

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Luke

Lesson 36

The Narrow Door

Luke 13:22-30

Life of Christ

The Narrow Door

Luke 13:22-30

Younger Verse

"Jesus is the only one who can save people."

Acts 4:12

Older Verse

"Jesus is the only one who can save people. No one else in the world is able to save us."

Acts 4:12

Bible Story



*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Jesus continued traveling from town to town, teaching the people about God. Jesus knew that He was headed for Jerusalem, where He would be crucified. It was all part of God's plan to save us from our sins.

One day, someone asked Jesus a question. They wanted to know if only a few people would be saved and get to go to Heaven.

Jesus answered by talking about a narrow door. If something is narrow, it is not very big. You have to squeeze through a narrow door, and you can't carry anything with you. Jesus said that the door to Heaven is narrow. He said that many people will try to get in the door, but one day it will be too late. He said that one day the door will be closed and locked.

Some people think they can do what they want now, then accept Jesus into their life later. But Jesus was reminding us that we don't need to put off having a relationship with Him. We don't know how long we have. And we don't know when Jesus will come back either.

Jesus also said that many people will stand outside the door knocking, but God will tell them that He does not know them. The people will say that they heard Jesus teach and even ate with Him. But God will say that He never knew them.

Many people think that if they go to church or read their Bible, they know God. But the **ONLY** way to know God is to ask Jesus into your heart and life. You have to confess your sins and commit your life to following Jesus.

Jesus went on to say that people from all over the world will be in Heaven. He said that some people who think they are great now will not be in Heaven, and some who are not liked now will be in Heaven. It all depends on their relationship with Jesus.

Lesson Goals

Learn that accepting Christ is the only way to salvation
Understand that there are not different ways to Heaven
Recognize that we must choose to follow Christ

Some people wrongly thought that ALL people or ALL ways go to heaven. That would be like a big, wide door that lets everyone in. In John 10:9, Jesus said that He is the door. Only through Christ can we be forgiven and saved of our sins. There is no other way to be saved!

Also, we cannot take anything with us through the narrow door. That means we must love God above all things. If we love something or someone more than God, it would be like trying to carry it through the narrow door. It simply won't fit. God tells us that He must be the most important thing in our lives.

Jesus is the One who made a way for us to have a door to heaven. Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for all the wrong things we have done (sin). If you believe and trust in Jesus and tell Him you are sorry for all your sins, Jesus will forgive your sin and come into your life. He will stay with you and help you through all the difficult times in your life. Do you want to know more about Jesus? Talk to us about it anytime.

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus mean that to be saved we must go through the narrow door? (There is only one way to be saved—through Jesus Christ.)
2. Are there different ways to get to Heaven? (No—only through Christ.)
3. Who are the people who are outside the door knocking? (Those who know about God but haven't accepted Christ into their life.)

Life Application

God gives everyone a choice: Believe in His Son, Jesus, and be saved, or reject Christ and be separated from God. God's will is for everyone to be saved. (1 Timothy 2:4) He does not want anyone to be lost and not go to Heaven. (2 Peter 3:9) But the choice is ours. God does not force any one to believe in Him.

Satan wants us to think there are many ways to be saved. He wants us to love the world and the things of this world. But when we listen to those lies, we reject the truth about God: that only through His Son can people be saved and have eternal life.

God loves us enough to give us a choice. The choice you make about Christ will affect where you spend eternity. Let's make sure we choose the narrow door, and help others to do the same!

Planning for Lesson 37
Lost Sheep and Coin
Luke 15:1-10

Preschool Lesson for The Narrow Door

(Teachers: this is an important story. Remember, small children think in concrete terms and will not comprehend all that is being said. Be sensitive to help the kids see that we should love Jesus and follow Him.)

Once, while Jesus was talking to a crowd, a man asked Jesus a question. He wanted to know how many people would go to Heaven.

Jesus answered him by telling a picture story about a door. He helped the crowd see that going to Heaven was like going through a little, narrow door. Narrow is a word that means small, or little. If you think about a narrow door, it would be a door that a person would have to SQUEEZE through. All kids are very small and can get through all kinds of doors. Grown ups are much bigger. It is hard to squeeze through some doors!

When we believe and trust in Jesus, we are telling Him that we want to do things God's way instead of our way. We are choosing the narrow door—God's door.

Jesus was telling the crowd how important it is to love Jesus and do things God's way. He was helping them see that the only way to Heaven is by believing in Jesus.

Jesus loves us so much. He cares for us and wants us to care for others. He wants us to love Him and help others know who He is.

Pray and thank Jesus for caring for us.



**Hands-on Activities
for
The Narrow Door**

Sing “Jesus is the Answer” or “God Loves People More than Anything.”

Make “Door” snacks. Bring graham crackers, frosting, and small M & M’s. Frost the graham cracker “door” with frosting and add an M & M for the door knob. Enjoy!

Have the kids make “One Way” signs and write today’s Bible verse on them. Encourage them to share this with their family and friends.

“Let’s Make a Deal” was an old show where a person got to pick 1 of 3 doors. Make up a version of the show by having 3 “doors” (possibly pieces of paper) to choose from. You may have questions about the story to answer or fun things to do. Bring silly prizes for all.

