THE GOOD NEWS IN 3 CIRCLES

A Quick Start Guide for Leaders and Parents

INTRODUCTION

Most people who take their step in trusting Jesus and confessing Him as Lord do so during childhood. And so, any time we interact with children, we have the opportunity to lead them to Jesus.

For youth and adults, <u>3 Circles</u> is a visual representation designed as a helpful method to explain the gospel in a quick and accessible way. It has proved successful in the U.S. and abroad.

The Good News in 3 Circles booklet is designed to reach children and ignite their passion for Jesus. This booklet will help children who are 6 years old or older take their first step in understanding the gospel using the popular "3 Circles" illustration and God's Word. It explores topics such as sin, repentance and trust.

Along with this leader <u>video</u>, the children's booklet demonstrates how you or your child can use this method when explaining the gospel to children and their friends.

PRESENTATION

Using "The Good News in 3 Circles" to lead a child to understand the gospel and put their trust in Jesus is the purpose of this booklet.

Children who have decided to follow Jesus can learn to replicate the 3 Circles presentation to share the gospel with their friends and family.

When guiding a child, go over each presentation element, drawing as you go along. Then, ask the child to follow each step with you as they draw the illustration themselves. After going through the entire 3 Circles gospel presentation, have them practice independently and then share the presentation with you.

FOLLOW-UP

Be prepared for immediate follow-up with a child who hears the presentation and wants to follow Jesus. As a leader, make sure you share the child's decision with their parents. Parents and leaders, reach out to your pastor or children's minister for next steps and discipleship opportunities.

Encourage children to share the 3 Circles presentation with their family and friends and invite those they share with to come to church and learn more about what it means to follow Jesus.



THE GOOD NEWS IN 3 CIRCLES



We live in a broken world with a lot of pain. But we also have a beautiful world that shows us how everything can work together. It's a design created by God.



GOD'S DESIGN

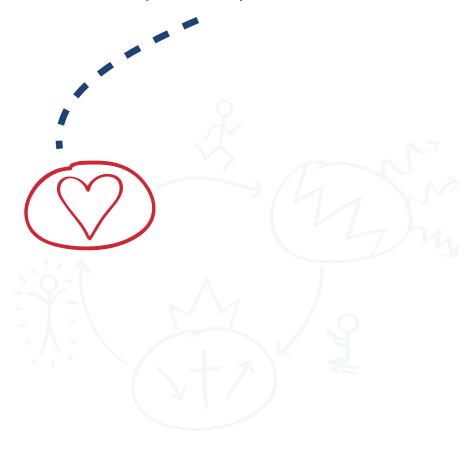
The Bible tells us that in the beginning, God created everything, and He made it perfect. He **loved** Adam and Eve and put them in charge to take care of the world. God planned a friendship with the people He made and wanted them to enjoy everything. God only gave them one rule: Don't eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"God saw all that He had made, and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims the work of His hands" (Psalm 19:1).



SIN

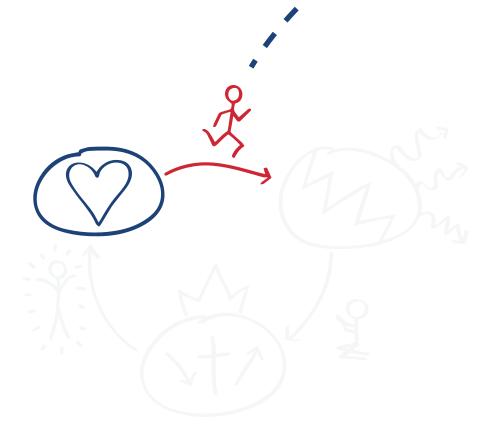
Adam and Eve disobeyed and broke God's one rule. They ate fruit from the tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil and they **ran away** from God. The world was not perfect anymore. When people disobey God, it's called sin. Sin separated Adam and Eve from God. They had to leave the garden and live in a broken world where they could get sick, hurt and would one day die. Sin is the cause of death.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served something created instead of the Creator" (Romans 1:25).

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death" (Proverbs 14:12).



BROKENNESS

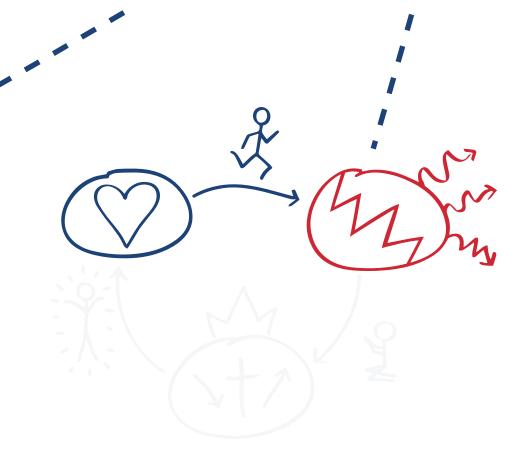
Sin **broke** God's beautiful plan for us and separated us from God. We experience sin in our own lives, too, when we say and do selfish things that go against the Bible. We can't fix our sin problem by doing our best to be good, obey our parents or go to church. These are all good, but there is only one who can forgive sin.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

■ "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23a).



