



## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Everyone is a sinner.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that all have sinned and fallen short of God's perfection.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Romans 3:23

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." Romans 3:23 (NirV)*

**SUMMARY:**

God is perfect and his ways are perfect. Every one of us have sinned – disobeyed and acted in ways that fell short of God's perfection. "Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." Romans 3:23

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for loving us even though we sin.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## MEMORY VERSE

*“Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God’s glory.” Romans 3:23 (NirV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Have all the fifth/sixth graders (whatever the oldest age in the room may be) read the verse first. Then add the next grade down and repeat. Add the next grade down, and repeat. Keep repeating until everyone is reading together.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.



## SKIT

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A map  
Pirate costumes

### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

### CHARACTERS:

Captain Quest and Mr. Jones - Pirates

*Captain Quest and Mr. Jones enter. Captain Quest is holding a map.*

QUEST: Yar, Mr. Jones, this be the place where we start down the road to treasure.

JONES: Treasure, captain? Are ya sure?

QUEST: Sure as I am that this here is a map!

*Captain Quest unfolds a travel brochure for an amusement park.*

JONES: It's a map, Captain, but not to the treasure. This shows us how to get from the log flume to the roller coaster at Six Flags.

QUEST: Yar, ye be right, Mr. Jones!

Quest throws the brochure away and pulls out the real map.

QUEST: This be the right map, the map to the Roman Road!

JONES: Goodness, Captain, is this THE Roman Road?

QUEST: Indeed it be, matey. Many years ago, a road was paved to lead treasure seekers like me to the greatest treasure of all time. We're going to find that treasure, lad.

JONES: And split it fifty-fifty?

QUEST: I was thinking ninety-ten, but we can negotiate that later.

# SKIT

JONES: I should have listened to mother. I should have been an orthodontist.

QUEST: Brace yourself, Jones.

JONES: Actually, I'd be bracing others.

QUEST: The road ahead is not an easy one. Why just listen to the first clue. Hear the treacherous words of the great treasure mapper Captain Paul. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

JONES: Wow, that does sound ominous.

*They take a few steps forward.*

QUEST: Aye, lad. It sounds like right out the gate on this journey, every man falls into the trap of sin.

JONES: Sin?

QUEST: Sin be like quicksand, lad.

*They start to sink slowly to their knees.*

QUEST: It looks harmless enough at first, but then, ye find yerself up to your knees, unable to escape it!

JONES: Sounds terrible.

QUEST: It is terrible! No man can escape the trap of sin. It is only by the grace of God any man ever escapes for we have all fallen into sin!

JONES: Gee, Captain, I don't see any sin around here. But I do see one danger.

QUEST: Ye do?

JONES: Take a look down, Captain.

*They both look down and yell out:*

QUEST/JONES: Quicksaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaand!!!!



## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A mousetrap

Have you ever heard the phrase, “Build a better mousetrap?” People use it when they are describing things that, well, just can’t be improved upon. The mousetrap, as we know it, has worked so well for so long, there’s really no way to improve on it. You bait it, and set it, and wait. Mice can’t help themselves. They see the food but not the danger. They fall for it every time.

Sin is just as deadly as a mousetrap. We are all sinners, and we all fall into sin every day. Our God is perfect, and there’s no amount of good deeds that could ever make up for our sin. Thank goodness for the awesome love of God, who chose not to abandon us in the quicksand of sin, but to send a Savior to pull us out.

We are all sinners. Not one of us is better than the other. But our perfect, loving God, has a plan to save us. We will find it on the Roman Road.



## LARGE GROUP GAME

### MR. POTATO HEAD TELEPORTATION

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Two Mr. Potato Head kits (with the same number of pieces in each kit)  
One table

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two teams for this game of 6-8 kids. Have the kids line up side by side on either end of the table. Give the kid farthest from the table on each side the Mr. Potato Head kit, disassembled, in its box. The two teams will race to see who can assemble their Mr. Potato Head on the table first by passing the parts, one piece at a time, from the box, down the line, to the table. The kid closest to the table is responsible for assembling the parts. Parts can be passed in any order, but the Potato Head must be completely assembled in order for the team to win.

