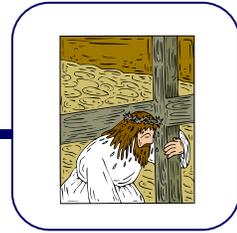


## Get Ready!



### Text

Psalm 22:21; 54:2-4; 59:2-4; 71:1; 39:8; 51:1-4, 14



### Key Quest Verse

“ Then I called upon the name of the Lord, ‘O Lord save me!’” (Psalm 116:4).



### Bible Background

The description of Christ as mediator between God and man is recorded in the New Testament. One of the central themes of the book of Hebrews is who Jesus Christ is and his superiority. The people who received this letter were to be encouraged by reviewing the authority and attributes of Jesus Christ. They were to be confident to have Christ represent them as he speaks to his Father and sits at His right. Christ is shown to be the Son of God (Heb.1:3). He is superior to angels (1:4) and is found to be worthy of greater honor than Moses (3:3). Christ is described as our high priest (9:11). This high priest offered not the blood of animals, but his own blood (9:12). This blood of Christ cleanses our consciences so we may serve the living God (9:14). For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant (9:15). We are assured that he entered heaven and appears for us in God’s presence (9:24). We are also assured that he will appear again bringing salvation to those who are waiting for him (9:28). Christ’s role as mediator is mentioned three times in the book of Hebrews (8:6, 9:15 and 12:24). The author of Hebrews is uncertain. Some speculate from other writings that it might have been authored by Barnabas or Apollos. The book is believed to have been written before the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in A.D. 70. Hebrews addresses many of the concerns of the Jewish converts of that time who were familiar with the Old Testament. Throughout the book many convincing arguments are given for following Jesus Christ because he is appointed as our mediator by God.

**Get Ready!****Lesson Quest****Want my students to:****Know:** David needed a Savior and so do we.**Feel:** The need for God's salvation.**Do:** Call upon God to be saved.**Leader's Devotion**

Diabetes is sometimes called a "silent killer." You can have diabetes and may not even know it. All the same, the effects of it can be causing harmful destruction to your body's organs. Sin in our lives can work the same way. Just because nothing happens to us immediately after our sin, we can sometimes relax to think that everything is okay. In either case, death is the final outcome if we don't acknowledge that we have a problem and we need to do something about it. The theme of today's lesson is, "We Need a Savior." We need to recognize that our sin will lead to death without a savior. As we approach the Christmas season, we need to realize that God's gift of His Son is His provision of a Savior for us. Meditate upon this thought as you prepare this lesson and as you lead your children to understand just how important the gift of Jesus is to them.

## Get Set!



### Option A



**Materials:** Worksheet entitled, “Who Needs To Be Saved?”

**Procedure:** Pass out the worksheet entitled, “Who Needs To Be Saved?” Read the title to your students. Ask them to comment upon the illustrations and who they think needs to be saved. Ask them to explain why they chose the one they did. These pictures illustrate a number of different issues in your students’ lives: danger, problems with parents, boredom, school work, loneliness, self-image, the unknown, etc. Listen carefully because this discussion may enlighten you as far as the concerns of your students.

“Some of these characters are really in a jam! I’m sure they would be glad for someone to come along and save them. Did any of you decide that they all need to be saved? Let’s take a look and see what scripture has to say about that.”

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**



### Option B



**Materials:** 3X5 cards with dangerous situations written on them. (Examples: “You are in a burning building and can’t get out,” “You are drowning in deep water,” “You are being chased by a mean dog,” “There is thunder and lightning and you are afraid,” “Someone is following you that you don’t know,” “You’ve been kidnapped and your hands and feet are tied.”)

**Procedure:** “Do you like to play charades? I have some cards here with dangerous situations written on them. You will act like you are the person in that situation and we will try to guess what is happening to you. Remember, you can’t say anything. You will have to give us clues by acting it out. Who would like to try?” (Give several who would like to try acting one out a chance do it. If they are uncertain about trying, be willing to do one or two yourself.) After you have acted out several of the situations, continue. “In almost all of these situations, we would probably cry out for help wouldn’t we? What would you say?” (Let them offer their answers.) “In our lesson today, we will learn of a man who cried out for help to God. We will see that he called upon God to ‘save him’ on more than one occasion. Can you guess who that might be?” (Let them guess.) “We will be looking in the book of Psalms. Does that help you to guess who it might be?” (Let them guess again.) “Right! It is David and I bet you can think of one time that he called upon God to save him.” (When he fought Goliath.) “Yes, when he faced that enormous giant, Goliath, in battle, He asked God to help him. And what happened?” (God saved him and all of Israel.) “We are not going to read that story, but there were some other times that David called to God to ‘save him.’ Let’s see what they were.”

