

LESSON 27 | Jesus Lives!

Bible Basis: Matthew 26; 28; John 20 – 21

Bible Verse: Luke 24:6: “Jesus is not here! He has risen! Remember how he told you he would rise. It was while he was still with you in Galilee.”

Bible Point: Jesus died on the cross, but he came back to life. Because Jesus died for me, I am saved and can live for him!

Resource: *The Beginner’s Bible*

- “Jesus Is Arrested and Crucified” (pages 446 – 452)
- “Jesus Is Risen!” (pages 453 – 458)
- “Jesus Returns” (pages 459 – 461)
- “A Net Full of Fish” (pages 462 – 465)

Master Supplies List

- The Beginner’s Bible*
- Lesson Materials DVD (optional)
- DVD player (optional)
- Small plastic figure or object that floats
- Clear bowl and water (to fill the bowl)
- Family Page (one per child; see end of this lesson)

Optional Supplies

You will need the following supplies based on which option(s) you choose in STEP 3 | Explore More. All craft templates are located at the end of this lesson.

- Option 1:** Paper plates (one per child) cut in half, brown lunch bags, masking tape, brown and gray crayons, stapler
- Option 2:** Masking tape
- Option 4:** Crayons or markers, coloring page (one per child)

STEP 1 | COME TOGETHER

Supplies: Small plastic figure or object that floats, a clear bowl, water (to fill the bowl).

Teacher Prep: Fill a bowl with water.

INSTRUCT the children to take their seats and to be very quiet, because today you will be talking about something important.

ASK for a child volunteer.

SAY, Please take this object and make it sink to the bottom of the bowl.

LET the child place the object in the water, push it to the bottom, and then let go. Have the child do it again.

SHOW the class how the object keeps floating to the top.

ASK, This object refuses to sink, doesn’t it? (*Yes.*)

SAY, This object reminds me of Jesus. Do you know why? (*Take responses.*)

SAY, Even though Jesus died on a cross and was buried in a tomb, he refused to stay dead. Do you know what happened on the third day after Jesus died? (*He rose from the dead.*)

SAY, Just like this object, Jesus popped right back up. God, the Father, brought him back to life!

SAY, Today we are going to learn about how Jesus died on the cross and came back to life. Because Jesus died for us, we are saved and can live for him!

STEP 2 | HEAR THE STORY

Supplies: *The Beginner's Bible*, Lesson Materials DVD (optional), DVD player (optional).

ASK the children to sit and listen carefully as you read the story of how Jesus died and came back to life.

TELL the children that when they hear about Jesus rising back to life, they should rise out of their seats and say, "Hooray!"

READ aloud "Jesus Is Arrested and Crucified," "Jesus Is Risen!," "Jesus Returns," and "A Net Full of Fish" from *The Beginner's Bible*. Or, if you prefer, **SHOW** these stories from the lesson on the enclosed DVD.

ASK, Which of Jesus' helpers betrayed him? (*Judas.*)

ASK, How did Judas betray Jesus? (*He pretended to be a loyal friend, but secretly he was planning to hurt Jesus.*)

ASK, Where did Jesus die? (*On a cross.*)

ASK, Did Jesus stay dead? (*No!*)

ASK, Who told Mary that Jesus was alive? (*An angel.*)

ASK, Did Jesus visit his friends when he came back to life? (*Yes.*)

ASK, When Jesus came back to life, what did he help the disciples do while they were fishing? (*He helped them catch lots of fish.*)

ASK, Why do you think Jesus helped the disciples catch fish? (*To show that he was the Son of God, to show his power, to help them believe that he was alive.*)

PRAY with the children. Thank God for sending his Son to earth to die for our sins, and thank him that Jesus lives!

STEP 3 | EXPLORE MORE

Choose from these activity options to help the children explore the lesson further.

Option 1: The Empty Tomb

Supplies: Paper plates (one per child) cut in half, brown lunch bags, masking tape, brown and gray crayons, stapler.

EXPLAIN to the children that when people died in Bible times, they were placed in a tomb, which was like a cave. The people would place a large rock on the outside of the tomb to close it up.

SAY, Today we are going to make a tomb like the one Jesus was placed in. Our tomb will be empty, though, because Jesus did not stay in the tomb. He came back to life!

