

Lesson 3

Jesus is Alive!

Bible Lesson: John 19:38-20:20

Memory Verse: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” *John 3:16*

TEACHER PREPARATION

Prepare to Teach:

- ◆ that Jesus died and His body was laid in a tomb
- ◆ that a big, heavy stone was rolled in front of the tomb to close it
- ◆ that Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found the stone rolled away and Jesus’ body gone
- ◆ that Jesus spoke to Mary at the tomb and He told her to tell His friends that He was alive
- ◆ that Jesus rose from the grave and that He is alive

Prepare Materials:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bible ◆ Reminder of Lent Eggs and poem ◆ Picture of Jesus ◆ White fabric, ribbons and/or bows ◆ Bright spring flowers and/or Easter lilies – real and/or fake ◆ Visual aids for memory verse ◆ Leaflets for Lesson 3 ◆ Pencils ◆ Large butterflies cut out of cardstock or tag board – one for each child – pattern found in Teacher Manual ◆ Decorating media for the butterflies ◆ Crayons ◆ Markers ◆ Pastel ribbon ◆ Terra cota flower pots – one for each child ◆ Sponges cut into Easter symbols | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Craft Paint ◆ Colored paper ◆ Scissors ◆ Pens ◆ Green pipe cleaners ◆ Scotch tape ◆ Optional – cottonballs sprayed with perfume ◆ Optional – green paper cut into leaves – pattern found in Teacher Manual ◆ Aquarium rock or other anchor for flowers ◆ Plastic Easter eggs ◆ Treats and Christian stickers ◆ Several baskets ◆ Illustration for theme hymn |
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BIBLE BACKGROUND

To be added.

BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Welcome with Love

Come to class today dressed in your Easter finest. Wear cheerful and bright colored

clothes. Maintaining an air of excitement and joy greet everyone as they enter the room.

Cheerfully invite each child to sit down in the chairs facing Jesus’ picture. Tell the children

that you are so glad that each of them is here because you have a very exciting and wonderful lesson to tell them.

Ask the children if they remember last week's lesson. Ask the children if they remembered how you said that last week's lesson was not the end of the story. Tell them that they will find out the rest of the lesson today and that it is so very exciting and wonderful.

Use a Learning Center

REVIEW CENTER –

Review questions and memory verses from previous lessons. Use visual aids if possible. **ASK** a few of the following questions.

- ◆ While traveling to Jerusalem, Jesus told His disciples to find something for Him in a village outside of Jerusalem. What were they to find? (*A young donkey that had never been ridden.*)
- ◆ What did Jesus do with the young donkey? (*He rode the donkey into Jerusalem.*)
- ◆ What did the people in the streets do when they saw Jesus on the donkey? (*They put their coats on the road. They spread palm branches on the road. They shouted, "Hosanna!"*)
- ◆ What did the people honor Jesus as? (*King*)
- ◆ Who was the parade's special guest of honor? (*Jesus*)
- ◆ What happened one night while Jesus was praying in a garden? (*Soldiers came to arrest Him.*)
- ◆ Did Jesus run and hid from the men and soldiers? (*No*)
- ◆ How did the soldiers make Jesus bleed? (*They beat Him and put a crown of thorns on His head.*)

- ◆ What did Jesus' enemies say they wanted done with Jesus? (*They wanted Him crucified.*)
- ◆ Was Jesus crucified? (*Yes*)
- ◆ Did Jesus really die? (*Yes*)

EASTER CENTER – *Easter is here!*

Gather the children around the Reminder of Lent Eggs. Hand out the remaining four eggs and discuss each of them one at a time. Read the poem found in Lesson 1 to the children.

Optional - After all the eggs have been discussed and the poem read, give each child/family his/her own set of Lent Eggs and poem to take home.

ROLE PLAY CENTER – *He Is Alive!!!*

Prior to class change the classroom from last week's gloomy, mourning setting to one of great joy and celebration. In place of the black, put up white fabric and ribbons. Fill the room with bright spring flowers, Easter lilies, fake and/or real. Make the room bright and cheery. Have the picture of Jesus set among the bright flowers and set the chairs facing the picture. Be dressed in your Easter best and maintain a celebratory atmosphere.