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**

Get Set!



Bible Story

**Materials:** Bibles

**Procedure:** David was a man who loved God and trusted in Him. From the days of being a shepherd boy to the times when he ruled Israel as King, David sought God to help him. Many times David called upon God to save him. When he cared for his sheep there were times when he would face a wild animal that would be after his sheep. “What do you think he would do when he was face to face with a wild animal? What would you do?” (Give them an opportunity to respond.) “Let’s see what David wrote in Psalm 22:21.” (Look up the verse and read it together.) “Do you think God heard David’s cry and answered him? Let’s see what David said in 1 Samuel 17:34-37.” (Read this passage together. Especially notice what David said in vs. 37.)

Wild animals weren’t the only thing that David had to fear. When he was King of Israel, there were many times that he had to go to battle against the armies of neighboring countries. These people were his enemies and they wanted to kill him. There were even times when people from his own country tried to kill him and take over his throne. “Can you imagine what that would be like?” (Let them respond.) “Do you know what David did to handle these problems? He would call upon God to save him. Let’s read some examples from the writings of David in the book of Psalms.” (Assign the following verses to members of your class for them to read: Psalm 54:2-4, Psalm 59:2-4, Psalm 71:1.) God did rescue David and he ruled over Israel for forty years. He was the greatest king that ever reigned as King of Israel!

Not only did David call upon God to save him from wild animals and from his enemies who wanted to kill him, David knew that He needed God to save him from something else. “Can you guess what that was?” (Give them a chance to offer their ideas.) David prayed to God to ask Him to save him from his sins. In Psalm 39:8, David says, “Save me from all my transgressions.” “Let’s also look at Psalm 51 where David pleads with God to save him from his sins.” (Open your Bibles to Psalm 51. Begin by reading verses 1-2, then read verses 3, 4, and 14.) David knew that when he sinned, he needed God’s forgiveness. He knew that he needed a Savior.

“There is an important lesson we can learn from David. We should always pray to God when we have problems and God will hear our prayers and save us. We can’t forget that one very important problem we have is our sin. We need to call upon God to save us. In the next few weeks we will be finding out just how God has answered that prayer. He sent someone who could save us from our sins. Do you know who that is?” (Some of them will know that it is Jesus, God’s Son.) “Well, as we come together the next few weeks and learn about the birth of Jesus, let us all try to remember just how much we need Jesus to save us from our sins and thank God for hearing our prayers and giving Him to us.”



**WORKSHEET:** *Another Option: In the resource pages is a script that is based upon this worksheet that can be used as a puppet script or skit. It can be performed by the students or by someone else who would present it to the students.*

**Go!****Questions and Answers**

**Materials:** Worksheet entitled “Questions & Answers,” pencils

**Procedure:** Read the first question and then look up the scripture to the right of the boy’s question. Discuss what it means and how it answers the question. Write a short summary in the lines that are provided. Then, read the comment that goes with the scripture. Continue in this manner with the remaining questions.

**Quest Connection**

“Do you sometimes have a lot of questions about things? What are some of your questions?” (Let them give some examples.) “I’m going to pass out a paper with some questions a young boy asked about the same thing we studied in our lesson.” (Pass out the worksheet entitled, “Questions & Answers.) “This young boy didn’t completely understand what it means to need a Savior. His dad showed him how his questions could be answered in God’s Word. Let’s look up the scriptures to see what those answers might be.”

**Close**

“We found out a lot by answering that boy’s questions. It’s good to ask questions when we aren’t sure what something means. The best place to find out the right answers is to look into God’s Word. Sometimes we need someone older who is wise in the ways of God to help us find those answers. Do you have any more questions?” (Listen to their questions. Answer those that can be answered without getting too far away from the lesson. Save others with a promise to talk about them at a later time.) “I hope that you all have a better understanding of why we need a Savior now, because we are soon going to discover just who that Savior is.”



**GUEST QUEST:** This is a wonderful chance for your students to get to know other members of your congregation.

Go!



### Voice Of Experience



**Materials:** See if you can find someone in your congregation who can tell a story of a time when they needed to be saved.

