

Balloons to teach Salvation

1. Hold balloon. Talk about how our lives are like this balloon. Talk about how people's lives are empty without God. They try and try to fill up their lives with other things, but they are still empty.
2. Let a student come and try to blow up the balloon. He will not be able to. Talk about how some people try to work hard to get accepted by God. They try to fill up their own lives by doing good things. But it does not work.
3. Show balloon pump. The balloon pump is like God's love. It will fill up the empty balloon, but only if you put the balloon on it. God wants to save people. But they have to accept the salvation He gives through His Son Jesus Christ. Explain the salvation plan of God.
4. Fill up balloon with air. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are saved. The Bible says God puts His Holy Spirit in us. We now have God's love and God's Spirit in our lives. We are not empty any more.
5. Tie balloon. The Bible says we are sealed with God's Holy Spirit. The balloon cannot undo this knot I tied in it. You cannot lose your salvation. God has sealed you for eternity. You belong to Him.
6. Hold up balloon. Is it nice? Would you like one? Could it be even better?
7. Now start to twist balloon. Say that God does not just want to save us. He wants to make our lives into something special for Him. He changes us as we read His Word and do what He says. He makes our lives different as we follow Him.
8. Keep twisting balloon to make a balloon animal. We may not understand why the twisting times come in our lives at the time. It may seem like God is doing something bad to us, something that we do not like. Maybe sad times come, or hard times and you do not understand why God is letting this happen in your life.
9. Hold up the finished balloon. But God has a plan for each person. He knows exactly the person He wants you to be. He lets things happen in your life so you can become that person that He knows you can be with His help. When sad times or hard times come, trust God. Trust that He is working things out for good.

Balloons to teach Missions

Hold up balloon animal. I can make balloon animals. If I made one balloon animal every day, how many animals do you think I could make in my life? (let children guess) But if I taught 5 of you how to make balloon animals, and you made one every day, how many could we make? (let children guess) If I taught all of you to make balloon animals, and we all made one every day, how many could we make? (let children guess again) And then, if you taught other people how to make them too, just think of how many balloon animals there would be!

A missionary goes to a place and tells people about God's love and His wonderful gift of salvation. He may tell this to many people in his lifetime. But if he teaches other people to tell other people also, they can tell even more people! And if those people teach other people, think of how many people could be told about God's love! That is what missions is like. One person teaches another person how to teach another person, who teaches another person—and it just keeps going!