Sometimes people have secret knocks to get into doors. Have fun making up a secret knock together.

Set up a fun Door obstacle course. One way will be wide and easy. The other way narrow. Talk about what it was like going through the narrow space. Talk about how sometimes choosing Jesus means we cannot participate in things that others do. Share how important it is to choose Jesus and the narrow door.

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one who can save
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Acts 4:12**



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Word Search

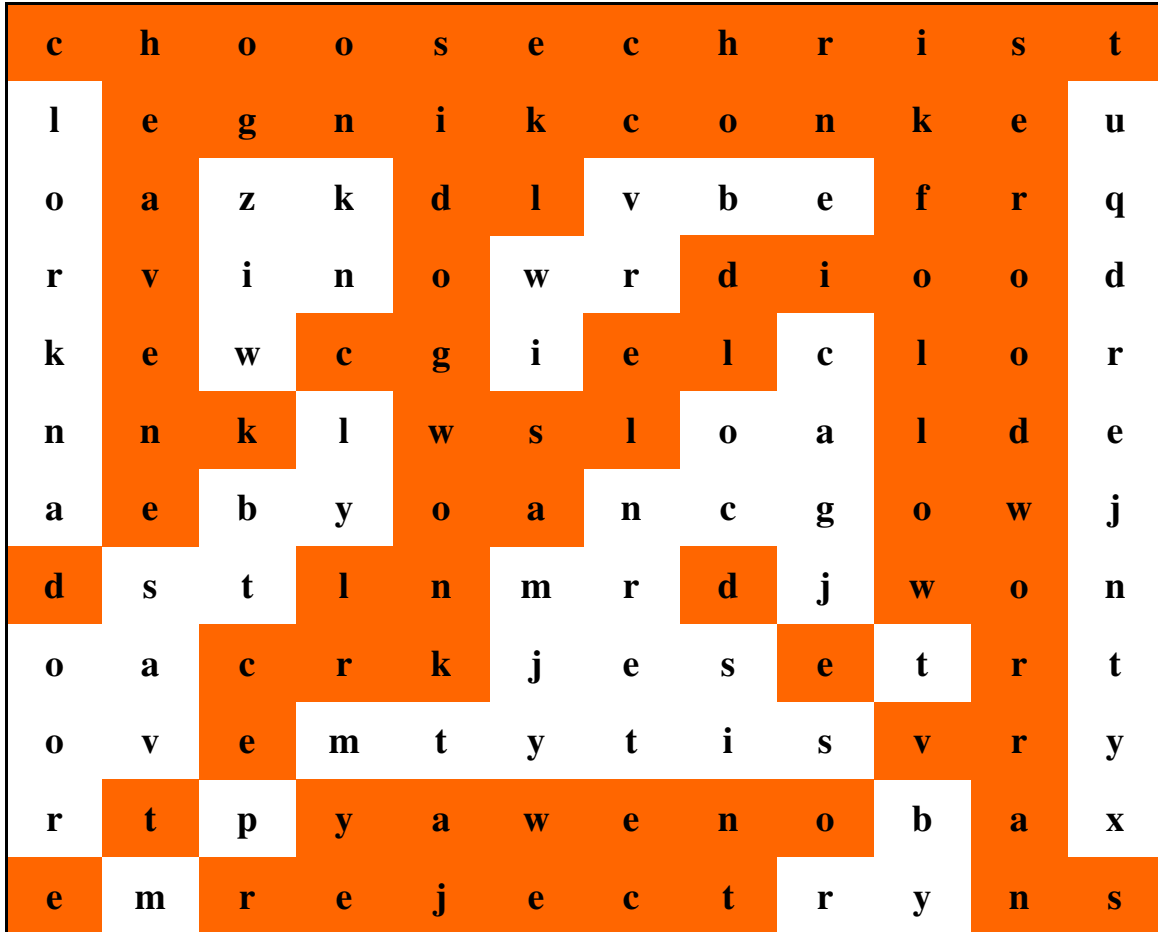
The Narrow Door

c	h	o	o	s	e	c	h	r	i	s	t
l	e	g	n	i	k	c	o	n	k	e	u
o	a	z	k	d	l	v	b	e	f	r	q
r	v	i	n	o	w	r	d	i	o	o	d
k	e	w	c	g	i	e	l	c	l	o	r
n	n	k	l	w	s	l	o	a	l	d	e
a	e	b	y	o	a	n	c	g	o	w	j
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o	a	c	r	k	j	e	s	e	t	r	t
o	v	e	m	t	y	t	i	s	v	r	y
r	t	p	y	a	w	e	n	o	b	a	x
e	m	r	e	j	e	c	t	r	y	n	s

Heaven	saved	narrow door
locked	one way	knocking
choose Christ	follow	reject
closed	know God	eternal life

Word Search

The Narrow Door



Heaven	saved	narrow door
locked	one way	knocking
choose Christ	follow	reject
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Jesus said that to be saved,
you must go through the

N _ _ r _ _ w

D _ _ o _ _

How many ways are there to
Heaven?

ONE WAY

