

ELCIC Praise Appeal Service 2017

Children's Message Script

- PRINT:**
- 1) this page (script)
 - 2) 4 pictures; 1 portrait of Martin Luther
 - 3) "Salvation—Not For Sale" poster

If your congregation uses a projector, the photos and poster could be used with it as well as print-outs to show the children.

- NOTE:**
- a) ***Bold italicized words*** are suggested words the leader may use.
 - b) Always allow a moment for children to respond.

INVITATION:

Welcome children to come and join you. Greet them by name as you are able.

Use the pictures and invite the children into dialogue saying words such as: ***Here's a picture—what's happening here? Have you ever had this happen to you?*** or ***Have you ever done something like this?*** Use this type of questioning with each of the pictures #1 to #4.

So what happens when someone does something wrong or mean—like in one of these pictures?

Allow response.

Use the poster and invite the children into dialogue saying words such as ***Salvation—Not For Sale...***
What do you think that means?

Allow response.

In the lesson just read, the people of Israel had turned against God—they were doing wrong things—it was a terrible time for them. But then they hear that God doesn't stay angry—that God forgives them and provides good things for them. That's Salvation—to be forgiven, to have our broken way of being made better.

Why do you think the sign says, Salvation—Not For Sale?

Allow response.

Sometimes people think that you can earn God's love and forgiveness. That if you do the right things then God will be on your side. What do you think?

Allow response.



Praise Appeal Service 2017 — Children's Message

Use portrait of Martin Luther. **500 years ago there was a man named Martin Luther. He was a priest and a teacher. At that time the Roman Church was in charge of most things—and they told people that they could BUY salvation. They could even pay money to have a family member go to heaven.**

In those days most people did not know how to read. Martin Luther could read and he read the Bible a lot. He read a lesson that we're going to hear in a few minutes. It said, "By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works."

What do you think Martin Luther figured out?

Allow response.

Martin Luther figured out that Salvation is not for sale—it's a free gift from God! He did not agree with the Roman Church and almost lost his life trying to change the Roman Church.

That was the start of the Reformation, and it changed how we understand God. We know that we are deeply loved by God—and that no one can buy or sell the love of God. Martin Luther helped people learn that!

DISMISSAL

Thank you for being here this morning, remember that God loves you always—no one can buy or sell God's love!

You may return to your seats.





**Did you ever
break something?**



**Did you ever say
mean things
to someone?**



**Did you ever
take something
without asking?**



**Have you ever
hurt someone?**



MARTIN LUTHER

1483–1546

Priest, Professor, Fugitive, Reformer

SALVATION

**NOT FOR
SALE!**