



# 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

April 4-5, 2015

DATE

Mark 14-16, Isaiah 41:10  
Adventure Bible (pp. 794, 1114-1119)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Easter

LESSON TITLE

Jesus Rescued Us!

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (15 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

Today is all about the most amazing rescue ever: **Jesus' rescue of us!** Using the term "rescue" is a good way to help new kids learn what the gospel means for them, in language they can understand.

**\*\*This week is 75 minutes long!** We've included an extra activity in small group to help keep kids engaged for that extra 10 minutes.

## check-in/out

Make sure to introduce yourself to new kids, as there will be a lot of them here on Easter weekend!

## large group heads up

We don't want to put a lot of pressure on kids to make a decision about accepting Jesus' rescue today, but we do want to help them understand what it means for them personally.

To help you prepare for how to talk to kids about the story of Easter, look up the videos we'll be watching on [crossroadskidsclub.net/weekend](http://crossroadskidsclub.net/weekend).



## connect time

**Goal:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### **SUPERHERO SELF-PORTRAIT**

*\*Break into small groups for this activity. If you need to do it in a large group, however, make sure leaders spread throughout the group and ask kids about their artwork.*

- Give each kid **1 piece of paper** and each group some **markers**.
- Tell kids to take a minute and think about the one superpower they would want to have most.
- Tell kids to draw a picture of themselves with their special superpower.
- They could show themselves flying, being super-strong, controlling water, etc. Encourage them to be creative and draw as many details as they want!
- After kids are done drawing (or during drawing, if you're running short on time), go around the group and ask these 2 questions:
  - What superpower did you choose, and why?
  - What was the best or worst part of your week?

**Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will understand that (1) Jesus rescued them by dying for them, (2) Jesus is more powerful than any enemy who tries to defeat us and (3) Jesus' rescue means we don't have to be afraid.

**Why:** This is the most important message we can give to kids: that Jesus loves us so much, he died to rescue us and be close to us.

**Tip:** Describing the gospel in terms of Jesus' rescue will help kids understand what the resurrection means for them; that he is so strong and loving, he rescued us from death.

## small group

### REVIEW AND DIG DEEPER:

**\*Pass around a beanbag to the person who's speaking. Each group member should be prepared to hold the bean bag and answer questions.**

1. Why did God create a rescue plan to save everyone in the world?
2. What did Jesus have to do to rescue us?
3. What happened after Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb?
4. Why did Jesus go through so much suffering, even death, for people who sin?
5. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus wants to rescue you?
  - Show a **print out of the Easter story** to help kids review the events. This will help them with the next activity. (These will be used for subsequent services.)

### RESCUE BOXES

**\*Each kid will need a piece of paper, a box, 2 stickers, and some markers.**

- Hand out a **piece of paper** and **markers** to each kid.
- Tell kids to **make a list** on the paper of all the things they feel when they sin. Things like sad, mad, lonely, embarrassed, ashamed, guilty, etc.
- Next, **hand out a cardboard box** to each kid, and ask them to **write on the box** all the characteristics of Jesus that they saw in today's story.
- **Encourage** them to write as many characteristics of Jesus as they can think of. Things like love, bravery, forgiveness, strength, etc. *(It may be helpful to review the events of the Easter story.)*
- Tell kids to crumple up their paper, put it in the box and close it up.
- **Say**, "This is your rescue box. It shows how Jesus is able to rescue you from all the things you felt when you sinned. No matter what wrong things you do, Jesus loves you and will rescue you."

- Encourage kids to use this box in the future. They can add to the box whenever they make a wrong choice or feel ashamed, and it will help them remember that Jesus can take care of them.
- Hand out **2 stickers** to each kid to remind them of how Jesus has rescued them (**one to wear and one to put on their box**).

**\*If kids ask about accepting Jesus for the first time, it's okay if you don't feel comfortable sharing the whole gospel story. Talk about what Jesus has done for you in your own words.**

### **Prayer**

Thank God for sending his son to die for us and rescue us. Thank him for taking on all of our sin because of how much he loves us.

