

KIDS Home Lessons

LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF THIS TIME TOGETHER!

April 4 | Jesus Appeared to the Disciples | Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-29; Acts 1:3,9-11

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- The Gospel Project Curriculum intentionally shares the whole story of Bible with kids on their developmental level over a 3 year cycle. Your child will be introduced to **gospel centrality** as their lessons connect all the pieces from individual stories in the Bible to show the **one big story of God's plan to redeem people through Jesus**. Our heart beat is to share the gospel of Jesus over and over again in order to anchor God's one big story into the hearts of kids.
- Gospel-centered parenting helps your child see that Jesus Christ is perfecter and the transformer of you and your child. Our aim is not to modify our children's behavior by teaching the Bible as a collection of moral stories and rules about how to behave. Rather when our children see that every story in the Bible points back to Jesus, they understand Jesus is God's plan from the beginning to rescue people from sin and death! The gospel changes everything, including us.
- A **catechism** is simply a method of learning the truths about God and his gospel by asking questions which prompt answers. We encourage you and your children to memorize the catechisms shared along with the accompanying **Scripture** to build a storehouse of knowledge that the Holy Spirit can use to transform us to look more like Jesus.
- **Repeat, repeat, repeat:** Throughout the lesson, repeat the **Big Picture Question** and the **Christ Connection** to remind the kids of what they've learned and why it's important. Make it fun to make it stick.
- **Make it stick:** We do activities and games, ask questions and review to help the Bible story stick. This helps kids know how to apply what they are learning. The goal of this time is to give them a chance to practice what they learned and give them an opportunity to share.

BEFORE I TEACH

1

Read the Bible Story to prepare yourself. After you read, **ask yourself:**

- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- What did I learn about God (or myself) that was hard to hear?
- Did God reveal anything new to me in the passage?

Read the Christ Connection and Big Picture Question. After you read, **ask yourself:** *Why does this matter for the kids?* Jot down your answer in a journal, and pray the Holy Spirit would give you insight to know what truths about God your child needs to hear today.

MEMORIZE • Catechism

2

- **YOU ASK:** In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?
- **THEY ANSWER:** He made them holy and happy.

• Scripture Verse

- Psalm 8:4-8 : 4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

**PRIZE
SUNDAY
MARCH 28**

STORY & WORSHIP

3

- **Bible Story** | Help kids see that the Bible is true and it's full of stories that help us know God and trust Jesus.
 - Watch the video lesson provided on the website!
 - Review the Big Picture Question and the Christ Connection after the story.
 - **Big Picture Question:** What did Jesus do after He was raised from the dead? Jesus appeared to many people as proof that God had raised Jesus from the dead, and He is still alive today.
 - **Christ Connection:** God made Jesus alive again! For 40 days, Jesus presented Himself to at least 500 people and proved that He is alive. (1 Corinthians 15:3-8) Jesus is still alive today.
 - **Say** • How do we respond to this good news we just heard? **We worship God!**
 - Use the videos on the website to sing, dance and worship God together.
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TALK ABOUT THE STORY

4

- **PRE-K:**
 - Who did Jesus visit after He came back to life? (His friends, the disciples)
 - Why were the disciples locked in a room? (They were afraid because Jesus had been killed.)
 - What did Jesus tell His disciples to do now that they had seen Him? (Receive the Holy Spirit; go tell other people that He was alive.)
 - Which one of Jesus' friends had a hard time believing He was alive? (Thomas)
 - What did Jesus do after He was raised from the dead? Jesus showed many people that He was alive, and He is alive today.
 - **Say** • God made Jesus alive again! Jesus visited many, many people so they would know He is alive. Jesus is still alive today.
- **OLDER Kids:**
 - When the disciples first saw Jesus, what did they think He was? (a ghost, Luke 24:37)
 - Which disciple said he would have to see and touch Jesus' scars to believe it was Jesus? (Thomas, John 20:24-25)
 - How many days did Jesus spend on earth after His resurrection? (40, Acts 1:3)
 - What did Jesus do after He was raised from the dead? Jesus appeared to many people as proof that God had raised Jesus from the dead, and He is still alive today.
 - What did Jesus travel to heaven on? (a cloud, Acts 1:9)

- **Activity for YOUNGER KIDS:**

- Blindfold each kid as you feed her a small piece of “mystery” food. If she does not want to wear a blindfold, she may close her eyes. Ask each child, “Do you trust me?” Feed each child something sweet like a piece of graham cracker or something sour like a slice of lime or lemon.
- **Say** • Are you glad you trusted me? Did you like the sweet food or sour food?
- Sometimes trusting Jesus can be hard when we can’t see Him. Jesus promises good things to people who follow Him. We can trust Jesus will take care of us and be with us. What did Jesus do after He was raised from the dead? Jesus showed many people that He was alive, and He is alive today.

- **Activity for OLDER KIDS:**

- Form groups of two or more kids. Tape a start line and finish line several feet apart. Invite the kids to line up single file in their groups behind the start line. The first kid in line should toss a paper wad or beanbag toward the finish line. It must go past the finish line, or he must retrieve it, run back to the start line, and toss again. If it does go past the line, he must retrieve it and bring it back to the next kid in line. The next kid should repeat. Continue until each kid in each group has completed the task. The first group to do so wins. Repeat as time allows.
- **Say** • You left your group because you had a purpose, but you came back. Jesus gave a similar message to His disciples. He was going to leave them, but He would return. We’ll find out more in a moment.

LET'S PRAY

6

- Encourage kids that **Jesus hears them** any time they are talking to him! This is a great way to grow closer to your children and to hear their heart. Ask Jesus to help you believe and do what you've learned together.
- **Praying Together:**
 - Start a family journal where you can remember together what you are learning, what you and your children are praying for and praising God for
 - Ask your children for one thing they want to thank or praise God for and one way they want God's help so you can pray about that together.
 - Preschoolers can learn how to pray by repeating small phrases after you as you pray aloud.
 - Visit our Family Resources page for more ideas!

BONUS!

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they know what the word "gospel" means. Clarify that the word gospel means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.

- **God rules.** Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.
- **We sinned.** Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)
- **God provided.** Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.
- **Jesus gives.** Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.
- **We respond.** Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.