

LESSON 5

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Surprises Us

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

GOD'S BIG STORY: After His death and resurrection,, Jesus appears to two of His followers as they are walking on the road to Emmaus. At first they don't recognize Him, but Jesus opens their eyes to the surprising truth that He is alive.

Object Lesson: What Does This Feel Like?

Activity: Walk, Crawl, Run to Emmaus

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Hide and Surprise

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Object Lesson: What Does This Feel Like?

SUPPLIES: orange, silk square, ball of yarn, toy keys, paper bags (4)

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Place the orange, silk square, ball of yarn, and set of toy keys in their own paper bags. Scrunch the top of the paper bags so you can't see the object inside.

Welcome, everyone! Today we're learning about two men who did not recognize their friend and got a huge surprise! I've got four bags with something interesting inside each one. You'll get to feel what's inside each bag, and then I'll show you what it is. You might be able to recognize what's inside just by touching it!

Invite toddlers to reach into the bags and touch the object. Encourage them to leave the objects in the bags.

Leader Tip: Ask one helper to hold each bag (or offer one bag to feel at a time).

After everyone has had a turn, take out each object and show it to the toddlers. **You may have some of these things at home and recognize them!** Describe each object to the toddlers. **Sometimes we don't recognize a thing even if it's something we see every day. The men in our story today didn't recognize someone very close to them. But when they did, they got a huge surprise!**

Activity: Crawl, Run to Emmaus

SUPPLIES: tape

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Emmaus Printable

Ahead of time, print the Emmaus Printable and tape it to the wall.

Two of Jesus' followers were traveling from Jerusalem to a town called Emmaus. Let's pretend we're Jesus' followers and travel to Emmaus too! First, let's walk to Emmaus. Encourage toddlers to walk toward the Emmaus Printable. **Next, let's crawl to Emmaus!** Invite toddlers to crawl toward the Emmaus Printable. **Now, let's run as fast as we can to Emmaus!** Encourage toddlers to run to the Emmaus Printable.

Play this game several times, switching up the mode of travel.

We'll see today how Jesus surprised His friends when they were sad. Jesus also surprises us with His presence when we're sad!

Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS SURPRISES US.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—Point upward.

SURPRISES—Put your hands on your face and act surprised.

US—Put both thumbs to your chest.



Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Connected Easter Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today we'll learn in God's big story how God surprises us with His presence through His Son, Jesus! Let's sing together and worship Jesus.

Play songs from the [Connected Easter Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, crepe streamers, butcher paper (5'), markers, party hats (1 per kid), tape, party decorations (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#)

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about two of Jesus' followers. Encourage the kids to say, "Jesus' followers." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Jesus' followers!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the Script provided.

Before the story, tear off pieces of crepe streamers and write, "Surprise!" on the butcher paper as a party banner. Place the streamers, party hats, and any other party supplies near the teaching space but out of the way of the kids. Tape the banner to one wall.

Let me set up our lesson for you today. Jesus died and then came back to life three days later.

Encourage kids to clap. **He was alive! Later that day, two of Jesus' followers walked to a place called Emmaus. On the way, they talked about what had happened. Then Jesus was there with them! But the two men did not know it was Jesus. "Jesus asked them, 'What are you talking about as you walk along?' " (Luke 24:17). They looked sad.** Make a sad face. **The two men told Him how Jesus died on the cross. They told how the women went to the tomb and saw that it was empty. Jesus walked and talked with the men. He talked with them about what the Bible says.**

They got to Emmaus. Jesus kept walking, but the men asked Him to stay with them and eat. At the table, Jesus took some bread and thanked God. When He did, they got a surprise! Encourage the kids to jump up and shout, "Surprise!" **Now they knew that it was Jesus! He rose from the dead, and He was alive! Then He was gone.**

The men went to Jerusalem, where more of Jesus' followers were, and told the people there what happened. Jesus was alive! Jesus had one more surprise for His followers! Distribute the party hats and other party supplies. Encourage kids to gather under the "Surprise!" banner. **Jesus appeared and stood with them. Everyone, shout, "Surprise!"** Allow kids to shout, jump, and throw a surprise party. **Jesus gave His followers the biggest surprise of their lives! Invite kids to sit down again. He was was—and still is— real!**

Jesus died and came back to life. He is alive forever. People who trust Him to save them from sin can be forgiven. Jesus is alive! Jesus surprises us!

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. God, thank You for always being with us, even if we don't recognize You. Give us eyes to see You working in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May the Lord bless you with eyes to see Him, ears to listen to Him, and hearts to love Him. Amen.

Activity: Hide and Surprise

SUPPLIES: parachute or large blanket

Jesus' followers didn't recognize Jesus right away. Jesus surprised them! Let's surprise each other in this game to remember how Jesus surprises us in our lives!

Have several leaders hold the edges of the parachute so it is taut. Encourage toddlers to stand in a group under the parachute. Every time you say, "Hide!" lower the parachute to hide the toddlers. When you lift up the parachute say, "Surprise!"