### ***Extra time?***

*Kids can decorate their boxes further by adding things they are thankful for that God has done for them. They could also draw pictures and symbols that show Jesus' love for them.*

*Play a rescue tag game! Pick out two volunteers-one is the tagger, one is the rescuer. Have the rest of the kids gather at one end of an open area. They have to walk (not run) from one edge of the area to another edge (pick out a designated spot in the room). The tagger has to tag them and they have to freeze, but the rescuer can come find them and "rescue" them. Let kids get tagged and untagged for as long as you want, and switch out taggers/rescuers to give other kids a turn.*

## special notes

Prepare for today by reflecting on how Jesus has personally rescued you. When was a time that you felt alone, scared or ashamed, and how did Jesus rescue you from it? Share this with kids during the lesson.

\*Set **2 chairs** out in the presentation area, you'll need them for part of large group.

## presenter tips

Here's a link to the music videos we'll be watching:

Bravery

<https://vimeo.com/49923937>

Come With Me

<https://vimeo.com/49923933>

We'll also be watching this God's Story video about Easter:

<http://vimeo.com/39716113>

## script

***\*Click to play intro music***

Hey everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here. It's Easter weekend, and around here that means it's time to celebrate! Today we're talking about how God created the most amazing rescue plan of all time, and it's for us! Before we get to that, let's talk about superheroes! **(Click to show slide of superhero.)**

### **SUPERHEROES TO THE RESCUE**

Raise your hand if you would like to have a superpower! *(Let kids respond.)* Me too. If I could have a superpower, I would...*(insert your own answer)*. It would be so awesome! I could do all these extra-cool things that I would never be able to do if I was just a regular human. You know what else you and I could do? We could rescue people. Raise your hand if you would like to be able to do that? Me too.

We're going to watch a video about a rescue. As you watch, pay attention to what these superheroes are using their powers for.

### **VIDEO: THE INCREDIBLES**

Were the heroes in that video just using their powers for fun? *(Let kids answer 'no'.)* Then why did they use their powers? *(Call on a kid to answer.)* That's right, they used their powers to defeat the big robot and rescue the city! Now, raise your hand if you think the heroes ALSO needed to be rescued in that video? *(Let kids respond.)* That's right, they did. Even though they were strong and could do really cool things, even THEY needed to be rescued.

### **WE ALL NEED A RESCUE PLAN**

Superheroes aren't the only ones who can rescue people. We have a rescuer that is more powerful than any hero we could imagine. Who do you think that is? *(Let kids answer 'God' or*



## script continued

‘Jesus’.) You’re right! God is the most powerful rescuer of all, and he came up with a plan to rescue every one of us.

The question is, why do we need to be rescued? To answer that, we have to go all the way back to the beginning of the Bible, when God created Adam and Eve. God let Adam and Eve choose whether they wanted to obey God or not, and they decided to *disobey* God. That’s when sin entered the world. Sin caused sadness, loneliness, and anger. Sin separated us from God. It created a big gaping hole between us and Him.

Everyone take a minute to close your eyes and think about the kindest, bravest, most perfect person in the world. Someone who you think always does the right thing, or always helps people in need. Got it? Ok, open your eyes. Raise your hand if you think even that person needs to be rescued? (*Let kids respond.*) Yes, you’re right! Everyone needs a rescuer, because every single person sins.

### **SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD**

Let me show it to you this way. (***Place two chairs next to each other in your presentation area.***) This first chair right here, let’s say this is where God is (*point to one chair*). And this chair next to it, this is where we are (*point to the other chair*). You see this space between us? That’s where sin gets in between God and us. And guess what? When we do wrong things, and feel sad or angry or ashamed, that space gets bigger and bigger. (*Push the two chairs further apart.*)

The thing is, God came up with a way to cover this distance between us and Him. He sent someone down to the world to bring us close to God again! Let’s watch a video to learn just what God’s rescue plan is. As you watch, pay special attention to why Jesus went through all these things to rescue us:

### **VIDEO: GOD’S STORY/EASTER**

That’s an incredible story. Jesus went through unimaginable pain to rescue us. But why did he do it? (*Let a kid answer.*) That’s right, it’s because he loved us. Loved us enough to die for us!

### **JESUS WILL RESCUE US NO MATTER WHAT**

Jesus knew that this would happen. He knew that some of his own friends would turn their backs on him. But even then, Jesus still chose to love them. That’s because no matter what we do or how much we mess up, he will always love us.