CROSS

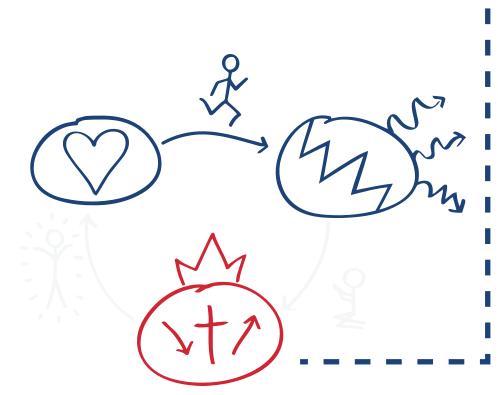
Jesus is the only One who can fix our sin problem. God made a way for us to be with Him forever. He sent Jesus, His only Son, to die on the **cross** and take the punishment for our sins. But that's not the end of the story — God raised Jesus back to life! And He offers us that same kind of forever life. He wants us to receive the forgiveness that Jesus provides.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"He erased the certificate of debt...and has taken it out of the way by nailing it to the cross" (Colossians 2:14).

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures... He was buried and raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).



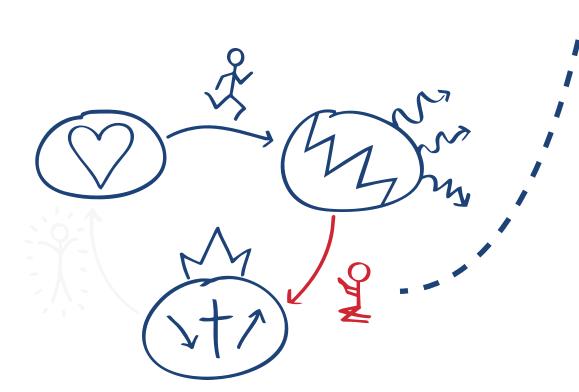
TRUST & BELIEVE

How do we do that? We **pray** to confess our sins and ask Jesus to be in charge of our life. If we put our <u>trust</u> in Jesus, which involves admitting that we sin and need forgiveness and if we <u>believe</u> that Jesus is God's Son who died on the cross for our sins and gives us new life, then we have decided to follow Jesus as our King!



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"For God loved the world in this way; He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).



GROW & SHARE

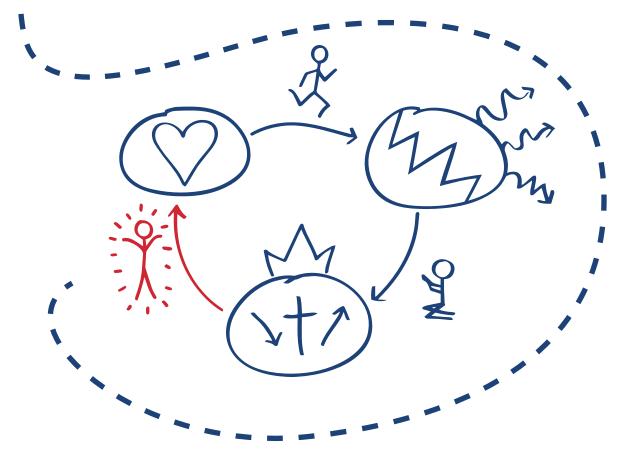
By putting our trust in Jesus, we are now close to God and have a **friendship** with Him. We discover His plan by reading our Bible, praying, going to church and asking other Christians to help us. Even when we sin and disobey, we know God will forgive us. And one day when we die, we'll live forever with God in Heaven. As a Christian, we also have a new job! We need to share the gospel with others. The gospel is the good news about Jesus and his forgiveness of our sins.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"For it is God who is working in you, enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose" (Philippians 2:13).

"For we are His creation, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time so that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).



WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Now that you have heard this Good News, God wants you to respond to Him. You can talk to Him using words like these:

Dear God, I need You. I believe Christ came to live, die and was raised from the dead to save me from my sin. Dear God, please forgive me. I put my trust in Jesus. I know that He is Lord of all, and I will follow Him.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

---WHAT'S NEXT:

The Bible teaches how to start your new friendship with God. He desires us to have a relationship with Him and others. How?

PRAY: God wants you to talk to Him about everything.

BIBLE: The Bible reveals God's design — showing you how to live.

CHURCH: The church is God's family to help you walk with Him.

SHARING: Now that you have experienced this Good News, tell others.



THE BIBLE SAYS:

"But these are written so that you may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31).

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you" (Matthew 6:33).

"Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him" (Colossians 2:6).

START SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH YOUR FRIENDS!

Practice drawing the 3 Circles below:

