

The 6 C's of Christmas

Purpose: An object lesson to share the Gospel at Christmas with kids.

Supplies:

- Bible
- Six boxes (Can vary in size and design) – You can get pretty little boxes that already have designs and decorations on them or plain cardboard boxes and wrap them in wrapping paper for the kids to unwrap them. Be sure and label the boxes or have a way to tell them apart since there is a specific order that they need to be opened.
- For box #1 – Items related to creation. Items will vary depending on the size of the box. Items might include a plastic or stuffed animal, leaf, fruit, etc.
- For box #2 – Water bottle and bag of dirt
- For box #3 – Instructions from a game
- For box #4 – A small baby Jesus in the manger or a plastic baby
- For box #5 – A cross
- For box #6 – Two bouncy balls; draw a happy face on one and a sad face on the other with a permanent sharpie.

Instructions: Read through this script multiple times before presenting it to your class/family. Try and present the material without reading the script verbatim. That will enhance your lesson and help the children to focus on what you are saying. Make short hand notes on a note card for each box to help you remember the main points.

Dialogue: I have six mystery boxes that all start with the letter “C”. Each one will tell about an important part of history found in the Bible—God’s true Word (*hold up the Bible*)—and will remind us what Christmas is all about!



Box #1 - Created

Call up a volunteer to open the first box. Show the children what is inside the box and ask a few questions like what is your favorite _____ (animal, flower, nature item, etc.) that God created? Have the children repeat the “C” word, “created”, together.

Dialogue: God is the creator of all things—sun, moon, trees, pineapples, fish, and mankind! When God created everything in the very beginning, He said that it was very good! There was no sickness, sadness, or death in God’s perfect world. Imagine how wonderful that would have been (*pause*).



Do you know the names of the first two people God created? *Adam and Eve.*

Adam and Eve had a perfect relationship with God and with each other because God had made the world very good! BUT unfortunately it didn’t stay good for very long.



Box #2 - Corrupted

Dialogue: The second “C” word is corrupted. This word means that something happens to ruin what was once good. *Have the children repeat the “C” word together and then say the first and second “C” words. Call up a volunteer to open the second box.*

Have the volunteer put a little bit of dirt into the water. Ask the children if they would want to drink the water with the dirt. Explain that the clean water has now been corrupted by the dirt—the dirt has ruined what was once good drinking water.

Dialogue: In the same way, Adam and Eve did something to ruin God’s perfect world. In the beginning, God gave Adam and Eve a choice to obey Him or disobey Him. He gave them this choice because He loved them. He didn’t want them to be forced to obey Him or love Him; He wanted them to freely choose to follow Him. But unfortunately they chose to disobey God. When they did that, something called sin entered the world and it corrupted what was once good. Sin is anything that you think, say, or do that breaks God’s commands. Let’s say that together and do some actions with it.

Sin is anything that you think (*point to your brain*), say (*point to your mouth*), or do (*open palms*) that is against (*thumbs down*) God’s commands (*hands together and open like a Bible*). *Repeat this phrase a couple times with the kids with the actions.*

When someone breaks a promise to you, you talk back to your parents, or even think mean thoughts in your head those are all examples of sin. Because of Adam and Eve’s sin, God’s perfect world and our hearts have been corrupted with sin.



Box #3 - Commands

Have a volunteer come and open box #3 and pull out the game instructions. Have the children repeat the “C” word together and then say the first three “C” words.



Dialogue: What is your favorite game to play? *Answers will vary.*

What is one rule that you must follow when you play your favorite game? *Answers will vary.*

Games are a lot of fun. Most games come with a set of instructions (*hold up the instructions from the box*) that tell you the rules or commands of the game and what you can or cannot do. If you break the rules, there is often a penalty or maybe you have to sit out from playing the game entirely if you don’t follow the rules.

God gave Adam and Eve a rule or command to follow and when they broke God’s rule there was a punishment. One of those punishments was death. There are three types of death that happen because of sin.

