

LESSON 4

THE RESURRECTION

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Lives!

SCRIPTURE: John 20

GOD'S BIG STORY: After Jesus dies on the cross, His body is placed in a tomb. Three days later His followers find the tomb empty and discover that Jesus is again alive!

Object Lesson: Empty or Full?

Activity: The Tomb Is Empty!

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Easter Egg Roll

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: Empty or Full?

SUPPLIES: full water bottle, empty water bottle, plastic eggs (2), Easter grass or crinkle paper, tote bags (2), small toys or books, crayons

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Empty or Full? Picture Cards (optional)

Ahead of time, prepare a few pairs of items that are empty and full: a water bottle that is empty and a water bottle that is full, a plastic egg that is empty and a plastic egg filled with Easter grass or crinkle paper; a tote bag that is empty and a tote bag that is filled with small toys or books. Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! Happy Easter, everyone! I have a few things that will help us celebrate this very special day.

Lead kids in a discussion to introduce the concepts of empty and full. First, hold the water bottles and show them to the kids. **This one is empty. This one is full.** Allow kids to touch or hold the water bottles.

Next, pick up the eggs. **What about these eggs? Do you think they are full or empty?** Help kids open them to find out. See if they can repeat after you and say the words “empty” and “full.”

Then, show the kids an empty tote bag and one that is full of toys or books. **This one is empty. This one is full.**

Finally, hold your hands open in a cup shape. **My hands are empty.** Grab a big handful of crayons. **Now my hands are full!**

We saw some things that were empty and some that were full. Today, we are going to learn that Jesus’ tomb was empty!

Leader Tip: The Empty or Full? Picture Cards can be used to supplement this activity. For older toddlers, make two copies of the picture cards and see if they can match the pictures that are the same.



Activity: The Tomb Is Empty!

SUPPLIES: chairs (2), large blanket or sheet

Before the activity begins, place two chairs on the floor with about two feet of space between them. Place a large blanket or sheet over the two chairs to create a pretend tomb.

Point to the pretend tomb. **We’re going to pretend that this is a tomb. Let’s explore! Walk around and look at the outside, then lift the sheet and look inside. You can go inside the tomb if you want.** Give everyone time to crawl through and explore. **Is this tomb empty or full?** Give time for responses. **The tomb is empty just like Jesus’ tomb was empty on Easter. It was empty because Jesus lives!**

Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS LIVES!

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—Touch the center of the palm of your hand, then touch the palm of your other hand (nails through His palms while on the cross).

LIVES!—Move arms up high in a V shape.

Worship

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

Today we're learning that Jesus lives! He died on the cross, but He did not stay dead. That's why we celebrate Easter.

We'll learn in God's big story how Jesus is alive!

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

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

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

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

During God's big story today, we are going to think about how the people felt, and we'll make facial expressions to match their emotions. For example, if someone in the story is happy, I will make a happy face with my eyes wide open and a big smile, and you can do the same thing. Let's practice! Make a happy face and ask the kids to mimic you. Great job! Now let's listen to God's big story, and I'll tell you when to make your faces to show me how the people felt.

After Jesus died, His body was put in a tomb. A large stone was put in front of the tomb to close it. A woman named Mary went to the tomb. She was very sad that Jesus died. Make a sad face.

Mary and two more of Jesus' friends looked inside the tomb, but Jesus was not there! The tomb was empty! Make a worried face.

Mary stood outside the tomb, crying. Make a sad face. She saw two angels dressed in white. Then she heard a man say her name. She knew that voice. It was Jesus! Jesus was alive! Make a happy face. He rose from the dead! Jesus was right there in front of her. Mary was so excited to see Jesus. Make an excited face. He died, but now He was alive again! Mary went to tell the disciples the good news!

That night, Jesus showed His friends where His hands had been hurt. It was really Him. They were so happy! Make a happy face. Jesus really did die. But now He is alive again! We can be saved from sin and live with God forever because Jesus lives!

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. Thank You, God, that Jesus lives! Thank You for Your power and love. Thank You for Easter to celebrate and remember all that You have done. 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 you experience the joy of new life through Jesus, your living Savior! And may you grow in love for God as you learn about all that He has done and will do.

Activity: Easter Egg Roll

SUPPLIES: plastic eggs (1 per every 2 kids)

Encourage the kids to sit on the floor and face one another. Show kids how to roll the plastic eggs back and forth to each other. If needed, all kids can roll their eggs to a leader instead of to another child. Each time the egg is rolled, the kids can say, "Jesus lives!"

We celebrate Easter because Jesus lives! Let's roll these Easter eggs to someone and say, "Jesus lives!"