

Home Family Worship with Kids 32. November 1st, 2020

Jeremiah 31:31-34 God writes his word on our hearts.

One of the things that was very important to Martin was helping other people to know God's love for them. He created something called the small catechism because he wanted to help parents teach their children about God at home. (There are a small number of these little books in the church office. Just let Joanne know if you would like to borrow/buy one. Or you can order them through Koorong)

Introduction: Can you read this? (show this to your family)

8 gratia enim estis salvati per fidem et hoc non ex vobis Dei enim donum est
9 non ex operibus ut ne quis gloriatur

It is one of the most well known Bible verses, but we can't read it! Why not?

Today we are going to learn about a man and something he did that means that we can read the Bible now and understand it. At the end of the story we will find out what the Bible verse is.

I would like to tell you a story about a man named Martin Luther. Martin Luther lived over 500 years ago and he helped to change the church.

Martin Luther was a very smart young man. His father wanted him to become a lawyer. One night after classes, Martin was walking home and a terrible thunderstorm happened! Martin was SO scared and cried out to St. Anne! He said that if he was saved from the storm, he would become a monk! A monk is someone who lives his entire life serving God! Let's try chair pose. This can remind us that Martin cried out for God to save him!

Martin tried to be a good monk: he prayed for HOURS, ate little, worked hard, and studied CONSTANTLY! Did all that help? NO! He tried to keep all God's commandments perfectly, but he still felt like he failed!

As Martin studied he became a professor and preacher. He learned more about God's love and gift of forgiveness. Martin learned that he didn't have to work so hard for God to forgive him. Jesus forgave Martin because he died on the cross for him. Martin was excited and wanted to tell others, but the church wasn't happy with him.

The church was telling people that they had to pay for God's forgiveness! Martin was upset with the church. Let's make ourselves look like a church steeple. Sometime churches have a really tall cross on top of their building.

Finally, Martin had had enough! He wrote a letter with 95 complaints about the church and nailed it to the church door!

With his complaints, Martin started something we now know as the *Reformation*. Say that with me. Soon many people heard about Martin's complaints! People wanted Martin to be arrested and many people wanted him to take back his complaints! But, Martin believed what he learned in the Bible and wouldn't take back his words. Let's try the half-moon pose. This looks like you're being pushed and pulled in different ways. During this time, Martin probably felt like he was being pushed and pulled in lots of directions!

Some church leaders wanted to kill Martin and his friends hid him in the Wartburg Castle. Martin was sure that God was with him and he wanted to tell others about God's love and forgiveness. While he was hiding Martin put the New Testament into the German language so that everyone could read it not just the church leaders.

Martin went on to continue reforming, or changing, the church. He taught people about God's love and forgiveness, about worship, and wrote many songs and prayers that we still use today. Martin's 95 complaints helped to change many churches and his efforts are why we have the Lutheran church today.

Martin strongly believed that God was leading him and is famous for saying, "Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me! Amen!"

Back to our Bible verses from the start: we can now read this Bible verse because Martin Luther first translated it into German and from there others translated it into many languages including English. Let's read the verse together and know that Jesus came so that we can have eternal life.

Ephesians:2:8-9

8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

Video clips:

Playmobile Luther story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tox2TfIUH90>

Live action Luther story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfSETWf7zPA>

Cartoon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhGGjRjvq7w>

How they made the Playmobile Luther story: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxiQ_m9t4vQ

Songs: Martin Luther Rap https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4piapxaT0k&feature=emb_logo

Your Grace Is Enough: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmgET3Q1VgU>

This Is Amazing Grace <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-rbmpzoQ5o>

God is so Good <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrI3T9sAc7U>

Activity 2: Martin Luther nailed 95 ideas onto the big church door. This **was a** list of **95** things that Luther believed about God, Heaven, and religion. ... By publishing the **95 theses**, Luther **was** putting his ideas out **there** for people to think about.

Make a list of the things that your family feel is important about God and put them on a door in your home.

Activity 3: Print off Luther's Rose sheet for each child. Discuss the different patterns/shapes and the colours that match. Have children colour their rose to match.



Black cross—Jesus died for our sins on the cross

- Red** heart—We have new hearts and desires by faith
- White **rose**—We have peace with God
- Blue** Sky—We have new life that begins now
- Gold Ring—We have eternal life in heaven.

