

GCG Sunday School - 24th March 2024

Lesson Outline



Lesson: A vision of a new heart.
Passage: Ezekiel 36:16 - 37:14
Big Idea: The Lord will fully fix his people's sin, by giving them a new heart and new life.
Main Aim: Be amazed at the Lord who fully fixed his people's sin.

Please pray for the lesson preparation, that you and the children would be built up by God's word.

Unless you are at the Greenwich service, you will need to bring a **laptop/tablet** to play the videos and songs. If needed, Jonny can provide a **laptop and a Bluetooth speaker**. 😊

Additional resources: [Mustard seeds plan](#)

The Passage

Summary.

After judgement for sin, there is a promise of a new heart and new life.

God provides a total solution for sin, fixing it forever.

36:16-21. Judgement for sin.

Because they profaned God's name. (They made God look silly again and again)

v22-37. Forgiveness and a new heart.

For the sake of God's name. (To make God look great)

By God's Spirit in them.

37:1-16. Death and a new life.

By God's Spirit in them.

For them then.

Trust in the coming promise of full forgiveness and a new heart. This new heart in God's people will want to obey God, fully fixing the problem of repeated sin.

For us now.

Trust in the promise fulfilled in Jesus, of full forgiveness and a new heart which wants to obey the Lord. Jesus fully fixed the problem of repeated sin.

The Age Ranges

For CW (average age 4-5 years) and Greenwich (average age 6-7 years):

Prepare the lesson for **all ages**. Then prepare your leaders to divide into separate **Sailor** and **Officer** groups for **Heart & Hands** teaching.


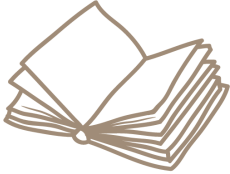



Sailors: Ages 3-7

Officers: Ages 8-11

Eltham (Sailors average age: 4-5 years, Officers average age: 7-8 years):

Personalise **all material** for the Sailors or Officers.

The Rough Format.

Get Going 3 min + song	Main Teaching ~15 mins	Heart & Hands ~20 mins	Land The Lesson ~10 mins	Extra Fun Time ~10 mins
				
Welcome & Pray Quick Recap Song	The Big Idea The Main Aim	Activities Discussion	Recap Memory Verse Pray to close.	Optional: Can go mid-session.

Outline Idea



Get Going

Welcome, Pray, Quick Recap & Song

Welcome the children - Connect briefly with the children.

- Ask them a fun question, showing we're interested in their lives.
- Then you could ask them a simple question which will connect loosely with the theme.
 - Sailors - [What is the most difficult thing to do in the world?](#)
[A huge maths problem? Do 3 backflips? Lift a mountain?](#)
[What about bringing something dead to life? Could you do that?](#)
 - Officers - [Same - personalised for your Officers.](#)

Link: God promised to do something incredible,
to finally fix people's sin and to give them life.

Prayer

- Let's listen carefully to what God has to say to us today.



Very Speedy Recap - Scroll of time


Last week's big idea: We saw God promised a new, good Shepherd.

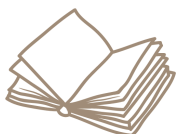
Link: In today's passage, we'll see God also promises to change his people!

Song

NEW SONG (old song making a return)

Talk through the words and actions before singing, if needed.

-  Lift Up Your Voices - GCG Actions



Main Teaching

Teaching the Big Idea & Main Aim.

Have a Bible open throughout for the children to see that we're teaching from God's word, and not from our heads. Try to get clearly and repeatedly to the Big Idea and Main Aim.

Note: The word for breath, wind and spirit are all the same in Hebrew - Ruah.

Ezekiel uses these ideas together in The Valley of Bones.

- Lesson Points

1. The Lord judges sin. 36:16-21.

Because they profaned God's name. (They made God look silly)

We've seen this before. Again and again this has happened for Israel.