**Procedure:** The person you invited will tell his/her story about a time when he/she needed to be saved. Ask in advance if the person would be willing to relate that experience to the most important need for a savior in his/her life—the need for a Savior from his/her sins.



### Quest Connection

“David certainly had some scary experiences! Can you imagine facing a bear and fighting him? What do you think it would be like to sleep outside throughout the night knowing that wild animals might come to attack your sheep? Do you think people face frightening experiences today? Do you know any stories of someone who was in a dangerous situation and feared for his life?” (Give them an opportunity to respond.)           (name of person)          



### Close

“Wow! That was some story! Can you imagine what that was like? What did you think when           (name of person)           talked about his/her need for a Savior from his/her sins? Some of these stories seem very exciting, but there is no greater need than the one to be saved from our sins. Do you know why that is?” (Give them a chance to respond.) “Yes, because it means that we can be saved from dying forever. It is thrilling to be saved from dying in this life; but, being saved forever is even more thrilling! That is a really important thing to remember.”

Go!



## Help! Save Me!



**Materials:** Tape, signs that can be taped to your students that say: lying, hurting others, stealing, disobeying parents, etc. (It will depend on the size of your class how many signs you will need. For a small class you will only need one that might just say, “sin.” For a larger class you might a few more.) You will also need a sign that says, “Savior.”

**Procedure:** Select one or more students who will wear the “sin” signs and attach them. Choose one student who will wear the “Savior” sign. The rest of the class will just be themselves. Give the following directions: “For the game, some of you will represent some of the sins that trap us into disobeying God. You will wear these signs.” (Attach the “sin” signs to the students you have chosen.) “Just one of you will wear the sign that says ‘Savior.’” (Attach that sign to the student you have chosen.) “The rest of you will just act like normal people going through a normal day. Now, those of you wearing the sin signs will try to touch the children who are not wearing signs. That is what sin does. It “catches” us. When they touch you, you must freeze and call out, “Help! Save me!” That’s where our “Savior” comes in. He can save you by touching you and freeing you from the power of the sin. Now, you can move to avoid the sin or try to hide from it, but when it “catches” you, you must freeze and call out, “Help! Save me!” When the “Savior” touches you, you can move about freely once again.”



## Quest Connection

“I have a fun game that might help us remember that we need a Savior from our sins. Why don’t we play it now?”



## Close

“Was there anyone here who was able to avoid being touched by one of the “sins?” That’s the way it is in life. We are not always able to avoid sin. The Bible says that ‘all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God’ (Romans 3:23). What we need to realize is that we need a Savior and we need to call out to him to save us. God gave us a Savior to free us from our sins. Do you know who that is?” (Christ.) “We are so lucky to have him! He sets us free from our sins so that we can live forever with Him and with His father, God.”

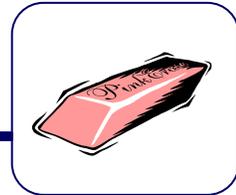


**CRAFT:** *An inexpensive plastic tablecloth help make craft project clean-ups easy!*

Go!



## Erase Those Sins!



**Materials:** Resource pages with pictures of a boy and a girl, card stock (heavier weight paper) or cardboard, glue sticks, contact paper, washable thin line markers, tissues, water

**Procedure:** Hand out the pictures of a boy or girl to each student. Give them a piece of card stock or cardboard and a glue stick. Glue the picture to the cardboard and then cover it with contact paper and trim the edges. This picture can represent you. Think of some things that you might do that are sin. One example is to tell a lie. Let's take this pen and write the word, "lie," somewhere across the body. "Now, you can think of some other things and write them on your body as well? Gee, our bodies look pretty bad don't they? This is how we look to God when we are covered with sin. Do you remember what we need to do when we sin?" (Call to God to save us.) "And then, what will God do?" (He will remove our sins.) "We can see how this happens if we take a tissue and get it a little bit wet and then wipe it over the sins. See what happens? The sins are gone. We are clean again. Isn't that wonderful?"