#### VARIATION:

An alternate game would be to pick as many kids from each team as there are pieces for the Mr. Potato Head kit. Give each child a piece and give the kid on the fastest end the potato body. Kids will then pass the Potato Head down the line, with each child adding their piece, until the completely assembled Potato Head is standing on the table. First team wins.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

The Roman Road is a path that leads us to being saved.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Everyone is a sinner.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that all have sinned and fallen short of God's perfection.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Romans 3:23

### **INTRO:**

Once upon a time, a mighty empire ruled most of the civilized world. For nearly a thousand years, the Romans brought prosperity and order to a vast empire that, at its peak, stretched from Portugal to the Middle East, from Egypt and Northern Africa to parts of what is now Great Britain. The Romans were not a perfect people, and they certainly were not a Christian people, but the Romans made major contributions to civilization in the arts, literature, architecture, government, and transportation.

The Romans build a vast network of roads throughout their domain. They were created to enable the Roman Army to move easily from one place to another, but they had the added benefit of growing business and commerce throughout the Empire. The Romans were exceptional builders, and there are places in Europe today where you can still walk those same Roman roads.

The faith we celebrate today in church owes a great deal to those Roman roads as well. Many of those roads were laid before the founding of the early church, so when the time came for men like Paul to take the gospel to the world, the road was already paved for them to take that good news from one end of the Roman Empire to the other!

There's another Roman Road that we often hear mentioned in church. This isn't a physical road, but a "path" found in Romans that can lead us toward Heaven. The Roman Road is a series of verses that teaches us who we are, why we need a Savior, what Jesus did to save us, and how we can be saved. These five verses are a six step path to explain to anyone how they can receive Jesus as their Savior.

Over the next six weeks, we're going to walk this Roman Road.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

We want to encourage you to memorize these five verses so you'll be able to guide anyone at any time down the Roman Road. This is the most important journey any person could ever take, and it starts in Romans 3:23.

## **READ ROMANS 3:23**

### **MAIN POINT:**

Romans 3:23 is a short verse with a very powerful message. All have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. Sin is anything we do that breaks God's laws. Sin includes putting other gods before our God, taking God's name in vain, disobeying our parents, lying, cheating, stealing, and jealousy. Sin hurts God and it hurts others. And sin is everyone's problem.

God is perfect, and a sinful people cannot stand in the presence of a perfect God. But God loved us so much, He made a way for us to have our sins forgiven so we could one day stand before Him. We can find our way to God on the Roman Road. We will discover that God has a plan to lead us from sin to salvation along the Roman Road.

### **DRIVE IT HOME:**

One of the great advantages of the Roman road system was that it allowed travelers to avoid pitfalls and hazards they might encounter trying to cross the land on their own. People who walked the Roman roads could avoid dangers like briars, sinkholes, and quicksand. Quicksand is extremely dangerous because it looks just like regular sand. If you aren't paying attention, you can easily wander into quicksand and be up to your neck before you even realize what happened.

Sin is anything we do that goes against God's laws. Any time we do something that hurts God or hurts someone else, we are sinning. Sin is a lot like quicksand. If we aren't staying alert, we can easily wander into sin without even realizing it. That's how we all fall into sin every day, by focusing on our own desires and wants rather than keeping our eyes on God.

The Roman Road can help us to escape the trap of sin. It shows us that if we look to God, we can find freedom. God sent His Son Jesus to die for our sins and set us free. If we place our trust in Jesus, He will pull us out of that quicksand. Even when we fall in again, which will happen, He will save us.

God is perfect, and His ways are perfect. He has paved the Roman Road so we can find our way to freedom. Memorize Romans 3:23 this week. Remember when others sin and hurt you this week that you, too, are a sinner. None of us can judge anyone else because we've all fallen short of God's perfection. But if we learn the Roman Road, we can help ourselves and help others to find forgiveness for our sins.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

**CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for loving us even though we sin.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

What is the name of the street you first lived on when you were born?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

#### Romans 3:23

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a few rounds of Duck Duck Goose to burn off some energy and get moving.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Read Romans 3:23

What is the Roman Road?

How many verses are in the Roman Road?

How many of you have this verse memorized already?

What does this verse teach us?

Does anyone know how God made a way to save us from sin?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for saving us from our sins.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### **ICEBREAKER:**

What is the name of the street you first lived on when you were born?

### **MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:**

#### **Romans 3:23**

Ask if anyone already has this verse memorized from previous memory verse studies. Have those kids recite the verse by themselves, then review it with the other kids.

### **SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:**

Play a few rounds of Duck Duck Goose to burn off some energy and get moving.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

#### **Read Romans 3:23**

What does the Roman Road teach us?

How many verses are in the Roman Road?

How many of you have this verse memorized already?

What does this verse mean for us?

What did God do to save us from sin?