- Physical Death – Our physical bodies die here on earth.
- Spiritual Death – Being separated in our friendship with God. We cannot be close to Him and we are not part of His family.

- Eternal Death – Not being able to go to Heaven after we die to be in God's perfect home. It means suffering in eternity in Hell, a terrible place of punishment because of our sin.

Just like God gave Adam and Eve rules and choices, God has given us some rules and choices too. We can read about those rules in the Bible. The 10 big rules are found in Exodus 20 and are called God's 10 Commandments.

Do you know any of them? *Let children answer.*

How have you done? Have you perfectly followed God's 10 Commandments?

Have you ever told a lie? Even a small one?

Have you ever stolen something, even something small, like a candy bar at a store or from a sibling?

Have you ever disobeyed or been disrespectful to your parents? Maybe you didn't clean up your room when you were supposed to or rolled your eyes behind their back when they asked you to do something?

Have you ever been jealous of what someone else had? A new bike or a cool toy your friend got?

If you answered YES to just one of these questions, then you are guilty of sin. You have broken God's commands and the Bible says that even breaking one command means that you are guilty of breaking all of them (James 2:10).

Everyone—you and me—has broken God's commands and deserve the punishment of death. This is the BAD news. There is nothing that we can do to get rid of the problem of sin.



Box #4 - Christ-mas

Dialogue: But the GOOD NEWS is that God didn't want you to be separated from Him so He did something wonderful so your sin could be forgiven. *Have the children repeat the "C" word together and then say the four "C" words.*

Have a volunteer come up and open the fourth box.



Whose birthday do we celebrate at Christmas? *Jesus.*

Although Christmas is the time that we celebrate when Jesus came to earth as a baby, He has always existed because He is God and God is eternal.



Let's read the reason that Jesus came to earth in Matthew 1:21 (*read the verse from the Bible – could have a child come up and read the verse*).



Why did Jesus come to earth? *To save people from their sins; to save people from the punishment of sin.*



What are some things that you know about Jesus' birth? *Answers will vary but might include...*

- *His father and mother were Joseph and Mary.*
- *He was born in the town of Bethlehem.*
- *He was placed in a manger.*
- *Shepherds came to worship Him.*
- *Kings/wise men brought Him gifts.*

If you are sharing the Gospel with a group of kids that have never heard about Jesus' birth you may want to tell them some of the most important details.

Jesus didn't stay a little baby. He grew up; just like you are growing up.



How old are you? Show me with your fingers on the count of three - 1 - 2 - 3!

Jesus was all of those ages too! Jesus probably liked to play games and had favorite foods just like you. There were many ways that Jesus was similar to us because He was 100% man. But He was also very different because He was also 100% God. This means that He was 100% good, 100% of the time. He never thought a wrong thought, said something mean to his siblings, or disobeyed His parents. He was perfect; He never sinned or did anything wrong! Jesus is God in the flesh (John 1:14). (Pause) Wow! He is one of a kind!



Box #5 – Cross

Have a volunteer come up and open box #5. Have the children repeat the "C" word together and then say the five "C" words.




Do you remember the reason that Jesus came to earth? *To save people from the forever punishment of their sins.*

Christmas is all about the cross.

When Jesus was an adult, some jealous people told lies about Jesus and got Him arrested. Then Jesus was whipped, spit on, had a crown of thorns shoved into His head, and was eventually killed. He was put on a cross with nails hammered into his wrists and feet. Jesus didn't deserve this type of treatment. He was innocent! He had never sinned. But Jesus willingly allowed this to happen to Himself because this was the only way that you and I could have our sins forgiven.

The Bible says that the wages of sin (what we earn when we sin) is death (Romans 6:23) and that without the shedding of blood (that means death) there is no forgiveness (Hebrews 9:22b). So when Jesus died on the cross, He shed His perfect blood so that your sin could be forgiven. Jesus paid for your sin, not with money, but with His own life. No one else could die for you because no one else is perfect. We all have sinned and would have to pay for that sin. Only Jesus is perfect so only Jesus could take our place because He had no sin for which He needed to be punished. Jesus suffered your punishment of death for your sin, so that you wouldn't have to (2 Corinthians 5:21).

