zacchaeus discovered the joy of making up for his mistakes and blessing people with generosity.

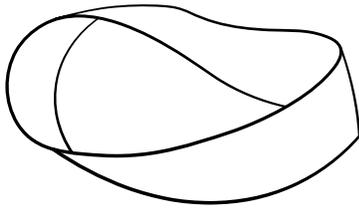
Re-read the story from this Sunday (Luke 18:35—19:10) and remember that God's grace makes our lives so much more. God loves us more than we will ever know! How has God's saving grace changed your life?

### **Week 3: Saving Grace**

#### **Mobius Strip and Regular Loop**

**1)** Cut out one strip of paper. Make a loop by lining up the two ends. Staple or tape the ends together.

**2)** Cut out a second strip of paper. This time, before connecting the ends to create a loop, flip over one end of the strip and then line up the two ends. Tape or staple the ends to create a Mobius strip.



**3)** Use the extra strips if you'd like to try again.

#### **At-Home Activities— Week 3: Saving Grace**

# Week 4:

# Sanctifying Grace

**Scripture:** Acts 1:6-14; 2:17

## *What you need:*

- 1 small drinking glass
- 1 paper towel
- 1 bowl (large enough to hold the glass) filled with water
- Food coloring

## *What you do:*

- Mix 2-3 drops of food coloring in the bowl of water until the water changes color.
- What do you think would happen if you put the paper towel in the bowl of water? Yep, it would get wet. However, what if we could figure out a way to keep it dry?
- Crumple up the paper towel and shove it into the bottom of the glass, tight enough that it stays put even if you turn the glass upside down. If your glass is too wide, you might have to use two paper towels.
- Turn the glass upside down. Holding the glass straight up and down, slowly lower it into the water. Lower the glass until it is covered by water. **Be sure to keep the glass straight.**
- Hold the glass under water for 10 seconds and then pull it back out. What happened?
- Why didn't the paper towel get wet? The air pocket in the glass kept the water from reaching the paper towel. Even though it went under water, it didn't get wet!

## *What does this mean?*

- The water represents the sins that tempt us. The paper towel represents us!
- God has set his people apart for his use. He makes us holy. We don't have to fight sin and temptation alone. It doesn't mean we won't be tempted. But it does mean that God is with us, giving us love and strength.
- God sets us apart!

Pray and thank God for saving you and for setting you apart for his work.

# Week 5:

# Sustaining Grace

**Scripture:** Acts 2:42-47

**What you need:**

- Old bedsheet, blanket, or tarp

**What you do:**

- Find an old bedsheet, blanket, or tarp large enough for everyone in the house to stand on.
- Lay the sheet in the middle of the floor, all the way spread out. Have everyone stand on top of it.
- When everyone is on, try and flip the entire sheet over without anyone stepping off or touching the floor below.
- Try it a few different times and see how quickly you can get it flipped over!

In order to do this well, you will have to work together as a team, just like the church!

**What does this mean?**

We are all a part of the church. As a church, we help each other, encourage each other, love each other, teach each other, and hold each other up. We can't do it alone!

# Week 6:

# Sufficient Grace

**Scriptures:** 2 Corinthians 12:6-10; Genesis 50:15-21

## *What you need:*

- Bible
- Recipe
- Ingredients for the recipe
- Mixing bowls, pans, etc.

## *What you do:*

This week, let's bake together!

1. Choose a recipe that takes several steps to prepare.
2. One person is in charge of the instructions. This person reads the instructions out loud to the others while baking. This is the only person allowed to read the instructions.
3. Choose a different person to gather the ingredients. This is the only one allowed to move the ingredients from their spot to where they will be mixed.
4. Choose a third person to mix. This is the only one allowed to mix the ingredients together.
5. Choose a fourth person to be in charge of the oven duties. This is the only family member allowed to touch the oven (and the baked/unbaked item) as it is placed into and removed from the oven.\*

Each person has a job to do. Most importantly, everyone relies on the person giving the recipe instructions. The one in charge of the instructions tells everyone else when and what to do. The one in charge of getting the ingredients is important. Otherwise, there would be nothing to mix. Without the ingredient-mixer, the ingredients would simply sit there and do nothing. Finally, the one in charge of the oven turns the gooey mess into something good to eat! Each person has their own job and without the others it would be impossible to bake something!

### *What does this mean?*

Just like our activity we did together, God leads us each day. He provides the instructions. He has to carry us. From there, it takes all of us to work together. As a family, re-read the story from this last Sunday, **2 Corinthians 12:6-10**, and remember that God works with us and carries us when we can't do it alone.

\*If you have a larger family, consider some of the following as extra tasks:

- 1 person gets to hold and read the instructions
- 1 person can get the ingredients, mixing bowls, measuring spoons, and pans
- 1 person gets to measure the ingredients
- 1 person gets to mix the ingredients at the right time
- 1 person gets to prepare the oven
- 1 person gets to put the mixed ingredients into the oven
- 1 person gets to keep track of the baking progress (by way of timer/toothpick check)
- 1 person gets to remove the baked good and place it somewhere to cool
- 1 person gets to cut the baked item and serve it to each family member