

DID YOU KNOW? (PRESCHOOL)

WEEK 3

BIG IDEA

Did you know Jesus is alive?

BIBLE

Luke 24:1-12

WELCOME TIME

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with toys and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationships.*
 - *Get on the floor and be silly*
 - *Play along with what they're playing*
 - *Ask get-to-know-you questions*
 - *Learn names and use them as you interact*

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use on of our Spotify playlists to play some background music*

CLEAN UP

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before moving onto the lesson content, play the "Clean Up" song and work together as a class to put all toys and activities away.*
 - *Place all toys in labelled tubs.*
 - *Place all tubs on shelves labelled with service time.*

INTRO

ACTIVITY | Empty Egg Hunt

- Welcome, friends! I'm so glad you're here because today we are celebrating Easter!
- Let's start with an Easter egg hunt!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, hide empty Easter eggs around the room.*
- Hey, friends! It's time to play Easter Egg Bonanza! There are hidden eggs all around this room. On the count of three, I want you to go find them all! As soon as you find an egg, bring it up and put it in our basket.
- **Did you try opening any of the eggs? Did you notice they were all empty?**
- There is nothing inside these eggs because we are going to learn about something from our Bible story that was empty, too!
- I can't wait to talk about it with you!

TEACHING TIME

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** -Have the gift bags with you as you tell the Bible story. One bag contains a cross, one a stone, another contains a flashlight, and the fourth contains a party horn. As you read the passage, Luke 24:1-12, open the gift bags to see what's inside.
- Let's go back over what we heard during last week's story before moving on to today's story!
- **So, Jesus was traveling into Jerusalem on a certain type of animal. What kind of animal was it?** It was a donkey! That's right! You all have good memories.
- When the people saw Jesus, they were so happy that everyone cheered!
- But not everyone was happy with Jesus. Some of the leaders were not happy at all. So, they decided to do something really mean. They wanted to hurt Jesus. Even though he had never done anything wrong.
 - *[Open the first gift bag. Hold up the cross.]*
- These people were so unhappy with Jesus, they wanted to get rid of him. So Jesus was put on a cross and there, he died. Everyone who loved Jesus was incredibly sad. They thought they'd never see Jesus again. But Jesus had a surprise for the entire world! It sounds strange, but this was his plan all along.
- Jesus wants to be our best friend, but because of sin - the bad things we say or do - we can't be close to Him.-
- **Has anyone here ever done the wrong thing?** None of us do the right thing ALL the time. But God couldn't stand to be away from us because he loves us SO MUCH. So, he made a plan to rescue us.
- When Jesus was on the cross, he took all of our sins - ever single one of them! He got rid of them by dying on the cross.
 - *[Open the second gift bag. Hold up the stone.]*
- **Does anyone know what a stone has to do with today's Bible story?**
- Well, after Jesus died, Jesus was put inside of a tomb, which is like a cave. That's how he was buried. The tomb was closed with a giant

stone so no one could get in.

- A few days later, a few women that were friends of Jesus went to visit the tomb where Jesus was. But when they got there, that big stone had been rolled away. And guess what? Jesus wasn't inside the tomb anymore!
 - *[Open the next gift bag. Hold up the flashlight.]*
 - Light? I wonder what this surprise has to do with our story.
- Well, suddenly two men in shining clothes *[Turn on the flashlight.]* stood in front of the women. The men told them that Jesus wasn't in the tomb anymore. They said Jesus was alive again!
- It was a miracle! Jesus had died, but he wasn't dead anymore! He is so strong and powerful that he came back to life.-
- Jesus died and came back to life for you and me. And because Jesus is alive, we have the chance to be friends with Jesus! How cool is that?
- That's what Easter is all about!-

- *[Open the last gift bag. Blow into the party horn.]*

- *Easter is a celebration of Jesus and what he did for us!*

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Jesus died and that's pretty sad... so why do we celebrate that?

He didn't stay dead! Jesus did something amazing and He came back to life and invited each one of us to follow Him and be His friend, and have a new life that lasts forever. It's the very best thing that has ever happened!

MUSIC | Worship

- Let's celebrate now by singing and dancing!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce some of the motions to the class before playing the song. Then, dance along together as you worship! Here are the songs for this month:*
 - *"I Love The Way"*

- "Very Best Friend"
- "Love Like Jesus"
- "I'm Gonna Tell"

ACTIVITY | A Grateful Heart

- Great job! It's so fun to celebrate with you.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Post a large heart where the kids can easily reach it. Help each kid trace their handprint on the large heart and write each kid's name (or have them write their own name) in their palm print.*
- It was so sad when Jesus was inside the tomb. But I'm so glad that's not where the story ended. Jesus is alive again!
- And because Jesus is alive, we have the chance to make Jesus our friend!
- **I am so grateful to call Jesus my friend. Are you?**
- To show how grateful we are, let's make a grateful heart together!

PRAYER

- Before we go into our small groups, let's pray together. Will you fold your hands together and close your eyes to show me you're ready to pray?
 - Dear God, thank you so much for sending Jesus for us. We are so grateful we can call you, our friend. Help us to remember every day how much you love us. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Small Group

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Review the Bible story by placing the story images face up on the table or floor. As you re-tell today's Bible story, encourage the kids to find the image that goes with that part of the story.*
- Today's story starts off with something very sad. Jesus was put on a cross and died there. **Can you find the picture of Jesus on the cross?-**
- **Why did Jesus die on the cross?** Jesus died because he loves us SO MUCH. He died to make a way for us to be close to Him forever.-When he was on the cross, he took the blame for all of our sins.
- After Jesus died, his friends were so sad. They had Jesus buried inside a tomb and a big stone was rolled in front so no one could get in. **Can you show me the stone in front of the tomb?**
- Three days after Jesus died, some women that were friends of his came to his tomb and found a big surprise. **Can you find the picture that shows what they saw there?**
- The stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty! They were amazed. **Can you find the picture of what they saw next?**
- The angels in bright, shining clothing told them that Jesus was alive! How could it be? It was a miracle.-
- Jesus died and that was so sad, but-He didn't stay dead! Jesus did something amazing and He came back to life and invited each one of us to follow Him and be His friend. If we choose to be his friend, we can have a new life that lasts forever. It's the very best thing that has ever happened!
- We already know that He died on the cross for our sins, so we can ask Him to forgive us and give us a clean heart and a new life with Him. And He will!
- **All it takes to start following Jesus is to believe in your heart that He is God's son that died on the cross for your sin and ask Him to come into your life.** *If anyone here is ready to make that decision today, you can pray this prayer with me right now. Just repeat after me as we say this prayer to God.*
 - *Dear Jesus, you came to Earth because you love me so much. Thank you for loving me so much that you died for me. Please forgive me of my sin and come into my life. Make me brand new. Help me to live for you. Amen.*

Today is a celebration of Jesus and everything he did for us! Happy Easter!

MEMORY VERSE | 2 Peter 3:18a

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *After discussion, distribute this week's coloring page along with crayons. While kids color, review the memory verse with kids, awarding prizes. Keep kids in groups until picked up.*
- This month, we're working together to memorize a verse from the Bible. This verse reminds us how to love Jesus. *[Read verse]*
- Let's say our memory verse together again:
 - **"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18a**
- *This is also a great time to talk with kids about prayer needs and pray with them.-*