

DID YOU KNOW?

WEEK 3

BIG IDEA

Did you know Jesus is alive?

BIBLE

Luke 24:1-12; Romans 6:8-11

FREE TIME

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins.*
- *This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*

QUESTION | What are your favorite Easter traditions?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This question will be written on the board as a discussion starter while kids arrive.-*
- **Share your favorite things to do for Easter**

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play a selection of worship music videos during free time. Some may choose to dance along while it may be background*

music for others.

- *Alternatively, learn a few of the motions yourself, introduce them to the class and dance along together to kick things off!*

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Easter Egg-tionary

- Welcome to another day on the *Did You Know? Game Show!*
- All month we've been pretending to be on a game show as we learn some things about who Jesus is.
- Okay contestants, let's try a game. This time, you will answer in teams but the person giving the clue can come from any team!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use the plastic Easter eggs with slips of paper containing words related to Easter and Resurrection Sunday (e.g., Jesus, cross, tomb, donkey, palm branch, king, egg, bunny, chick, Spring, chocolate, etc.). Have one volunteer come up to the front (regardless of team affiliation), pick an egg, and draw whatever word is inside. The first team to correctly guess the word gets 10 points.*
- **What did all of these words have in common?** That's right, Easter! Wow, you all really get the picture!
- We celebrate Easter every year and sometimes we forget why we do. Today's Bible story is going to remind us of the reason for Easter, and why it's so wonderful.

SO WHAT?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *As you tell the story from Luke 24:1-12, give each team a **buzzer** for this week's (and next week's) Bible story. Let teams "buzz" in to answer each of the questions during the Bible story. To be fair, after one team answers correctly, say that they are not allowed to answer the next question until the other teams have had a chance. Distribute 50 points for each correct answer.*
- Before we can get to the main event, we have to back it up a little and review the events that led up to today's Bible story. Help me out by buzzing in if you know the answer!
- Last time, we found out Jesus made a triumphant entry into a city.
 - **Who remembers the name of the city?** *[Jerusalem.]*
 - **What was Jesus riding when he entered Jerusalem?** *[A donkey.]*
 - **What were the people waving to greet Jesus?** *[Palm branches.]*
 - Excellent work, teams. Now, let's see if you can help me fill in the details of what happened afterward. We haven't talked about this yet so give it your best shot!
- Not long after this glorious occasion, things started to go very badly for Jesus. People started to figure out that Jesus wasn't going to be the kind of king who would take over the current government by force – which is what the people wanted. So slowly, more and more people turned on Jesus.
 - One of Jesus' disciples (closest friends) agreed to turn Jesus over to the authorities. **Was it a) Peter, b) Judas, or c) John?** *[B.]*
 - Jesus knew this all along but as the day drew closer, he felt the weight of what was about to happen, so he went to pray. **Was that place called the Mount of a) Apples, b) Figs, or c) Olives?** *[C.]*
 - While he was in the garden praying, some guards came to arrest Jesus. At first, Jesus' friends tried to defend him because He hadn't done anything wrong!-**The Bible tells us that one of them even cut off a guard's what – a) finger, b) ear, or c) hair?** *[B.]*
 - Don't worry, Jesus put it back right away. But then Jesus' friends

got scared and scattered. Then Jesus was brought before an official who had the power to let Jesus go. **Was this man's name was a) Pilate, b) Paul, or c) Patrick? [A.]**

- Pilate didn't think Jesus broke any laws. He didn't think Jesus deserved to be punished. So he gave the people a choice.

He could either a) Let Jesus go, or b) Let another prisoner named Barabbas go. Which one did the people pick? [B.]

