

2-4 Year Olds

Bible Story: GOD'S WONDERFUL SURPRISE

Story Location: Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

Memory Verse: "He is not here, He is RISEN just as He said." Matthew 28:6

Pre-Class Prep: Read the following "Story Summation"

- This week we are learning about Jesus' resurrection!
- All of the disciples and Jesus' followers were broken hearted after His death. They were so sure He was the promised Messiah, the King who would restore God's kingdom. But Jesus was dead and gone, and so was all their hope...
- Only Jesus' disciples couldn't see that Jesus death WAS restoring God's Kingdom, His death was how God's people could finally be free from sin and live forever with God in His heavenly kingdom!!
- Jesus was killed just as the sabbath was beginning, on Friday. His followers barely even had time to get Him down off the cross and buried before they were supposed to stop all work and take a day of rest. The sabbath lasted until early Sunday morning, so some of Jesus' friends ran straight to the tomb where He was buried to clean His body and wrap Him properly for burial.
- But when they got there- something was very, very strange. The huge boulder that had been rolled in front of Jesus' tomb was MOVED!
- The women at the tomb looked more closely. They approached and saw that the tomb was empty- Jesus' body WAS GONE!
- They were terrified, and amazed, and very confused. An angel in radiant light, told them to not be afraid. He reminded them that Jesus had been raised from the dead, just as He had promised them!
- The women were overwhelmed, with joy, with wonder, with HOPE. If Jesus had come back from the dead, if He had new life- would that mean THEY would have have new life too?
- The women ran straight for town, to tell everyone that Jesus was alive.
- They knew they no one would believe it, but they would tell everyone, everywhere that the tomb was empty because Jesus is alive!
- The account in John 20 says Jesus made sure to greet Mary Magdalene, personally. She fell before Him as she had when she washed His feet with her hair. Jesus told her to go His disciples and tell them that everything was about to change, forever.

- Because the tomb is empty; JESUS proves He's more powerful than death!

Weekly BIG IDEA: THE TOMB IS EMPTY BECAUSE JESUS IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

9:30/11:00a: greet kids, give them play time on carpet

9:40/11:10a: HOT POTATO EGG CRACK

SAY: We are just a week away from Easter. One of the most common symbols of Easter is an egg. Most people believe the egg emerged as symbol of new life, that baby chicks emerge as a new little creation once the egg is cracked open. The shell sits empty, like the empty tomb of Jesus on that first easter morning. We are gonna play "hot potato" but with eggs and see what surprise we find in our eggs when the timer goes off! **(Some eggs will have confetti when you crack them and some will have a candy or toy) Play for about 5 minutes but give everyone at least one egg. They can keep the eggs**

SAY: Last week we watched Jesus die on the cross. Today we get to watch what happens after His death!

Watch: Watch GOD'S WONDERFUL SURPRISE

9:45/11:15: Bible story discussion- Ask as many as you choose, and if there is something else you think they picked up on you may add it to the discussion.

- 1- How were Jesus' friends feeling about His death? (Sad, broken hearted)
- 2- Who did God send to the tomb? (An angel)
- 3- What did they find when they arrived at the tomb? (An empty grave and a shining angel)
- 4- What did the angel tell the women? (Jesus was not in the tomb, He had risen from the grave just as He had promised)
- 5- Who did Mary think was speaking to her in the garden? (The gardener)
- 6- Who called Mary's name? (JESUS!!!)

SAY: The bible says the followers of Jesus were heartbroken when He died- because they loved Him but also because they thought He was the King God promised. But Jesus coming back to life proves that He is the KING! The King of Heaven and earth. He is stronger than even death! If He can conquer sin on the cross, and THEN conquer death in the tomb by raising from the dead- we can trust when we die He will raise us to new life again, too. The cross shows us how much God loves us, but the empty tomb shows how God is powerful to give us new life with Him forever in heaven. When we die- because Jesus rose from the dead, so will we! The tomb is empty because Jesus is stronger than death!!!

THE TOMB IS EMPTY BECAUSE JESUS IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

Memory Verse REVIEW: “He is not here, He is RISEN just as He said.”
Matthew 28:6

10:05/11:40: Art activity Group 1/Free Play Time Group 2

10:20/11:55: Art activity Group 2/Free Play Time Group 1

5-7 Year olds

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Watch: Watch GOD'S WONDERFUL SURPRISE

9:50/11:20: Bible story discussion- Ask as many as you choose, and if there is something else you think they picked up on you may add it to the discussion.

