

Wonder Ink[®]

Easter Sunday!!

All Hours

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: [Luke 24](#)

WORD OF WONDER: [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

Growing up in Los Angeles, my family had a tradition of taking long, beautiful drives up and down the coast. And back in the day, when we didn't have tablets or TVs in the car, I would spend most of my time talking to God as I stared at the vastness of creation outside the window. In the moments when the sun would shine through the clouds and onto my face, I would imagine God holding me and letting me know how much He loved me. I knew, even at that young age, that the living God of the universe was with me.

Read [Luke 24:1–12](#). What do you notice that you've never noticed before? If you had been with the women at the tomb, what would have surprised you most about that morning?

The greatest difference between many other religions and Christianity is Jesus Christ—the *living* God—crucified, resurrected, ascended into heaven, and returning to earth one day. Without Jesus, and without His resurrection, there is no hope—we would be worshiping a mere, good human. But because God rose Jesus from the dead and He is alive, we can walk with heads and hands held high—we worship a living God! And through the Holy Spirit, that living God lives in us.

Jesus—the *living* God—is with you and in you. What questions do you have for Him today? What words of praise and thanksgiving are on your heart? Tell Him!

—Catherine Hwang-Jin

Children's Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

Curiosity Questions

Ask the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious ...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one.

I’m curious ...

- **When something really good happens, who is the first person you tell?**
- **How would you react if you watched something that had died come back to life?**

Leader Tip: Be sensitive to children who have experienced trauma, such as the death of someone close to them as this conversation could trigger some difficult feelings. As much as possible, try to keep the tone of this discussion light by focusing on the idea of something nonhuman (like trees or insects) coming back to life. If the discussion triggers big feelings for a child, simply be present with them.

Preteen Interactive Game: Guess Who’s Alive!

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), basket or bowl, timer, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Guess Who’s Alive! Cards](#)

Ahead of time, print the [Guess Who’s Alive! Cards](#) and cut them apart. Fold the cards and place them in a basket or bowl.

Gather the kids. Help them form two teams. If time allows, invite teams to come up with a team name. Consider writing team names on the whiteboard and keeping track of the score on the board. **Today let’s play a version of charades called Guess Who’s Alive!** Hold up the basket or bowl filled with cards. **In this container are cards with various objects, people, and animals on them. Each team will take turns sending a representative to the front to pull a card and act out whatever is on the card. They are not allowed to talk or make any noises. Their teammates will have 30 seconds to guess two things: 1. What is on the card. 2. Whether that thing is alive or not alive. If their teammates guess both correctly, their team earns two points. If their teammates only guess one correctly, their team earns one point. Be sure only to shout out guesses when it’s your team’s turn!**



Invite a member of the first team to the front to pick a card. Set the timer for 30 seconds and begin. Alternate between teams, with a different representative acting each time, until all the cards are gone or as time allows.

(Just be sure both teams receive an equal number of turns.) When finished, congratulate everyone on a great game!

Make It Inclusive: Timed activities can prompt anxiousness in some kids. Consider simply removing the timer and giving teams as much time as they need to guess correctly.

Excellent job acting and guessing and knowing what's alive and what's not. What makes something alive? Allow kids to respond. Do you think any of the objects in our game that are not alive could come to life right now? Allow kids to respond. If that happened, how would you respond? Today we're going to hear about something that happened to Jesus that took everyone by surprise! Jesus died on a cross and three days later, He came back to life, and that changed everything! Today's Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS ALIVE!**

Word of Wonder Activity

WORD OF WONDER

When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here!

—2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

—2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Our Word of Wonder for the Created New series talks about being made new! Let's say the verse together. Open your Bible to [2 Corinthians 5:17](#). Practice saying the verse several times together.

Encourage each small group to come up with an original song, rap, or cheer for the Word of Wonder—complete with dance moves or motions. For groups with mostly preteens, let the kids create it themselves; only step in to help if needed. For groups with mostly younger kids, create a simple call-and-response cheer in which you say a line of the verse while doing a motion, like clapping or jumping, and the kids repeat after you. If time allows, invite all the small groups to perform their original numbers for the whole group.

Questions

- **What happened three days after Jesus died and was buried in a tomb?** *(He rose from the dead!)*
- **Do you think Jesus' rising from the dead was a miracle? Why or why not?** *(If needed, remind kids that a miracle is an amazing sign that God is at work.)*
- **What did the angels tell the women when they found the tomb empty?** *(See [Luke 24:5–6](#).)*
- **What's the first thing the women did after they heard this news?** *(They ran to tell Jesus' other disciples what the angels had said.)*
- **Imagine you had watched as Jesus was buried. What would you think when angels appeared three days later and told you He had come back to life?**
- **Jesus didn't stay dead. He is alive! What does this mean to you? What does it mean for your friends? Your family?**

What an incredible moment it was for Jesus' friends and followers when He rose again. They thought they would never see their best friend again—imagine the joy they must have felt when they realized Jesus was alive! His resurrection shows just how powerful He is! Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Small Group Prayer Time

Invite kids to sit with two friends and share their thanks to God for bringing Jesus back to life and for showing how powerful He is. Kids can pray together in small groups and offer thanks and prayer requests to God.

Blessing Your Kids

Close your time together by blessing the kids in your group. If you bless kids individually, insert each kid's name into the blessing.

Blessing: Jesus is alive! May you shout it wherever you are. May you live it out this week. May you remember that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is alive in you! Jesus is alive, and He loves you!

GAME 4: GET IT TOGETHER

SUPPLIES: baskets (1 per kid), plastic Easter eggs that come completely apart (5 per every 2 kids)

In this game, kids will match colored Easter eggs together in a relay race. Before the kids arrive, take apart five plastic eggs for each pair of kids and place all ten egg halves inside a basket. If possible, each of the five eggs should be a different color.

Make It Inclusive: To include kids with physical challenges or disabilities, invite them to play a version where they roll or toss eggs that are already connected into a basket.

In today's activity, we'll work hard to gather what we need and then put those items together.

Have the kids get into pairs and line up along one wall. Place an empty basket in front of each pair of kids. Place a basket of egg halves across the room from each pair.

In this game, you and your partner will take turns running across the room to grab one egg half at a time, bring it back, and place it in your empty basket at the starting line. Once the basket at your starting line has all the eggs in it, work as a team to put the matching eggs back together. The catch is that you can each only use one hand as you put them together. You'll need each other to do it. The first team to retrieve all its egg halves and put them back together wins!

Have each pair decide who will begin the relay to get the egg halves across the room. Then say, "Go," and invite the kids to do the relay race.

When the game is over, invite the kids to cheer. **Let's celebrate our winning team!** Kids clap or cheer. **There are lots of things we celebrate. We celebrate when someone wins a game. We celebrate birthdays. We celebrate the birth of babies. We celebrate lots of things! Today we're celebrating a very special day for everyone who believes in and follows Jesus! What are we celebrating?** Kids respond. **That's right! We are celebrating Easter—the day we remember that Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus is alive!**