- So Pilate did what the people wanted. He let Barabbas go and he gave the order for Jesus to be put to death on a cross. *[Collect the buzzers]*
- This has really escalated quickly! But you know what? Jesus knew all along that he was going to have to die. It was all part of God's plan.
- You see, from the very beginning of creation - when God made the first humans, Adam and Eve, they made a choice to do what they wanted instead of what God wanted. They thought they knew better than God and sin entered their hearts and our world.-
- Ever since then, every single person ever born has sin in their heart. No matter how hard we try, we all make the wrong choices sometimes.
- But God is perfect and holy and he can't be close to us because of our sin.-
- But God loves every single one of us too much to stay apart from us. So, he made a plan. A rescue plan. To get rid of the sin in our hearts once and for all. And this is the story of how he did that!
- Jesus - even though he had never done anything wrong - was nailed on a wooden cross. It was a horrible way to die. He could have saved himself and gotten down off of that cross - he is God after all!
- But he stayed there because of how much he loves us. When he was there hanging on that cross, the sins of the whole world were blamed on him. He took all of them for us. And he died. He breathed his last breath. The Bible says the sky turned dark and the Earth shook.-
- But you know what? That is not the end of the story. Today's story is just starting!
- When Jesus died, Jesus was put inside of a tomb —picture a cave — with a heavy, giant stone rolled in front of it so that no one could get in.
- It had been three days since Jesus' death, a few women went to the

tomb where Jesus was. They prepared spices to place on Jesus' body but – what? The giant stone was rolled away from the tomb. They peered inside the tomb but Jesus' body was not there.

- Then, ah! Two men in glowing clothes appeared and told them that Jesus wasn't here because he was alive again, just like he said he would be!
- The women ran to tell everyone else what had just happened.
- Jesus coming back to life three days later means something super important for us. Because Jesus was willing to give up his own life for us, we get to experience God's love, and be close to him and have a relationship with him! The Bible says, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.-
 - Sin still exists, sadly. Maybe we've made unwise choices, like treating others in an unkind way, but we can ask God to forgive all those things. We already know that Jesus 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!
 - - When we're forgiven, that means God has taken care of it all, no matter what we've done. And we've been given the promise of one day living together in perfect happiness in heaven!
 - **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 sins 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.*

- **Now, Easter is a celebration of Jesus and everything He did for us, but if you made the decision to follow Him today, the angels in Heaven are celebrating, too!!** *If you made that decision, will you tell one of your leaders so that we can celebrate that with you?*

(OPTIONAL) VIDEO | Did You Know?, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For re-inforcement of what kids have just learned, you can play this week's [teaching video](#).*

BIG IDEA | Did you know Jesus is alive?

- It's time to reveal the Big Idea for today's *Did You Know? Game Show!*
- **Who would like to pick a door this week?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Doors will be set up with butcher paper like in previous weeks. Choose one volunteer from each team to choose a number and rip down the door. If they are not successful, choose another volunteer. If they don't find it either, rip the last door down and no one gets points (or give points to volunteers for trying). The volunteer who finds the Big Idea wins 100 points for their team!*
- Whoo hoo! You found the Big Idea: **Did you know Jesus is alive?**

NOW WHAT?

ACTIVITY | A Grateful Heart

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Post a large heart where the kids can easily reach it. Give the kids sticky notes and a pen.*

- Jesus took care of every sin, every hurt, and every sickness. Jesus conquered them all on the cross!
- Knowing that, let's list reasons we are grateful for Jesus! Write something you want to thank Jesus for and place it on this heart. If you're not sure, you can just write, "Thank you, Jesus!"
- You see all the wonderful things we can be thankful for? But the greatest thing we should be thankful for is God's love for us. No one else could ever do what Jesus did!

PRAYER

- Dear God, I'm so glad Jesus came back to life for me. We are so grateful for everything you've done for us and for the promise that we get to live in heaven one day with you. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **Why do we celebrate Easter?**
- **Why is Jesus being alive good news?**
- **What are some things we need forgiveness for?**
- **Read Romans 6:8-11. What does it mean to live with Jesus?**
- **If you were to tell someone today's Bible story in one minute (or one sentence), what would you say?**

MEMORY VERSE | II Peter 3:18a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month's memory verse together. Award a token to any kid that can say last week's verse from memory.*
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
- **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."**