### **SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for saving us from our sins.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### FILL IN THE BLANK

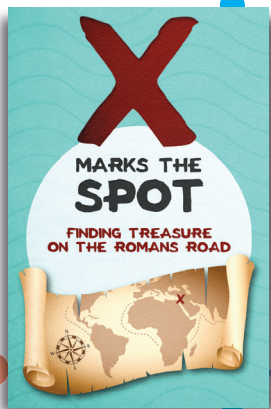
The Roman Road is a series of verses from the book of \_\_\_\_\_.  
ROMANS

There are \_\_\_\_\_ verses in the Roman Road.  
FIVE

The first verse is Roman \_\_\_\_\_.  
3:23

Romans 3:23 teaches us that all of us have \_\_\_\_\_.  
SINNED

The Roman Road will show us how \_\_\_\_\_ saved us from sin.  
GOD/JESUS



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## X Marks the Spot Lesson 1

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: QUICK SAND



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

God is perfect and his ways are perfect. Every one of us have sinned – disobeyed and acted in ways that fell short of God's perfection. "Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." Romans 3:23



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

See if your kids can give you directions some place you go often, like school or church or a favorite restaurant. Ask them if they know the names of the roads. Then ask them what the Roman Road is.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What is the Roman Road?
- What does Romans 3:23 say?
- What does Romans 3:23 teach us about sin?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

*"Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." Romans 3:23 (NirV)*



#### PARENT TIME:

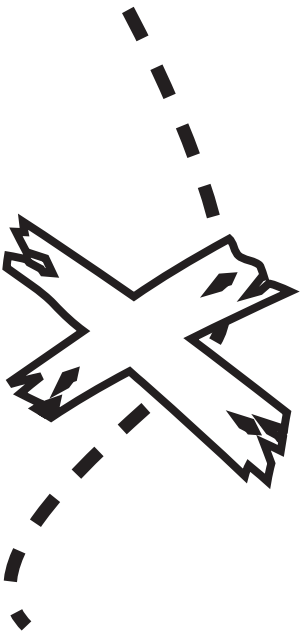
What you need to know:

The Roman Road is a series of five verses that can be used to easily explain how we are sinners and how God saved us from sin. Work with your children to learn the Roman Road during this series so you too can use it to explain to someone how to receive Jesus.

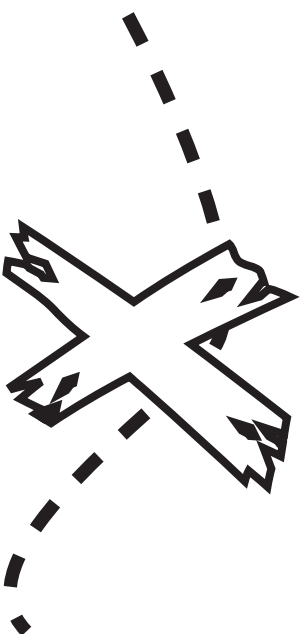


## CRAFT ACTIVITY

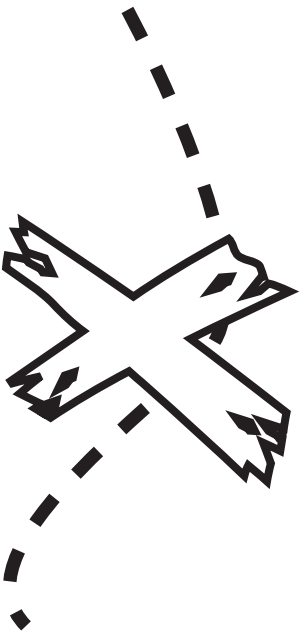
Each week in this series, have the kids create a section of road on construction paper or note cards that they can assemble at home to represent the Roman Road. The kids can draw/color their road each week with crayons or markers. Make sure to write the scripture reference for each week on the cards.



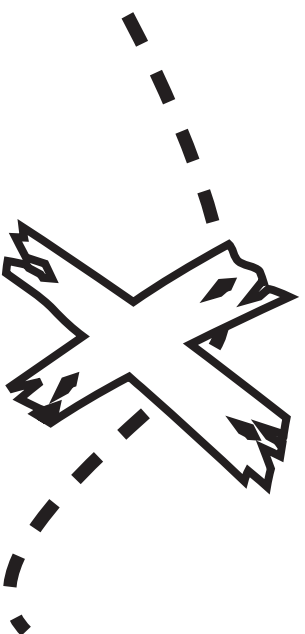
"Everyone has sinned.  
No one measures up to God's glory."  
- Romans 3:23 (NIRV)



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