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- 2- Who did God send to the tomb? (An angel)
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10:20/11:55: Art activity Group 2/Free Play Time Group 1

8-11 Year Olds

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Memory Verse: "He is not here, He is RISEN just as He said." Matthew 28:6

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- This week we are learning about Jesus' resurrection!
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Weekly BIG IDEA: THE TOMB IS EMPTY BECAUSE JESUS IS STRONGER THAN DEATH

9:30/11:00a: greet kids, give them play time with the board games.

9:40/11:10a: Large Group Game: **Egg-Cellent Question**

There will be 1 empty eggshell, and a few regular eggs per service

SAY: We are just a week away from Easter. One of the most common symbols of Easter is an egg. Does anyone know why? **Take answers from 2-3 kids (unless a kid gets it right first thing)** Most people believe the egg emerged as symbol of new life, that baby chicks emerge as a new little creation once the egg is cracked open. The shell sits empty, like the empty tomb of Jesus on that first easter morning.

SAY: Okay I've got a few raw eggs here. Crack one real egg in a bowl so they can see they are real. (If they are suspicious, crack a few.) I'm gonna ask some "EGG-CELLENT" questions and if you get it right, I'll move right past you to the next player. **BUT IF YOU GET IT WRONG-** I'm gonna crack the egg on your head. We got all the parent's permission when we checked you in. You guys ready?

Choose 1 kid ahead of time to ask the hardest question and come to them first and then do a "round two" starting with them and then ask the hard question) If anyone is goofy and answers incorrectly on purpose- break the fake egg early)

Easy Questions:

- 1- What is your name
- 2- What day is it?
- 3- What color does the Sun seem to be?
- 4- What colors are the bean bag chairs right there?
- 5- What color is your hair?
- 6- What color are most carrots?

- 7- What juice do we get from oranges?
- 8- What animal is pink, four legged, and oinks?
- 9- Name a color in the rainbow
- 10- What color are most frogs?
- 11- What animal is Mickey Mouse?

Egg-Crack questions: [I have 3 in case by some miracle of Jesus they know them](#))

- 1- Explain what each of the letters in the equation $E=MC^2$ (energy equals mass times the speed of light squared)
- 2- What does triskaidekaphobia mean? (Fear of the number 13)
- 3- What is the longest English word that is not related to science? (Antidisestablishmentarianism)

[When they don't know an answer, crack the egg and watch as they realize the egg was empty](#))

SAY: So even though you were expecting worse- the empty egg rescued YOU from getting all covered in goop and egg yolk!! We're going to learn today all about how the tomb is empty because Jesus is alive. We are just ONE week away from Easter! Today we will be reading from Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20 if you want to.

9:50/11:20: Watch GOD'S WONDERFUL SURPRISE

9:55/11:25: Bible story discussion- Ask as many as you choose, and if there is something else you think they picked up on you may add it to the discussion.

- 1- How were Jesus' friends feeling about His death? (Sad, broken hearted)
- 2- What happened just before sunrise on the 3rd day? (An earthquake)
- 3- Who did God send to the tomb? (An angel)
- 4- Why did the women go to the tomb? (To clean up Jesus' body)
- 5- What did they find when they arrived at the tomb? (An empty grave and a shining angel)
- 6- What did the angel tell the women? (Jesus was not in the tomb, He had risen from the grave just as He had promised)

7- Who did Mary think was speaking to her in the garden? (The gardener)

8- Who called Mary's name? (JESUS!!!)

9- What did Jesus tell her? (She'd be able to hold Him forever, only later. He said to go tell the other disciples He was alive.)

SAY: The bible says the followers of Jesus were heartbroken when He died- because they loved Him but also because they thought He was the King God promised. But Jesus coming back to life proves that He is stronger than even death! If He can conquer sin on the cross, and THEN conquer death in the tomb by raising from the dead- we can trust when we die He will raise us to new life again, too. The cross shows us how much God loves us, but the empty tomb shows how God is powerful to give us new life with Him forever in heaven. When we die- because Jesus rose from the dead, so will we! The tomb is empty because Jesus is stronger than death!!!

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Matthew 28:6

10:15/11:45: Art activity Group 1/Free Play Time Group 2

10:20/11:55: Art activity Group 2/Free Play Time Group 1