

Simplify

EASTER – LESSON #3

Hold up the appropriate icon at the start of each element of worship. Describe what is being pictured in each one. Have children help as much as possible.



Have children cry out at the top of their voices: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9).



Review The Apostles’ Creed with the children.



Sing “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.” If time, add “The King of Glory Comes” or “All Glory, Laud, and Honor.”



Read Luke 23:33-53; 24:1-9, 36-42 from the Bible. Read the passage from Luke 23 with sadness and the passage from Luke 24 with anticipation and joy.



Have children sing The Doxology as the offering basket is passed.



After He had prayed in Gethsemane, Jesus was unjustly arrested, tried, mocked, tortured, and killed. The earth itself mourned, but we know the day as Good Friday because with His death, Jesus freed His people from the grip of sin. And on Resurrection Sunday, Jesus rose from the grave victorious over death and giving His people the promise of eternal life.



Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for Jesus’s sacrifice to save His people from sin.



Recite: “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Eph. 3:20-21).

What did we learn today about God?

- 1) Jesus was arrested, lied about, mocked, beaten, and tortured by those who hated Him.
- 2) Jesus suffered a cruel death as the sacrifice for His people’s sin.
- 3) When Jesus died, the curtain in the Temple was torn from the top to show that God’s people now have access to Him through Christ.
- 4) On Resurrection Sunday, Jesus rose from the grave victorious over death. Then He appeared to several of His followers.
- 5) When Jesus appeared to His disciples, He proved He wasn’t a ghost, but really was (and is) alive.

ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Divide children into three groups. Have one group act out an event from Maundy Thursday, one an event from Good Friday, and the third an event from Resurrection Sunday. After practicing, let them perform their scenes for the other groups.
- 2) In a variation of red light-green light, when the teacher calls “Friday,” the children will be mournful as the disciples were the day Jesus died. When the teacher calls “Sunday,” the children will rejoice and celebrate as the disciples did when they saw the risen Lord.