It might be like if you and your brother got in trouble for doing something wrong. Maybe your punishment would be that you couldn't go to the movies with your friend. But then your sister volunteers to take your punishment and stay home so you could go to the movies. Your brother couldn't take your punishment because he was already guilty and was being punished too. But since your sister was innocent she could take your place.


 Do you think that someone in your family would take the punishment you were guilty for? Would you take the punishment for someone that was guilty if you were innocent?

Probably not. But that is what Jesus did because He loves us and didn't want us to be separated from Him. He wanted us to have eternal life with Him and this was the only way that could happen.



Box #6 – Consequence

Dialogue: The last “C” is “consequence”. *Have the children repeat the “C” word together and then say all the “C” words—Created, Corrupted, Commands, Christ-mas, Cross, and Consequence.*

 Does anyone know what “consequence” means? *It refers to a result. You can have good consequences, or good results, from good choices or bad consequences, bad results, from bad choices.*

Call up a volunteer to open box #6.

This last box reminds us that based on whether or not we trust in Jesus to forgive us for our sin there will be a consequence.

If you choose to reject Jesus' offer of forgiveness, then the consequence is that you will spend eternity separated from God. You cannot earn the forgiveness of your sin through being really good, merely saying your sorry, going to church, or being baptized. There is only one way to have your sin forgiven and that is through admitting that you have sinned and turning to Jesus to forgive you. Only His death and resurrection can save you from sin's punishment of death. God won't force you to believe in Him, but if you choose to reject Him then the consequence is that you will suffer the punishment of death for your sin and be forever separated from Him in a terrible place of punishment called Hell. (*Show the sad face ball from the box and have everyone make a sad face.*)

But if you trust in Jesus to forgive you of your sins then the consequence is that you will have eternal life and that's a happy thing (*show the happy face ball from the box and have everyone make a happy face*).



Read John 3:16 from the Bible or have the class quote the verse together.

Just like there are three types of death, there are three types of life that replaces the consequence of death when you believe in Jesus as your Savior from sin.

- Spiritual Life – You begin to have a friendship with God while still on earth. He helps you to understand the Bible as you read it and you grow to get to know Him better. You are now a part of His family.
- Physical Life – Though your physical body dies, you will receive a new perfect body in the new Heavens and the new earth where you will live forever with God.
- Eternal Life – Getting to spend forever with God in eternity.

Eternal life is the greatest gift that you can receive. That life will never get old, break, or fade away. Have you received Jesus' gift of forgiveness from your sin? If not, will you trust in Jesus right now to forgive your sin?

Jesus Christ is the real reason we celebrate Christmas and don't forget...

[Christmas is all about the cross!](#)

If you have never believe in Jesus before, you can tell God that you know you have sinned and are sorry. That you believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose again to forgive you. And that you are trusting and asking Him to forgive you.

Let's pray and if you have never believed in Jesus you can do so now, or if you have believed you can thank God for sending Jesus to save you.

Have a time of silent prayer and then conclude by praying aloud. After praying have the kids say the 6 "C's" one more time—Created, Corrupted, Commands, Christ-mas, Cross, and Consequence.

Ending Options

If possible, allow for a time of counseling where children that want to know more about believing in Jesus can separate from the group to talk with a teacher. Possibly have a tract that you could give out that the children can take home that shares the Gospel message. You could watch one of these music videos from the song "It's about the Cross" to conclude.

<https://youtu.be/VyR0lwO-nXc?si=JlwfC3AOsBE8iDkk>

https://youtu.be/s1UI0yOLc-o?si=1JjWj-FxikX_ftsP

For more Christmas resources visit:

www.networkerstec.com/christmas-resources.html