Gather the children on the chairs facing the picture of Jesus. Ask the children to tell what they see different about the room compared to last week. Ask the children to tell why they think the room is so different from last week.

Tell the children that today's lesson is the greatest story ever told and that it brings joy into the hearts of people who know Jesus as their Savior. Tell today's story in this area.

TEACHING TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

Sing the Message

Following is a small list of songs that help reinforce the message presented in the lesson. All the songs need not be song. Just pick one or two, and sing the number of verses appropriate for your class size, age and time. These songs are meant as supplemental material.

SING "Hallelujah! What a Savior" p. 84
Ambassador Hymnal

SING "I Am the Resurrection" p. 10
Salvation Songs Favorites

SING "He Lives" p.69 Songs of God and Me

SING “*He Is Lord*” p. 41 Songs of God and Me

Pray the Message

- ◆ Thank God for today’s lesson of victory over sin and death.
- ◆ Thank God for His awesome power that He demonstrated by bring Jesus back to life.
- ◆ Thank God providing forgiveness of sins through His Son, Jesus.
- ◆ Thank God for raising Jesus from the dead.
- ◆ Thank God for another day and another opportunity to come to Sunday school and to learn more about His plan for our salvation.
- ◆ Ask God to teach the children what it is that He wants them to learn from the lesson today.

Learn the New Words

You can either introduce these words before reading the Bible lesson or highlight them as the lesson is read. Ask and explain the meaning as you come to them in the lesson.

Tomb A place where dead people are laid to rest or, in other words, buried – In Jesus’ day caves in hillsides were used to bury the dead and large heavy stones were rolled over the entrance to prevent unwanted visitors from entering the cave

Mary Magdalene She was one of Jesus’ followers and friend

Burial Cloths In Jesus’ day, bodies were prepared for burial by being wrapped from head to toe with strips of cloth

Introduce the Message

OPEN your Bible to the lesson text. Tell the children in what book of the Bible today’s lesson is found.

Have the children gather in the chairs facing Jesus’ picture and the flowers.

Once again tell the children that today they are going to here the rest of the story about Jesus and His death on the cross. The event that this

lesson talks about is what we call Easter. It is an exciting story, and the events that happen in this story could only be done by the Almighty God.

Remind the children that last week’s lesson about Jesus dying on the cross had to happen because of the sin in the world and in our lives. Remind them that because of Adam and Eve’s disobedience sin entered the world. We all are sinners and deserve to die for our sins. Sin is disobedience to God. Jesus needed to die to provide a way of forgiveness from our sins. Jesus died so that those who believe in Him, need not die.

Tell the children to listen quietly to the continuation of last week’s lesson. Ask them to listen for the amazing miracle that God did to Jesus, and to remember He did it for them.

Read/Tell the Message

See student leaflet.

JESUS IS ALIVE!

John 19:38-20:20

[Teacher manual: Last week we read about when Jesus died on the cross. Today we will learn what happened next. It is an exciting story.]

After Jesus died, His friends took Him from the cross and wrapped His body in clean cloths. They put Him in a tomb, which was a cave in a hillside. A big heavy stone was rolled in front of the tomb to close it. Soldiers guarded the tomb so no one would take Jesus’ body away.

Very early in the morning, Jesus’ friend, Mary Magdalene, came to the tomb. The stone had been rolled away. Jesus was not there. Mary ran to tell her friends. She said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb. We don’t know where they have put Him!” Peter and John, Jesus’ friends, ran to the tomb to look. The cloths that had been wrapped around Jesus were lying there, but Jesus was gone! Peter and John did not understand what happened to Jesus and went back home.

Mary Magdalene stayed near the tomb. She was crying. When she looked into the tomb, she was surprised! There were two angels inside. They were dressed all in white.

The angels asked Mary, “Why are you crying?”

