

BOLD TRANSFORMATIONAL FAITH

Sunday School



November 6, 2022 | The Sadducees' Question
Luke 20:27-38

Materials Needed: Paper, markers or colored pencils

Welcome:

Check in with your Sunday Schoolers!

- How was your week?
- How was your Halloween?
- What was something new that you learned this week?
- What was the weirdest thing that happened this week for you?
- Did you go trick-or-treating?

Get to Know You Questions:

- What is your favorite candy?
- Would you rather eat a cake or a cupcake?
- What is your favorite sweet treat?



Book!

Read the story together! If you are using a SPARK Bible, this story can be found on page 406. (This SPARK Bible is really helpful this week!)

Let's talk this through!

- What do you all notice about the story for this week?
- Did it seem a bit confusing? (If you used the reading versus the SPARK Bible.)
 - Faith sometimes can feel confusing. The Sadducees had lots of questions for Jesus. It is great that they felt that they could ask Jesus these questions!
- Do you have questions that you would ask Jesus if you were with him?
- How did Jesus respond to their questions?
 - Jesus responded with a lot of love! He told them to not worry about what happens after death, and the ways in which our world is held together. Heaven is a completely different place, where everyone is with God!
 - What do you think that heaven is like? What do you imagine it to be?

Have your Sunday Schoolers act this story out! Have some be Sadducees, and have one person play the role of Jesus.

Once they have acted out this story, you can remind them of this bible verse, (or even better, have them look it up!): Matthew 6:34. It tells us not to worry about tomorrow, for there is enough to think about today.

Perhaps, this is Jesus's way of telling us that rather than worrying about later on and what happens in the future, we should love and care for each other today! Each day we have so many things that we can do to love God and serve our neighbors around us.



Look!

Let's think about this!

Have you Sunday Schoolers draw out what they think heaven looks like. Then, have them share with the rest of the group!

- Are there things that are similar between pictures?
- Are there things that are different between pictures?
- Heaven is a place for everyone to be together worshiping God!

We're going to try an activity! Have your Sunday Schoolers gathered in a circle, with one person "it" first. The goal of this activity is for the person who is "it" to get into the middle of the circle!

When you explain this to the kids, make sure that you explain it this way, below:

"Alright friends! Listen carefully. This person is who will be "IT" first. Their goal is to get into the circle we made. Ready friends in the circle? Alright! Do your best!"

Make sure to also mention:

- Be GENTLE in this activity. No running, or hitting. Make sure that you are doing this carefully and with the people around you in mind!
- We'll play a couple of rounds, and then talk about this together.

What you will notice as the leader, is that the Sunday Schoolers will (sometimes) naturally try to keep that person who is "it" out of the circle. If they do this, let them play a few rounds! If they don't, and let the person into the circle, talk about the following questions together!

- What happened in this game?
- What was it like to be the person "it"?
- What was it like to be the people in the circle?
- If they let folks in...
 - Why did you let the person who was "it" inside the circle?

- If they didn't let people in...
 - Why did you try to keep the person out?
- How did this game connect to the story for today?

"Guess what everyone... this game was a bit of a trick! In this world, you find there are people that you don't know, or places you cannot go. What Jesus tells us in our story for today, is that *everyone* has a place in heaven."

Everyone has a place in the circle. *As the leader, I did NOT tell you to keep the person out! (So tricky!)*

If the middle represents heaven, God tells us that we all have a place there some day. Rather than worrying about keeping certain things or people out, we should do our very best to let people into our lives, serve our neighbors, and care for people today.

- Talk about this more together! What can we do to love our neighbors and include them in our day-to-day lives? How can we invite people into our lives and show them God's love?



Took!

Have your Sunday Schoolers compile a list of their pictures of heaven. Ask them to write down and answer the following prompts, whether you want to use all of them or just a few.

- Who can I include in my day-to-day activities who otherwise might feel excluded?
- Who can I make friends with this week?
- Who can I help this week?
- Who can I show love to this week?
- What can I do to help someone in need this week that I may not know very well?
- Who can I show kindness to this week?
- Who can I thank for showing me kindness this week?
- Who can I thank for showing me God's love this week?

Have them go around and share!



Closing Prayer

Pray together!

Dear God, thank you for placing so many wonderful people in our lives. Help us to care about today, and all of the things that we can do to show your love today and everyday! We know that you have a place for us in heaven. We thank you for your endless and LIMITLESS love, care, and wisdom each day. We ask for you to come into our lives, and guide us in love throughout the upcoming days!

AMEN

Have some extra time?

This is a great time to come up with a game plan to do something NICE for someone in your church or household! You can use the paper and coloring utensils to make a card, or create a new idea that shows an act of kindness for someone. You can do this as a group, or individually!

Here are some ideas for your Sunday Schoolers:

- Make cards for people in your local nursing home.
- Surprise another Sunday School class or a neighbor with an act of kindness!
- Create a skit where you challenge each other to show others kindness.
- Look up different volunteer opportunities for the students in your class.
- Organize your workspace or classroom!
- Put up messages of encouragement or bible verses you like in your church or in your home.

Have fun with this, and get creative!