## Quest Connection

"David was a wonderful example of faith and trust in God. Why did he have to call out to God to save him from his sins? Did David ever sin?" (See if they have an answer.) "Well, yes, he did. Once he was responsible for a man's death. That really is murder. There were other things, too. He had more than one wife, which wasn't what God intended and he committed adultery with a woman who wasn't his wife. He realized that these things were wrong and that is why he cried out to God to save him from his sins. What do you think God did?" (Let them respond.) "Yes, God forgave him. David wrote in Psalm 103, verse 12 that God has removed our transgressions (sins) from us as far as the east is from the west. That is about as far away as it can be, isn't it? When David says that they are removed, it's just like they are erased completely. Gone forever. We're going to make something today to help us see how this works."



## Close

"We can't forget that the way that God forgives our sins is through the Savior He has given us. That is His Son, Jesus. We would be left filthy like these bodies were before we wiped them off, if we didn't have Jesus. We are so fortunate that God loved us so much that He gave us His Son to be our Savior."



*VIDEO: Be sure to cue the video before class!*

Go!



### My Hero



**Materials:** A copy of one of the Superman episodes, a TV and VCR

**Procedure:** Ahead of time, select a short clip (10 minutes or so) from the Superman movie that shows someone in trouble and Superman coming to the rescue. If you can't get the story line all in the clip, take a moment to prepare the class for the clip that you have chosen. Show the clip and then discuss how that person was really in need of someone to save them from their peril. Of course, Superman came to the rescue. He was the hero of the day.



### Quest Connection

“How many of you have seen a Superman movie? In every one of them there are people who are in trouble and need to be saved . . . especially his good friend Lois Lane. Let's see what happens in this short clip that I have chosen.”



### Close

“Over and over, Superman proves himself to be the hero as he rescues people from danger. Of course, we know that Superman is not real. He is just a made superhero. But, we have a hero, and that is God. He always hears our cries for help and is willing to save us. The greatest act of salvation is the fact that He sent his only Son, to save us from our sins. God is our Hero. He has rescued us from death. WOW! MY HERO!”

Go!

**What Do I Really Need?**

**Materials:** A bag containing an assortment of items. (Suggestions: a bottle of water, a picture of a house, a game or toy, pair of shoes, a piece of fruit, a dollar bill, a CD, a bar of soap, a treat of some kind, a picture of baby Jesus.)

**Procedure:** Take out the bag of items that you have gathered in advance. “I have put several things in this bag. As I take them out, I want you to think if it is something that you really need or if it is something you might just want or enjoy. Reach into the bag and take out one of the items.” (Save the picture of the baby Jesus until last.) Have them identify what the item is, then ask: “Do you think this is something you really need? Could you live without it?” Try to get them to distinguish between things they need and things they might just like to have. Allow them to explain their reasons for their answers. There may be some difference of opinion. Just let them state their thoughts. Continue with each of the items in the bag, examining and discussing. When you get to the treat, be sure they understand that it is not necessarily something that they need, but it is something they would enjoy. Set it aside and continue with the rest of the items. When you come to the final item, the picture of Jesus, be sure they understand that Jesus is something they need. “Jesus is our Savior. We cannot live forever in the kingdom unless we have Jesus who saves us from our sins. We need Jesus!”

**Quest Connection**

“Today we talked about David and some of his experiences. There were times when he really needed something, weren’t there? What was that?” (Let them answer. He needed to be saved from death or harm.) “Let’s talk about what we really need.”

**Close**

“We looked at a lot of different things today. Some of them we really need in order to live, but many of them we just have because we want them or enjoy them. One thing for sure is that we need Jesus. We need Him to be saved from our sins. God has been so good to us to give us His only Son to save us. God gives us so many good things. He not only gives us the things we need, but He also gives us many things for us to enjoy, like this treat here. I think He would be pleased to see us enjoy this treat as we think about His wonderful gift of a Savior. Let us give Him thanks for both.” Offer a prayer of thanks for the treat and for the gift of our Savior,

# Where Would You Go?

When you need help with your homework?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you are hurt?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you are lonely?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you want to share a secret?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you are hungry for some yummy cookies?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you need help with your hobby?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are in trouble?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you are sick?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you just want to talk to someone?

\_\_\_\_\_

If you need a Savior?