“They have taken away my Lord,” she said.

Then Mary turned around and saw a man. At first she thought He was the gardener, but it was really Jesus. Can you imagine how excited she was? Jesus was alive! Jesus asked her to go tell His friends that He was alive. Mary went and told them, “I have seen the Lord!”

That evening, Jesus’ disciples were all together in one room. Jesus came to join them. When they saw Him, they knew He was alive!

TM NOTE: May want to consider relating to this last paragraph that Jesus appeared in their midst even though the doors were locked. Only God could do this!

TM NOTE: Explain to the children that we call this great event Easter. Also, that only God can make someone who was dead come alive again and that when we believe in him we will go to heaven when we die. We will live forever with Jesus in heaven

Reinforce the Message

ASK the following questions:

- ◆ Was Jesus really dead? (*Yes*)
- ◆ What did Jesus’ friends do with His body after It was taken from the cross? (*They wrapped His body in clean cloths and put Him in a tomb.*)
- ◆ What was rolled in front of the entrance of the tomb? (*A big heavy stone*)
- ◆ Who was guarding the tomb so no one would take Jesus’ body away? (*Soldiers*)
- ◆ When Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early in the morning, what did she find? (*The stone was rolled away and Jesus was not there.*)
- ◆ What did she do after she discovered the tomb was empty? (*She ran and told her friends, Jesus’ disciples.*)
- ◆ Two of Jesus’ disciples ran to see the tomb. What did they find? (*An empty tomb with the cloths that had been wrapped around Jesus lying there and Jesus gone*)
- ◆ Mary Magdalene stayed near the tomb. Who did she see at the tomb? (*First she saw two angels and then she saw Jesus.*)
- ◆ How could it be Jesus if He was dead? (*Jesus had risen from the dead. He was alive.*)
- ◆ Was Jesus really alive? (*Yes*)

APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON

Review the Bible Verse

RECITE the memory verse. Have a couple of students hold or point to the illustrations as the verse is being recited.

ASK the children who is God’s only begotten Son. Tell the children that Jesus came from heaven to die on the cross for our sins. Remind the children that in today’s lesson they learned that Jesus did not stay dead, but rose again.

TELL the children that this verse tells us about Jesus’ special job He was to do on Earth. Tell them that the special job was to die on the cross and rise again from the tomb.

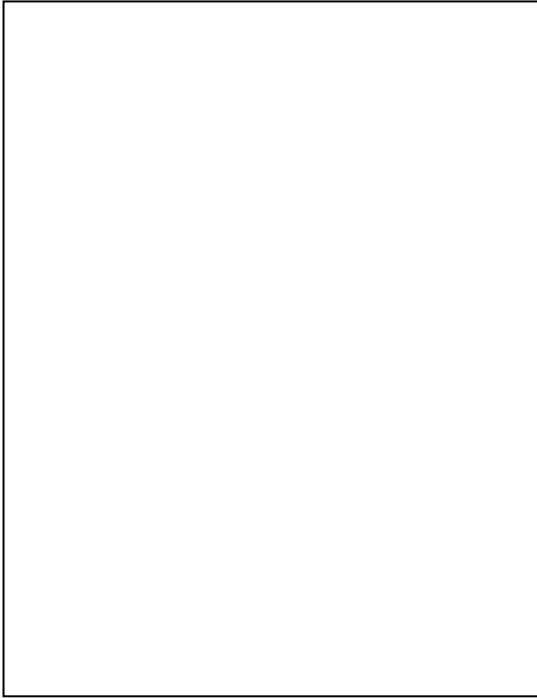
ASK the children what was provided for by Jesus’ death and resurrection. Tell them that just as the verse says, believers will have eternal life because of Jesus providing forgiveness of sins.

SAY the verse all together.

SING “*For God So Loved the World*” p.69
Salvation Songs Favorites

Do the Activities Together

ACTIVITY 1 LEAFLET – *Jesus the Savior*



ACTIVITY 2 - ART ACTIVITY – Butterflies for the Tree

Give each child a large butterfly cut out of cardstock/or tag board. Allow the children to decorate the butterflies and hang them on the Easter tree, following the example of the previous lessons.