Let’s talk about the Bible for a minute. You may not have read it before, and that’s okay! It’s a book filled with stories. Stories about all kinds of different people; some who made right choices, and some who made wrong choices. We all make wrong choices sometimes, I know I do! The thing is, no matter what wrong choice we make, Jesus still died for us, and he still loves us.

- Here’s one story about a guy named Jonah. God said to him “I want you to tell others about me!” But guess what? Instead of listening to God, Jonah ran away and hid. Even though Jonah made a wrong choice, would Jesus still die for him? (*give me thumbs up if*



## script continued

*he would!)*

- One story is about a man named Cain. Cain was really angry with his brother Abel, because Abel gave a better gift to God than Cain did. You know what happened? Cain killed his brother Abel. Now, would Jesus die for Cain, even though he did such a bad thing? *(Give me a thumbs up if he would!)*
- Here's one last story. There was a king named Saul who had a huge kingdom. God told Saul the best way to rule this kingdom, but Saul thought he knew better than God, so he tried to rule his own way instead. Would Jesus die for Saul, even though he didn't want to listen to God? *(Give me a thumbs up if he would!)*
- You may not have made the same choices as these guys, but we all make wrong choices. You might have lied, or disobeyed your parents, or maybe you've been mean to someone at school. Did Jesus die for you too? *(Give me a big thumbs up if he did!)*

The reason God gave us all these stories is to show us how EVERYONE makes wrong choices, but God still loves us, and he still sent his son to die for us. (Tell kids a personal example of a wrong choice that you've made, and how you realized that Jesus was the only way to be rescued from it).

## JESUS IS OUR RESCUER

Jesus rescued every single one of us when he chose to die for all the wrong things in the world. Jesus is the ultimate rescue plan that God made to save us. Let's all read this verse together as loud as we can:

**SLIDE: Isaiah 41:10: "So do not be afraid. I am with you. Do not be terrified. I am your God. I will make you strong and help you. I will hold you safe in my hands. I always do what is right."**

Remember how we used these chairs to show how God wants to rescue us? There's a big distance between us and God when we do wrong things, but he loves us so much, that's he's sent his son Jesus to be like a bridge between us. Jesus took the punishment that should have been yours and rescued you by bringing you close to God!

The thing is, we need to accept that rescue. And it's really easy to do. Let's all close our eyes. I want you to think about how it feels when you're far away from God. *(Wait few seconds before continuing.)* Now think about how it feels to be close to God because Jesus has rescued you. If you want to accept that rescue, you can decide that right now. *(Give kids a few more seconds of silence.)* Alright, everybody open your eyes.

Knowing that Jesus can rescue us from anything means we don't have to be afraid! Let's watch a music video about how Jesus gives us bravery:

## VIDEO: Bravery

Now let's sing about how Jesus wants us to follow him. We can go with him anywhere and he will always be with us!



**script continued**

**VIDEO: Come With Me**

**PRAYER**

*Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for everyone, no matter how bad we think they are. Thank him for rescuing us.*

***\*\*If you want to play an extra video at the end of the service, kids can watch “Love Beats Fear”.***

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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

**Per kid:** 1 piece of white paper  
**Per group:** Markers

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## small group supplies

**Per kid:** 2 stickers (OT: IN-36/2851)  
1 cardboard box (Papermart. 3x3" boxes)  
1 piece of white paper  
**Per group:** Markers, bean bag, Adventure Bible (pp. 794, 1114-1119), Easter story printout:  
<http://bit.ly/1CglT1h>

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## large group supplies

2 chairs in the presentation area  
Adventure Bible (pp. 794, 1114-1119)

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1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
  2. Slide: Superhero
  3. Video: The Incredibles (start at 0:00, stop at 2:49) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-m033SEOw>
  4. Video: God's Story/Easter <http://vimeo.com/39716113>
  5. Slide: Isaiah 41:10: "So do not be afraid. I am with you. Do not be terrified. I am your God. I will make you strong and help you. I will hold you safe in my hands. I always do what is right."
  6. Video: Bravery <https://vimeo.com/49923937>
  7. Come With Me <https://vimeo.com/49923933>
  8. Video: Love Beats Fear <https://vimeo.com/113716523>

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## connect questions

Why did God send us a rescuer?  
How did Jesus rescue us?

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## parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate document