

LESSON 1

"A BRAND NEW HEART"

SCRIPTURES TO STUDY

- ★ Ezekiel 36:26-27
- ★ John 3:3
- ★ II Corinthians 5:17-21
- ★ Mark 7:20-23
- ★ II Peter 1:4

CENTRAL TRUTH

The believer receives a new nature in the new-birth experience.

THE SPOKEN WORD

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

TO THE TEACHER

In this lesson we want the children to understand the reality of the new-birth experience. When a sinner receives Christ, his nature is altered. He is not only forgiven of his sins, but he becomes a brand new creature.

In the Old Testament, a believing Israelite could receive pardon for sins committed but never experience a supernatural change in his heart. In the New Testament, the believer is regenerated in his spirit. Old character traits pass away (II Corinthians 5:17), and the believer becomes a child of God receiving the life and nature of God in his spirit (II Peter 1:4).

The Old Testament prophets foretold such a change, but Israel could not experience it until the Messiah came to do His redemptive work. Consider Ezekiel 36:26: "A new heart also will I give you,...and I will give you an heart of flesh."

God tells Israel that sin so hardens the heart that it must be totally replaced. Christians are not just disciples or adherents of a religion; they have become the very children of God by nature.

This is the idea that must be communicated throughout the lesson. As believers in Christ, we are born again in spirit, so that we might obey God's commandments from the heart.



ICE-BREAKER SKIT

With Deputy Dugan



SUGGESTED MUSIC

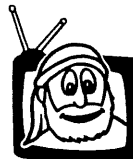
Song Service 1

- Halalala • Hallelu Hallelu
- I Am A Christian
- With My Mouth/Magnify Your Name
- Hallelujah



POWER-PACKED PUPPET SKIT

"No Need To Cry"



THE BOOK OF BOOKS

"Saul Of Tarsus"



ILLUSTRATED SERMON

"The Heavenly Heart Transplant"



ROVERCOMER, THE FAITH DOG

"Rovercomer's New Heart"



ADVENTURES IN FAITH

"A Changed Heart"



THE ZION 7 REPORT

"The Conversion Of Saul"



REVIEW GAME

"The Big Wrap Up"

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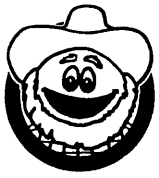
"The Conversion Of Saul"

REVIEW GAME

"The Big Wrap Up"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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ICE-BREAKER SKIT

- Host:** Boys and girls, we have a special guest here with us today. His name is Deputy Dugan. Let's give Deputy Dugan a big hand clap.
- Deputy:** This is great! This is wonderful!!
- Host:** What is it, Deputy Dugan?
- Deputy:** Why didn't you tell me we were coming to the zoo?
- Host:** Oh, Deputy, we're not at the zoo!
- Deputy:** Then where'd all these monkeys come from?
- Host:** Now, you be nice. You know these kids aren't monkeys.
- Deputy:** Hey, do you mind if I teach them today's memory verse?
- Host:** You know today's memory verse?
- Deputy:** I sure do. *(singing)* "Clap your hands all you monkeys; scream and scratch as you swing through the trees!"
- Host:** No, that's not today's memory verse!
- Deputy:** How 'bout "I am a chimpanzee for Christ?"
- Host:** No, that's not today's memory verse, either. Today's memory verse is found in Ezekiel 36:26. It says, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."
- Deputy:** That's good news.
- Host:** That is good news.
- Deputy:** 'Cause once God gives these kids all this new stuff, they won't look like monkeys anymore!
- Host:** Deputy Dugan! You need to apologize to these kids.
- Deputy:** I sure am sorry...that you look like monkeys!
- Host:** Deputy!
- Deputy:** Okay, okay, you don't look like monkeys.
- Host:** That's better.
- Deputy:** You smell like them.
(Host stares at Dugan.)
- Deputy:** Maybe we should get back to the memory verse.
- Host:** I think you're right. Boys and girls, say the memory verse after me. Ezekiel 36:26...
(Repeat the scripture.)
- Deputy:** Now, let me get this straight. "I will give you a new heart...and a new pair of tennis shoes?"
- Host:** No. Boys and girls, let's help Deputy Dugan with today's memory verse. Say it after me....
(Repeat the scripture.)

Deputy: They're really pretty smart.

Host: They're very smart. Let's say it again, kids. *(Repeat the scripture.)*

Deputy: You know, they must spend a lot of time with their trainers.

Host: Deputy Dugan, you stop that! Now, you tell these nice boys and girls good-bye.

Deputy: They really have been nice. Do you mind if I give them a big slobbery kiss?

Host: I think you'd better just tell them good-bye.

(Dugan tells them good-bye and exits.)



POWER-PACKED PUPPET SKIT

"NO NEED TO CRY"

CHARACTERS:

Oogene, Jeanie Mae, Mama Greene, Papa Greene

SCENE 1: OOGENE'S BEDROOM

(Oogene has his head turned away from the audience. He is crying softly. After a minute or two, his sister Jeanie Mae enters.)

Jeanie Mae: Oogene, what's the matter?

(Oogene doesn't answer.)

Oogene, why are you crying?

Oogene: Go on, Jeanie. I want to be alone.

Jeanie Mae: Are you sure?

Oogene: Yes, I'm sure.

Jeanie Mae: Is there anything I can do?

Oogene: There's nothing you or anybody else can do. So, just go on.

(Jeanie leaves. Oogene continues to cry.)

SCENE 2: THE LIVING ROOM

(Mama Greene is sitting in a chair reading a magazine. Jeanie Mae enters.)

Jeanie Mae: Mom, do you know what's wrong with Oogene?

Mama Greene: I didn't know there was anything wrong with Oogene. Why do you ask?

Jeanie Mae: He's in his bedroom crying.

Mama Greene: Are you sure he isn't playing?

Jeanie Mae: He's not playing, Mom. He's got real tears.

Mama Greene: I'll go check on him. I wonder what's wrong.

(Mama leaves.)

SCENE 3: OOGENE'S ROOM

(Once again, Oogene is crying. Mama enters.)

Mama Greene: Oogene, what's the matter?

Oogene: There's nothing you can do to help me, Mom.

Mama Greene: Are you in some kind of trouble?

Oogene: Big trouble. The worst kind. *(sobbing)*

Mama Greene: *(shaken by Oogene's admission)* Oh, dear. What's wrong?

Oogene: There's no use in you asking, Mom.

Mama Greene: Maybe I can help. Is it something at school?

Oogene: *(still crying)* No.

Mama Greene: Did something happen on the way home?

Oogene: Sort of.

Mama Greene: Did somebody do something to hurt you?

Oogene: *(crying)* No, not really.

Mama Greene: Why can't you tell me what it is?

Oogene: Because there's nothing you can do about it.

Mama Greene: All right. If you decide you want to talk about it, I'll be in the living room.
(Mom leaves. Oogene bawls all the more.)

SCENE 4: THE LIVING ROOM

(Mom enters and finds Jeanie.)

Jeanie Mae: What is it, Mom? What's the matter with Oogene?

Mama Greene: He wouldn't tell me. I've never seen him so upset.

Jeanie Mae: He's usually laughing and playing jokes. It's sort of weird to see him crying like this.

Mama Greene: Jeanie, did anything unusual happen while the two of you walked home from school today?

Jeanie Mae: No, not that I remember.

Mama Greene: Did Oogene get into a fight?

Jeanie Mae: No.

Mama Greene: Did anyone hurt him?

Jeanie Mae: No, Ma'am. Nothing happened. We just walked home from school.

Mama Greene: Jeanie, perhaps you can try to get Oogene to open up. See if he'll talk to you.

Jeanie Mae: All right. I'll try, but I don't think it'll do any good.

SCENE 5: OOGENE'S BEDROOM

(Oogene is quietly sobbing in his room. Jeanie enters.)

Jeanie Mae: Oogene, please tell me what's bothering you.

Oogene: You can't help me, Jeanie.

Jeanie Mae: How do you know? You haven't even told me what's wrong.

Oogene: Trust me. You won't be able to do anything about it at all.

Jeanie Mae: I think you're just trying to get attention.

Oogene: No, I'm not.

Jeanie Mae: Yes, you are. You're trying to make Mom and Dad feel sorry for you, so they'll buy you something.

Oogene: You're a real psychologist, aren't you, Jeanie?

Jeanie Mae: I don't think you're as upset as you let on.

Oogene: Oh, yeah? Well, how would you feel, Jeanie, if you found out that you were going to Hell?

Jeanie Mae: Who is going to Hell?

Oogene: Me, Jeanie! There's no way out. I am going to Hell.

Jeanie Mae: How do you know?

Oogene: I know it, Jeanie. Now get out of here. I want to get used to being away from you and Mom and Dad, *(pause)* since I'm never going to see you again.

(Jeanie is sobered by Oogene's explanation. She doesn't argue and her mood completely changes.)

Jeanie Mae: All right...I guess I'll leave.

(Jeanie Mae exits.)

SCENE 6: THE LIVING ROOM

(Mom is pacing the floor, waiting for Jeanie Mae to return. Jeanie enters.)

Mama Greene: Did you get him to talk?

Jeanie Mae: A little bit. Mom, Oogene thinks he's going to Hell. That's why he's so upset.

Mama Greene: That's ridiculous.

Jeanie Mae: Maybe so, but he's really convinced of it.

(Suddenly, Dad's voice is heard.)

Papa Greene: *(offstage)* Honey, I'm home.

Mama Greene: We're in the living room, Dear.

(Dad enters.)

Papa Greene: Whew! What a day. Our computers were down all afternoon, and Mr. Jenkins hit the ceiling. We lost two days' work because of a power surge.

Mama Greene: I'm afraid it's not over yet.

Papa Greene: What's wrong?

Jeanie Mae: *(jumps in)* Oogene's going to Hell.

Mama Greene: He *thinks* he's going to Hell.

Papa Greene: Come on? You're kidding?

Mama Greene: I wish I were. He's been in his room crying for over an hour now.

Papa Greene: I'll go see what's wrong.

(Papa exits.)

SCENE 7: OOGENE'S BEDROOM

(Oogene is huddled in a corner still crying softly and barely talking.)

Oogene: Why did I have to be so stupid? Oh God, please give me another chance. I don't want to go to Hell.

(Papa Greene enters.)

Papa Greene: Son, what's the matter?

Oogene: You don't want to know, Dad. You'd better get used to living without me.

Papa Greene: That's ridiculous. I'm not going to live without you.

Oogene: You've got to, Dad. I'm going to go to Hell and there's nothing you can do about it.

Papa Greene: Why do you say that, Oogene?

Oogene: I broke one of the Ten Commandments, Dad. My friend Billy said that if a person breaks one of the Ten Commandments, he's going to go to Hell.

Papa Greene: But that's not true, Oogene.

Oogene: I thought we were supposed to keep the Ten Commandments, Dad.

Papa Greene: We are, but we're all human beings, Oogene. Sometimes we sin.

Oogene: I stole Jamie's pencil, Dad. It had a neat eraser on it and it dropped out of his book bag. I picked it up and put it in my notebook. That's when Billy saw me and told me that I was going to Hell.

Papa Greene: Did you give the pencil back to Jamie?

Oogene: No, Sir. I was going to do it tomorrow.

Papa Greene: That's good. But let's get one thing straight. You don't have to go to Hell just because you broke a commandment.

Oogene: But I thought the Ten Commandments were important, Dad.

Papa Greene: They're very important and we should work very hard to keep them. But every person on this earth winds up breaking one of the Commandments sooner or later.

Oogene: Does that mean we're all going to Hell?

Papa Greene: Son, Jesus died on the cross to keep us from going to Hell. He was punished for us for all the commandments we've broken. If God didn't want to forgive us, He wouldn't have given His Son to die for our sins.

Oogene: You don't think God is mad at me?

Papa Greene: Of course not, Son. And you know, this is a good time for you to do something important.

Oogene: Like what?

Papa Greene: For the first time, you're feeling guilty about something you did that was wrong. When you were younger, you didn't think about right and wrong that much.

Oogene: I don't like the way I feel right now.

Papa Greene: Well, we can change that. Oogene, let's kneel down and you can ask Jesus to come into your heart. He'll wash away your sin and you'll have eternal life.

Oogene: Eternal life?

Papa Greene: When a person has eternal life, that means he is going to Heaven, not to Hell.

Oogene: I'm ready, Dad. And thanks for coming in here to talk with me.



ILLUSTRATED SERMON

"THE HEAVENLY HEART TRANSPLANT"

SCRIPTURES TO STUDY:

- Ezekiel 36:26-27 • John 3:3 • II Corinthians 5:17-21 • Mark 7:20-23 • II Peter 1:4

OBJECTS NEEDED:

Surgical garb, various surgical instruments, an anesthetist's mask a mallet or hammer, a fist-sized rock, a fist-sized piece of red meat, a bed sheet, a six-foot table, a toy stethoscope, a saw, a large needle with thread, and a willing helper

HOW TO PREPARE:

Your helper will enter the classroom at an appointed time and will appear to be interrupting you. When you stop him, he approaches you to ask for help.

He explains that he is unhappy and has a number of bad habits. (He may even reveal a package of cigarettes or carry an empty bottle of whiskey or pills to indicate drug use.) He confesses that he has a filthy mouth, hates to go to church, and does all sorts of wrong things. He knows that he's lost and doesn't want to go to Hell.

When you tell him that the root problem is his heart, he is ready to listen. You explain that his unregenerated heart is the source of his evil lifestyle (Mark 7:20-23). You explain that Jesus died and rose again to give men new hearts.

Upon hearing this news, he tells you that he wants a new heart. You indicate that this will require a heart transplant and begin to don your surgical garb. (To make the process easier, you may even have a "nurse" help you get into the garb.)

Now that you are properly dressed, you lay the patient down on the table and cover him with a bed sheet. Place your surgical instruments, including the fist-sized rock, behind the patient's body where it can remain unseen. Administer your anesthesia (mask, mallet, hammer, etc.) and begin.

MESSAGE:

I. People commit sins because they have a sin nature in their hearts.

- A. This sin nature came on all men when Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden (Romans 5:12).
- B. Man's sin begins in his heart (Mark 7:20-23).
(Begin to saw and operate on the helper's chest.)
- C. Sin hardens the heart of man and makes it like a rock.
(Remove the rocky heart from beneath the sheet and use it to illustrate your point.)

II. God sent Jesus to give men new hearts.

- A. He told a man named Nicodemus that his spirit would have to be born again (John 3:3).
 - 1. Nicodemus thought Jesus meant that he'd have to be born again in body.
 - 2. It's the heart—the spirit—that must be born again.

- B. God told the children of Israel that he would make it possible for men to receive a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26-27).
- C. God promised to give men His very own nature (II Peter 1:4).
 - 1. We are not just forgiven sinners.
 - 2. We become the children of God.

III. When we receive Jesus Christ as Lord, God gives us a new heart.

A. We become new people (II Corinthians 5:17).

B. Our old, stony hearts cannot please God.

(Place the stethoscope on the stony heart and tell the audience what you're hearing: lies, hateful words, cursing, evil desires, etc.)

C. The heart that Christ gives us is different.

(Bring out the fist-sized piece of meat and examine it with your stethoscope. Place the new heart in the patient and sew him up.)

CLOSING:

Wake up the patient after putting the new heart beneath the sheet and present him to your class. He should reflect a totally different attitude. After he rejoices for a moment, he should pause, show a look of concern, and ask this question: "How will I pay for this transplant? I don't have any money." Explain to the patient that the operation he just had cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. The patient tells you that there is no way he can pay for it—not in a hundred years. Tell the patient that someone has already paid for his heart transplant. When he asks who it is, tell him that Jesus paid for his change of heart.



ROVERCOMER, THE FAITH DOG

"ROVERCOMER'S NEW HEART"

PROPS NEEDED:

A big envelope, and a suitcase or a knapsack on a stick

THE LESSON:

(Rovercomer barges in, interrupting the class, carrying the props listed.)

Rovercomer: *(barking loudly, acting excited)*

Teacher: Hey, wait a minute, who are you interrupting my class?

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: Your name is what?

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: Your name is Rovercomer? And you want to meet the boys and girls?

Rovercomer: *(barks excitedly to kids, then to teacher again)*

Teacher: Boys and girls, Rovercomer wants me to tell you that he speaks in German Shepherd, so I'll interpret what he says.

Rovercomer: *(barks, holds up letter)*

Teacher: Rovercomer says he received this letter from our Pastor, and he wants me to read it. *(teacher opens letter, reads)* Dear Rovercomer, We here at *(your church name)* really love boys and girls. We need a faith dog to come visit our kids. Would you consider moving to our church and giving testimonies? We await your reply. Sincerely, *(your pastor's name)*.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: He says that he has moved to our city to be our dog. *(to Rovercomer)* Now wait a minute. If you're going to be in our church a lot, we need to know something about you.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: He said, "Fair enough. What do you want to know?" *(to Rovercomer)* Okay. First of all, have you always been a Christian dog of faith?

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: *(To kids)* He said he used to be a really bad dog. *(to Rovercomer)* Rovercomer, what did you do?

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: He said he used to steal newspapers from people's yards.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: And he used to chase cars.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: Tear open plastic garbage bags.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: Steal from other dogs.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: He said one day his friend, Abrahound, talked to him.

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "He said if I didn't change, something bad was going to happen to me."

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "I told him I've tried to change, but I couldn't."

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "He said you can't change by yourself. You need help to change."

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "He told me I needed a brand new heart."

Rovercomer: *(barks, questioning)*

Teacher: "You mean I need an operation?"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "Yes, you do. And there is only one doctor who can perform this surgery."

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "I said, Who is he?"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "He told me, 'His name is Dr. Jesus. Jesus is the only one that can give you a new heart.'"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "I said, Is it expensive?"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "He said, 'Yes, very expensive. So expensive you or nobody else can pay for it.'"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "I said, Who will pay for my new heart?"

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: "Jesus does the surgery and He also paid for your heart. He did it when He died on the cross for your sin."

Rovercomer: *(barks)*

Teacher: He said that Abrahound prayed with him to receive Jesus.

Rovercomer: *(barks excitedly)*

Teacher: He said that it was a great miracle.

Rovercomer: *(barks excitedly)*

Teacher: He said, "What Dr. Jesus did for me, He'll do for you, too!"

Rovercomer: *(barks excitedly)*

Teacher: He says, "Hallelujah!" That is a great testimony! Well, how about it, boys and girls? Do we want Rovercomer to move here? *(Kids respond)*

Rovercomer: *(barks, holding up suitcase)*

Teacher: He says he has to go unpack. *(To Rovercomer)* See you later, Rovercomer.

Rovercomer: *(exits barking)*



ADVENTURES IN FAITH

"A CHANGED HEART"

SHOW OVERHEAD 1

Coonskin Ben was a frontiersman and a trapper back in the early days of the United States. It was a time when the West was untamed, and only the bravest of men and women would face its challenges. Men went looking for land, gold, a fresh start in life, or just for the adventure of the unknown. But Coonskin had a different reason for going—he was on a mission from God.