\_\_\_\_\_

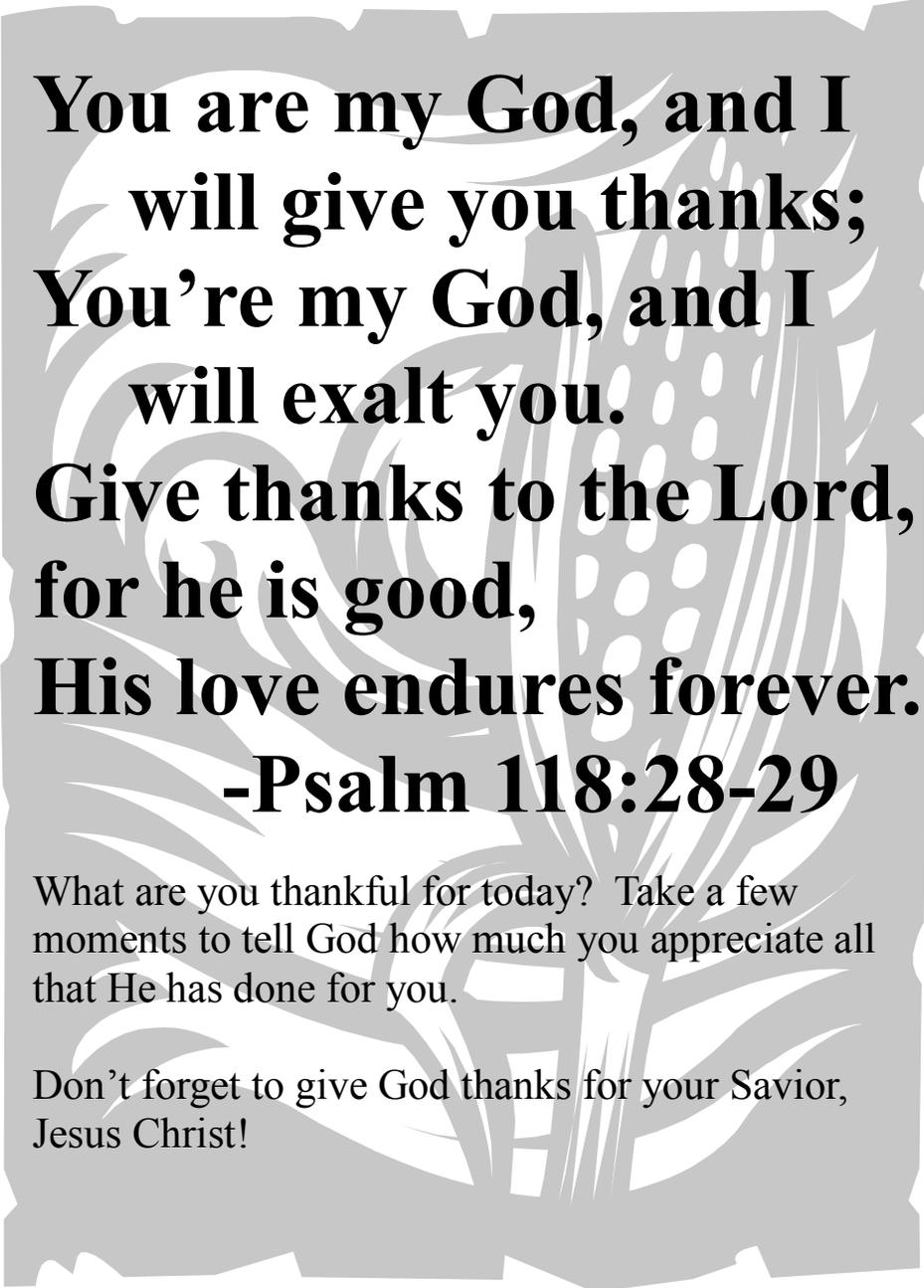
## Remember . . .

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you. - 1 Peter 5:7

You may choose to go to many different people when you have a need, but always remember that you can go to God.

And . . .

There is no one else who can provide a Savior to take away your sins!



**You are my God, and I  
will give you thanks;  
You're my God, and I  
will exalt you.  
Give thanks to the Lord,  
for he is good,  
His love endures forever.  
-Psalm 118:28-29**

What are you thankful for today? Take a few moments to tell God how much you appreciate all that He has done for you.

Don't forget to give God thanks for your Savior, Jesus Christ!