Tell the children that a butterfly is a symbol of Jesus' resurrection, rising from the dead. Explain that a butterfly is a caterpillar that has been transformed while in a seemingly lifeless cocoon. Tell them that a butterfly symbolizes Jesus rising from the dead and believers hope on new life in Jesus, thus the butterfly should remind them of Jesus rising from the dead.

ACTIVITY 3 – ART ACTIVITY – New Life Art

Give each student a small terra cotta pot. Using cut out sponges of Easter symbols, let the children paint their pots. Some examples of Easter symbols are crosses, flowers eggs, butterflies and eggs. To paint their pots have the children dip their sponge shapes in paint and stamp the shape on their pot. Allow them to stamp several shapes onto their pots. When the painting is finished, set the pots aside to dry.

While the pots are drying, trace 3 to 4 outlines of each child's hands using paper the color of flowers. Help the children write the Bible verse on the fingers of one side of the hands. Have the children cut out all of their hands. Tape a green pipe cleaner to each cut out hand opposite the side with the writing. Help the children roll the hand so that the pipe cleaner is on the inside and the writing is on the outside. Secure with tape to make a flower.

For a special touch, spray cotton balls with perfume and glue to the center of the rolled up hand. Also you could make leaves out of green paper and attach them to the pipe cleaners at the bottom of the hand petals.

Once the pots are dry, fill each with aquarium rock or something else with which to anchor the paper flowers. Place the "flowers" in the pot.

Tell the children that the flowers remind us of the new life believers have in Jesus because of His death and resurrection.

ACTIVITY 4 –HANDS ON ACTIVITY – SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

Help the children fill plastic Easter eggs with treats and Christian Easter stickers. Depending on the size of your class, provide baskets for each child or group of children and divide the filled eggs among the baskets.

Allow the children to hand an egg treat to the other Sunday school children as they leave their classroom. Have the children recite, "He is Risen!", as they hand out the eggs. (Adapt this activity depending on the size of your congregation. You may want the children to stand near the sanctuary doors and hand out treats to the children that enter the church and may not attend Sunday school. Adapt as needed.)

As the treats are being made remind the children of the women that came to the tomb and found it empty. Ask the children about what the women did when they saw the empty tomb. Tell the children that just as the women went and told the good news that Jesus was alive, so should they share the good news of Jesus' victory over death by rising from the dead. He is risen!

CLOSING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Teach and Sing

REVIEW and **SING** verses 1 and 2 of the theme hymn, “*Savior, Teach Me, Day by Day*”. Point to the corresponding illustrations as you sing.

INTRODUCE the third verse saying the words one phrase at a time and allowing the children to repeat after you. Use the illustrations to help the children learn the verse.

SING the third verse with the children. Tell the children that this verse is asking for Jesus to lead them in the path He wants them to go.

SING all three verses together.

REVIEW other songs sung during the lesson.

Memory Verse Review

RECITE the memory verse together before closing prayer. Allow a child to hold or point to the visual aids as they say the verse.

ASK the children who did God love that He sent Jesus.

SING “*For God So Loved the World*” p.69 Salvation Songs Favorites

Pray Together

ASK the children to prepare for pray by folding their hands and closing their eyes.

PRAY. Praise God for the salvation we have in Jesus. Thank Jesus for providing the way of salvation by the forgiveness of sins. Thank Jesus for dying on the cross and rising again from the dead. Thank God for loving each child that is in Sunday school. Pray for guidance in the next week. Amen.

PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK

Gather and Prepare Materials

Prepare Lesson 4

Begin your study and preparation with prayer.

Study the Bible Background section for the next lesson.

Pray for each student daily by name.

Read the Bible text: Acts 2:1-21

Learn the Bible verse: “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” I John 4:11

Read the Teacher Manual

Highlight, underline and add your own notes for teaching the class session.