Raised in the woods of Kentucky, Coonskin received Jesus into his heart as a young boy in a small country church his parents took him to. It was shortly after that, that God put the desire in Coonskin's heart to travel west and tell others the Good News of the Gospel, not as a preacher, but as a frontiersman. Everybody needs to hear the Gospel, even frontiersmen. When the time came for him to leave, Coonskin could shoot straighter, throw a knife faster, and quote more scriptures than anyone else around—except the pastor when it came to quoting scriptures. Coonskin had two traveling companions—a horse named Thunder and a wolf-dog he'd raised from a pup named Lightning.

"Lord, I want to praise You!" shouted Coonskin out loud as he rode through the woods. "You've been so good to me. You've given me a great horse, a good dog, and good health. Thank you, Lord. And I want to thank You most of all for giving me a new heart. I can never praise You enough for that."

SHOW OVERHEAD 2

Just outside of town as Coonskin rode along praising and thanking God, he happened to look down and noticed some red splotches on the ground every few feet or so. He climbed down off Thunder and touched one of the spots with his fingers.

"This is blood," thought Coonskin, rubbing the substance on his hand. "Someone must be hurt really bad."

Coonskin got back up on Thunder and followed the trail of blood further down the dusty trail. As he went around a bend, he looked ahead and saw a man lying face down on the ground. Lightning ran ahead of the horse and was the first to reach the stranger. Even though Lightning sniffed around the man, he lay motionless. Coonskin dropped off Thunder and knelt down to see if the man was still alive. As soon as he touched him, the man turned over and shoved a gun right up into Coonskin's face.

SHOW OVERHEAD 3

"What's going on?" said a startled Coonskin.

Lightning sensed immediate trouble and began to growl.

"Back up over there against that tree," said the man, pulling himself up to stand directly facing Coonskin. "And call your dog off or I'll shoot him and you both!"

"Sit, Lightning!" ordered Coonskin, as he cautiously backed up against the tree.

It was then that Coonskin noticed the man clutching his right side with his free hand and blood oozing between his fingers. Coonskin could tell by the tear in his shirt that this man had suffered a blow from a trapper's knife.

"Mister, you need help. If you don't get that bleeding stopped, you're going to die."

"Don't tell me what I need or don't need. I'm Bad Jack Johnson, and I'm the only one around here giving the orders!"

Coonskin had heard all about Bad Jack Johnson and was aware that he was notorious for killing trappers and stealing their furs.

"At least let me pray for you," said Coonskin. "You've got to have some help."

"Pray?!" scoffed Bad Jack. "God's not going to hear any prayer offered up for someone like me. I use His name as a swear word. I only went to church once, and that's just because I saw a pretty woman go inside first. You better save your praying for someone it'll do some good for."

"God is merciful, Bad Jack. He wants to help you if you'll let Him."

"That's enough!" yelled Bad Jack. "I thought it was only preachers that talked like that, and you sure don't look like any preacher I've ever seen. Now lay face down on the ground. I'm taking your horse and your provisions. Looks like you better do some praying for yourself."

Bad Jack quickly mounted Thunder and rode off.

As soon as he knew Bad Jack was out of sight, Coonskin got up from the ground and brushed himself off. Coonskin knew the first and most important thing he needed to do was to pray.

"Lord, I know Bad Jack did this because he's got a cold, stony heart, so I don't hold it against him, but I need Your help. I'm not going to let the devil rob me of what's mine. Devil, you can't steal my horse and my provisions. You loose them in Jesus' Name! And stop blinding the mind of Bad Jack Johnson to keep him from receiving the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thank You, Father, for hearing all of my prayers."

"Put your nose to the ground Lightning and follow Thunder's trail. We're going to get our stuff back."

Lightning picked up Thunder's trail easily because Bad Jack's blood could be found all along the way. The determined Coonskin continued to travel late into the day.

When nightfall came, Coonskin and Lightning bedded down together on the ground.