GIVE the children one half of a paper plate and instruct them to color it black. Repeat with the other half, this time instructing them to color it gray.

CUT out a door for each child on the half colored gray. Put the halves together with the gray half on top so that the black shows through the doorway you have cut out. Staple them around the top rounded edge.

GIVE the children a brown paper bag and instruct them to ball it up tightly. This will represent the stone that the angel rolled away from Jesus' tomb. Give the children a long piece of tape and instruct them to wrap the tape tightly around their paper ball.

PLACE the paper ball in the doorway of the tomb. **SHOW** the children that now they can pretend to be the angel and roll the stone away from the doorway.

Option 2: In the Tomb, Out of the Tomb

Supplies: Masking tape.

LEAD your class in this fun, energy-burning game.

PLACE a long piece of masking tape on the floor.

INSTRUCT the children to stand on one side of the tape.

TELL the children that one side is "out of the tomb" and that the other side is "in the tomb."

TELL the children to jump "in the tomb." If a child doesn't jump over the tape, or does not follow the instruction, that child is out.

GIVE the children different instructions so they crawl, hop, and skip in and out of the tomb. You can make the game more interesting by pointing in the opposite direction of your instructions or by repeating an instruction twice in a row.

PLAY until only one child is left standing. Play again, if you have time.

ASK, Aren't you glad that Jesus came out of the tomb and is alive today?

Option 3: "Jesus Rose"

TEACH the children this simple praise song to help them remember the story of Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the dead. Sing "Jesus Rose" to the tune of "Michael Row Your Boat Ashore." (See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMszhdPb-B1o>.)

*Jesus died upon a cross, hallelujah!
But he arose triumphantly, hallelujah!*

*He'll return to earth one day, hallelujah!
Take us all to heaven to stay, hallelujah!*

SING the song with the children several times.

Option 4: Let's Color

Supplies: Crayons or markers, coloring page (one per child).

STEP 4 | GOING HOME

Supplies: Family Page (one per child).

GIVE each child a copy of this week's Family Page.

SAY, Give this page to your family when they pick you up. It will remind you to tell them how we learned about Jesus dying on the cross and how he came back to life again. Because Jesus died for us, we are saved and can live for him!

LESSON 27 | Let's Color



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How to use This Page

This week, you can read the stories listed above in *The Beginner’s Bible* several times to help your child remember them. Use the Table Talk questions below to start a discussion around the dinner table, while driving in the car, or just about anywhere. The Living Faith activity is designed as a drama to help your child remember the Bible lesson. The Extra Mile provides interactive ways for your child to connect with the story.

TABLE TALK

1. After Jesus died, where was his body placed? (In a tomb.)
2. Did Jesus stay in the tomb? (No, he came out and is alive today.)
3. Did Jesus visit his friends after he came back to life? (Yes.)
4. When Jesus’ friends saw him, what did they think he was? (A ghost.)

LIVING FAITH

Have your child select one of the Bible stories from this week and act it out as you read the story aloud from *The Beginner’s Bible*. Provide your child with props, such as a table covered with a blanket for a tomb, to help reenact the story of the resurrection. Give your child a blanket to cast as a net to catch some “fish” or stuffed animals.

When you come to the place(s) in the story where a Bible character speaks, instruct your child what to say. If possible, have your child perform the Bible drama for other family members in person, via Skype, or using a video camera.

EXTRA MILE

- It is often easier for children to memorize Scripture if they understand what the verse is saying. So when you practice your child’s memory work this week, take time to explain exactly what the verse is saying. When the meaning is clear to your child, memorizing it will not seem like a pointless chore.
- This week, we learned about the death and resurrection of Jesus. This is a good opportunity to discuss salvation with your child. Children are often confused about the concept of salvation, and this confusion can sometimes lead to them postponing a personal commitment to Christ. Make sure your child understands why Jesus died and why personal salvation is important. Don’t be pushy, but if your child shows an interest in this topic, make an effort to answer all questions. Because your child is young, use simple words and phrases, such as, “Jesus died on a cross to forgive all the bad things we do. But then he came alive again, because Jesus is bigger than all the bad things in the whole world! If you believe that Jesus died for you and rose from the dead, you can go to heaven and live with him!”