Q. So, how is anyone going to fix this sin problem which happens again and again?!

A. The Lord will fully fix his people's sin, by giving them a new heart and new life.

2. The Lord will give forgiveness and a new heart. 36:22-37.

For the sake of God's name. (To make God look great)

By God's Spirit in them.

3. This will be like death and a new life. 37:1-16

By God's Spirit in them.

- Brief Application - Main aim expanded.

The Lord deals with sin completely in his people.

He forgives it totally.

He gives a new heart which wants to obey him totally.

This comes in Jesus.

His death, resurrection, and giving of the Spirit.

We can thank God for his Spirit giving us a new heart and a new life.

and trust in him to fully fix our sin problem.

Without God's Spirit in them, people are spiritually dead.

Receiving the Spirit, is clearly their biggest need.

- Sailors

*Explain the passage, asking questions along the way. **Keep it clear.***

Repeat the Big Idea and the Main Aim.

*Use the **lesson points above** with the **teaching images**.*

- Visual aid suggestion (Bluetak and the wall)

Lay out the images for each problem as you tell the story, then reveal the solutions.

The spiral shows this happened again and again, the red X is God stopping it finally.

2 unsolvable problems. Bad heart, full of unforgiven sin. Spiritual death.	God promised to fix these: New heart, with total sin forgiveness. New spiritual life, by his Spirit.
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- *Brief application - Main Aim expanded*

- Officers

*Interactive talk through the text. **Keep it clear.***

Repeat the Big Idea and the Main Aim.

Maybe act it out, or have them draw something, or shout out the best thing they see in the passage, make a puppet show using paper and card, go for a walk outside.

- Use the **lesson points above**.
- My idea:

Acting it out, could you pretend to be skeletons? And then come to life?

- Brief application - Main Aim expanded - With questions.



Heart and Hands

Think more about the Main Aim with: Activities and discussion.

Activities - Craft or worksheet

- Sailors - [Craft - Cut and stick](#).
- Officers - [Worksheet](#)
- Extra games - In the GDrive.

If you finish craft early, you may want to play a game with the remaining time.

Discussion - What would it look like to believe the Main Aim?

Think through with the children what the Main Aim means for our lives.

- Talk through the Main Aim further.
 - Sailors - [Go further than Brief Application](#).
 - Officers - [Go further than Brief Application, with questions to provoke thought](#).



Land the lesson

Bring everything together with: Recap, Memory Verse and Prayer.

Scroll of time update

- Remind them of the Big Idea and Main Aim.



Memory verse

“Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back.” Deuteronomy 30:4 (NIVUK)

[Ideas for learning the memory verse](#). I will provide the verse on laminated paper with Blu Tack.

- Sailors - **Song and actions are available here. (Sent on Whatsapp for now)**
- Officers - If capable, they can come up with a rap/ spoken word for the verse.
They can repeat and improve it each week.

Pray

Encourage the children to pray with you about the Big Idea and Main Aim.

They could **thank/praise God** for it or **ask for help** in believing it.

- Sailors

You could ask for hands up/ thumbs up for those who would like to pray.

You could suggest “Popcorn prayers” - really short prayers. Or “Arrow prayers” - We all shoot up like an arrow at the end. Or you could try the idea we use with Officers.

- Officers

You could pass an object, like a Bible, around the room. When a child receives the Bible, they can choose to pray in their head or aloud.



Extra fun time.

An optional game, which can be played mid-session.

Game idea. Feel free to play something different!

- Sailors - [Stuck in the mud?](#)
- Officers - Use idea above or feel free to think of something fun.

Link: Something tenuous about being made alive/not alive.
It's more important to play a fun game than one with a link!

Sign out with Take Home Sheets

- While signing out with Rollcall, Take Home sheets will be provided to carers and parents about the children's lesson.

Final notes

The following items will be printed for you and brought to the lesson:

- Main teaching pictures and materials.
- Activities: Sailors craft and Officers worksheets.
- Memory verse, laminated.
- Take Home Sheets.

Additional materials will be available:

- Craft materials.
- Pens, paper, glue, scissors.