"Thank You, Lord, for all Your help," said Coonskin just before dozing off to sleep.

Just before daybreak, a faint rustling sound from the nearby woods awakened Lightning, and he began to bark. Coonskin sat up and began rubbing the sleep from his eyes.

SHOW OVERHEAD 4

There, coming through the trees, was Thunder—with an unconscious Bad Jack Johnson slumped over on his saddle.

"He must have lost too much blood," thought Coonskin, pulling him from the saddle.

Checking Bad Jack's heartbeat, he found the outlaw was just barely alive. Coonskin laid hands on Bad Jack and began to pray.

"Lord, I know this man has lived an ungodly life and is experiencing the wages of his sinful living. But the Bible says You are good and Your mercy endures forever. I'm asking You to have mercy on Bad Jack Johnson and raise him up, in Jesus' Name."

As Coonskin prayed, He could sense that God was doing something special in Bad Jack's body. In a matter of minutes Bad Jack became conscious again.

"Where am I?" he questioned, slowly looking around. His eyes focused on Coonskin Ben. "I thought I got rid of you yesterday, Preacher."

"You did," said Coonskin, "but I couldn't let you run off with my horse and my provisions. I prayed for you, Bad Jack, and God had mercy on you and raised you up."

Bad Jack checked the wound in his side. To his amazement, the bleeding had stopped, and it had actually begun to heal!

"God's real!" exclaimed Bad Jack. "I can actually feel my strength starting to come back." Suddenly, Bad Jack Johnson was struck with the goodness of God and his need for a Saviour. "I don't want to live the way I've been living anymore," said Bad Jack. "Can you help me, Mister Preacher?"

"Jesus wants to take your old sinful heart out and put a brand new one in its place," said Coonskin. "After that, you'll want to do the right things."

SHOW OVERHEAD 5

Coonskin prayed with Bad Jack and led him to the Lord. When they finished praying, Bad Jack had a light glowing in his eyes that wasn't there before.

"Something changed inside me," said Bad Jack. "I'm different."

"Jesus gave you a new heart with His life and His nature in it," explained Coonskin. "You'll never be the same again—you're a new creature in Christ."

"You know what I want to do right now more than anything else in the world?" asked Bad Jack. "I want to share this Jesus I found with all the other thieves and cutthroats I know. This is what they're looking for—whether they know it or not!"

"And you're going to help them find it," said Coonskin. "You're a changed man, Bad Jack Johnson—a good man—a righteous man. Maybe they'll even change your name to Good Jack Johnson!"

Bad Jack laughed and said, "That would be all right with me! I never knew I could be so different."

"Jesus can change the hardest of hearts," explained Coonskin. "His power is greater than all."



REVIEW QUESTIONS

"THE BIG WRAP UP"

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Four rolls of toilet tissue

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME:

1. Select two children, one from each side of the room, to come up on stage to be your victims—mean volunteers. (Each side of the classroom represents a different team.)
2. Now select two more children, one from each side, to answer this week's review questions.
3. Ask a question and have the children raise their hands as soon as they know the correct answer. If the child who raised their hand first does not know the correct answer, give the other child a chance to answer the question. If either child selected does not know the correct answer, ask the question to the class and choose the first child to raise his hand.
4. After the child gives you the correct answer, have him wrap the toilet tissue around his team representative five times.
5. Repeat steps 2 through 4 until all questions have been answered.
6. Whichever side has wrapped their representative the most is the winner.

REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Why do people commit sins?
2. How was the sin nature passed down to all men?
3. What does sin do to the heart of a man?
4. What did God send Jesus into the world to give men?
5. What did Nicodemus think Jesus was saying when He told him that he must be born again?
6. What part of man is it that needs to be born again?
7. What does God give us that makes us more than just forgiven sinners?
8. A heart that has _____ in it, cannot please God.
9. Who does a person have to receive to get a brand new heart?
10. How did Jesus pay for everyone's spiritual heart transplant?