

April 12th Easter Lesson

Bible Passage: John 20:1–18



Jesus Is Alive

Items to gather:

- small pieces of paper (notes cards or sticky notes)
- markers
- Easter storytelling videos (on youtube: see links on website)
- Bible
- white printer paper (7 pieces)
- tape
- Upbeat worship music

CONNECT//10 minutes



One Thing about Me

The family will write facts about themselves. Then, each fact will be placed around the room and the family can guess who belongs to the fact they read on the card.

SUPPLIES

- small pieces of paper (notes cards or sticky notes)
- markers

RELATE

CONNECT QUESTION: Ask: **What is your favorite book? Why?**

God loves every one of us—and He created us to be unique! He gives each of us a unique role to play in The Big God Story. Let's get to know our family even better through this fun game. Pass out the small papers and markers. Invite the everyone to write one fun fact about themselves, such as their favorite holiday or favorite food. When everyone is finished, gather the papers and hide them around the room. Have everyone go find one. Go around the circle and see if you can guess who wrote which fact.

GATHER//30 minutes



Storytelling

Bible Passage: John 20:1–18

Jesus Is Alive

SUPPLIES

- Storytelling videos
- Bibles

RELATE

I am so thankful for this special day to be together as a family and celebrate that Jesus is alive. Today is Easter and today we celebrate that God sent his Son Jesus to die saving us from our sins and then rise from the dead to be in heaven with his Father God. Let's pray and ask God to help us understand what He wants to teach us today. Lead your family in a Prayer of Release to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet their hearts and minds.

Watch a video sharing the Easter story as a family:

highly recommended:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NWZ7bjNQXA>

recommended:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdn1R90kX9A>

Death couldn't hold Jesus! Jesus is alive! He conquered death, went to heaven, and sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to live lives of faith with God. Today, the Holy Spirit continues to work in each of our lives, allowing us to be a part of Jesus' story until He returns. Jesus is alive! Amen! Ask your family the discussion questions and see if your kids can retell the Easter story like in the video.

Discussion Questions

- **Who is the Redeemer? Why did God promise to send Him?**
- **What did Jesus tell his disciples during the last supper? Did they believe him?**
- **Which disciple betrayed Jesus?**
- **What did Jesus say right before he died?**
- **How many days later did they realize Jesus wasn't in the tomb anymore?**
- **What did Jesus tell the disciples to go and do when we appeared to them after he had risen from the dead?**
- **How does it make you feel to know Jesus is coming back someday?**
- **How does it make you feel to know Jesus is alive?**

RESPOND//15 minutes



Celebrate Life

Children will listen to worship music as they respond to God through drawing.

SUPPLIES

- paper (7 pieces)
- tape
- Markers (bright colors)
- Upbeat worship music

SET UP

tape the papers together in the shape of a big cross

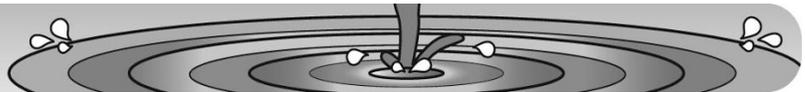
RELATE

Ask your family to work together to decorate the paper cross to hang up somewhere in your house. **From the beginning of The Big God Story, God planned to send Jesus—the Redeemer—to restore the relationship between God and people that had been broken by sin. Jesus gave us the way to be in relationship with God. Today we celebrate that Jesus, our Redeemer, is alive! What do you want to celebrate today?**

After pondering this question, lead your family in this musical and artistic response. Explain that there is no right or wrong way to draw. Invite your family to simply listen to the words of the music and draw what they feel. It might be more scribbles to the rhythm, or it could be words or specific images of things they are thankful for.

Talk about some of the things everyone drew or wrote on the paper. Ask them about what they drew and what they're celebrating today. Talk with the kids about how today is Easter—the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead. This is the biggest event that has ever happened! Jesus died for their sins and rose again so they could have a relationship with God forever!

BLESS// 5 minutes



SUPPLIES

- Bible

RELATE

Gather the children into a circle and read Matthew 28:6a.

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

Jesus is alive, and because Jesus lives, we can have eternal life with God. What does it mean to you to know that Jesus is alive? Let's bless each other with some praises to God. Begin the time of blessing by sharing a praise of your own.

Because Jesus lives ... (Finish the sentence with something that describes what it means to you to know that Jesus is alive, e.g., "I am saved," "I am alive," "I can share His love with others.") Invite the children to share their own statements.

May God fill you with His love and joy and life this week. May you be a blessing to others.