# Give Thanks

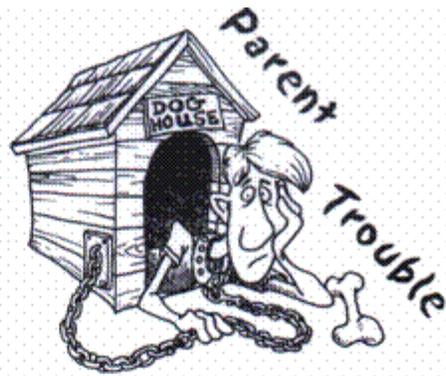
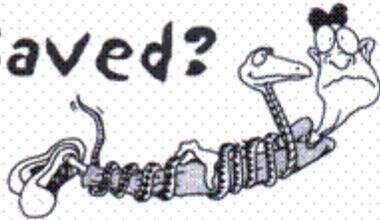
This is a time when we stop to think about the many things we have to be thankful for. See if you can find the words in the following list in the puzzle below.

## Words to Find:

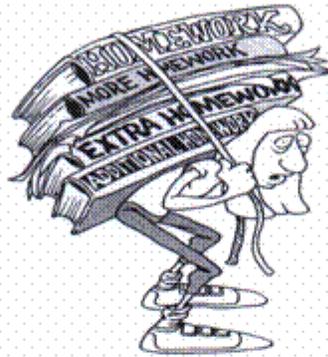
CHURCH    FAMILY    FOOD    FRIENDS    GOD  
HEALTH    HOME    SAVIOR    SUNSHINE    TEACHERS

A H X N N D O O F Y C  
W A N Y L I M A F F B  
I T E A C H E R S L O  
O L N N E N I C X X Y  
R H C V I E E C A R G  
O B M Z N H O M E O O  
Y V F D E F S E B I D  
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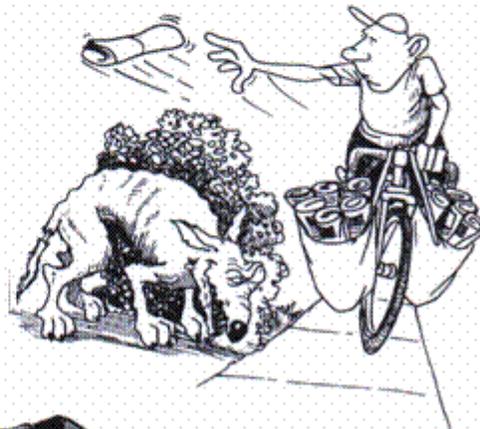
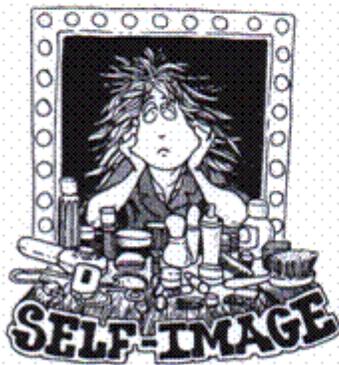
# Who Needs To Be Saved?



Boredom



Loneliness



# Save Me!

When David was a shepherd, he would sometimes face wild animals who threatened to attack his sheep. What did he do?



See what it says in Psalm 22:19-21. Write it in your own words on the lines below.

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There were other times that David's life was threatened by men who wanted to kill him. What did he do?

Take a look at Psalm 59:2-4. Write it in your own words on the lines below.

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Check out Psalm 71:1-3 as well. Write it in your own words on the lines below.

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David turned to God to save him from wild animals and from ruthless men. Yet, there was another reason that David needed God to save him.

See what he prays in Psalm 39:8 and 51:1-3, 14. Write it in your own words.

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You, too, need to be saved from your sins. What can you say to God?

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# Questions & Answers



In class today my teacher said that we need a savior to save us from our sins. Is that right?

Well, exactly what is sin?

If God knew that we would sin, why did He let it happen?

What if someone lives a really good life? Isn't that enough to be saved?

What if it is just a little sin? You know . . . not killing or anything.

Does God really want people to die?

Romans 5:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Because of sin, death came to all men. So that means that everyone will die because of their sins.

Ephesians 5:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We can tell from this verse that sin is disobedience to God.

Isaiah 45:22 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This tells us that God wants us to come to Him . . . and He waits hoping that we will; but, He lets us make that choice.

Isaiah 64:6a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Don't think that God doesn't enjoy our righteous acts. He does! But in light of His holiness and perfection, they are described as "filthy rags." They just are not enough to make us pure before God.

Romans 6:23a \_\_\_\_\_

Notice that this does not say "big" or "little" sins. It refers to all sin.

Ezekiel 18:32 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

It makes God sad to have anyone die. He wants everyone to live with Him, but sin keeps

**Something needs to be done about our sin.  
We need a Savior!**