



LESSON 4

**THE RESURRECTION**

LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Is Alive!

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 24

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** Three days after Jesus' death, God raises Him from the dead. Jesus is no longer dead! He is alive!

**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

- PRESERVICE:
  - OPTION 1 Multisensory Activity: Alive or Not Alive?
  - OPTION 2 Interactive Game: Guess Who's Alive!
- Welcome Question: When has something happened to you that you didn't expect?
- Curiosity Questions
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation
- Worship: You Have Overcome, Praise the Lord
- God's Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder
- Responding in Worship: Worthy of it All
- Blessing Your Kids



### 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 worshipping 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

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

God's big story reaches its high point when God raises Jesus from the dead—He is risen! Jesus' resurrection is discovered and proclaimed by women, a great honor in a culture that often undervalued women. They proclaim the truth with joy!

**WHAT?**

Jesus told His disciples He would die and rise again. They wanted Him to be a conquering king who would defeat Rome and restore Israel to power. But Jesus' victory was bigger and better—it brought salvation to the world!

**WHERE?**

Jesus was buried by Joseph of Arimathea in a tomb near the site of the resurrection. Joseph was accompanied by Nicodemus, the same man who had come to Jesus to hear about how God so loved the world that He sent His one and only Son.

**WHEN?**

Jesus is risen on a Sunday morning, the third day after He died. This would have fallen on the Festival of First Fruits (Leviticus 23:9–13). Jesus is the “first fruits” of those who will be resurrected, a further reminder of the hope we have!

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY:**

Jesus fulfilled God's promises by dying for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that His sacrifice was sufficient and that He is God. Jesus is now exalted to the highest place, and in time, all will acknowledge that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!

Large Group

Spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Is Alive!

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 24

**WORD OF WONDER:** 2 Corinthians 5:17

### As kids arrive...

Around 20 minutes before service begins, display series theme loop. Play high-energy music in the background.

LG Leader walks around the room on mic and greets kids by name as they enter the room. Be extra intentional about introducing yourself to new parents and kids.

**SLIDE: SERIES THEME LOOP**

**VIDEO: COUNTDOWN** (2min OR 30sec) Start a countdown to begin game 10 minutes prior to service start)

## OPTION 1 Multisensory Activity: Alive or Not Alive?

**SUPPLIES:** table, black tablecloth, live insect (in a clear container with air holes), worm(s) (in a clear container), plastic insect, rock, book, spoon, houseplant, flower, magnifying glasses (several, if possible), writing utensils (1 per kid), disinfecting wet wipes (optional)

**RESOURCES:** *Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet (1 per 3 kids) \*\*BY REQUEST*

Before kids arrive, gather supplies and display them on a table. Cover the table and supplies with a black tablecloth until it's time to start the activity. Print a copy of the Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet for each kid.

When dealing with living creatures, be attuned to modeling responsible handling and storage. Be sure the live (non-stinging) insect is stored safely and humanely in a clear container with air holes. After the lesson, return the insect to the outdoors. Depending on your setting and group dynamics, you can keep the worm(s) in a clear container throughout the activity, or you can allow kids to gently touch the worm(s). If you allow kids to touch the worm(s), give each kid a disinfecting wet wipe afterward.



The checklist sheet is titled "Alive or Not Alive?" and features a magnifying glass graphic. It has three columns: "OBJECT", "ALIVE", and "NOT ALIVE". The objects listed are plastic insect, rock, book, spoon, insect, houseplant, worm, and flower. Each object has a checkbox under the "ALIVE" column and a checkbox under the "NOT ALIVE" column. At the bottom, it says "Wonder Ink" and "LESSON 4 ALIVE OR NOT ALIVE? CHECKLIST ELEMENTARY".

OBJECT	ALIVE	NOT ALIVE
plastic insect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
book	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
spoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
insect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
houseplant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
worm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
flower	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Leader Tip:** Consider putting on a lab coat and safety goggles as you introduce this activity. Help make the activity come to life by playing the part of a scientist doing an experiment.

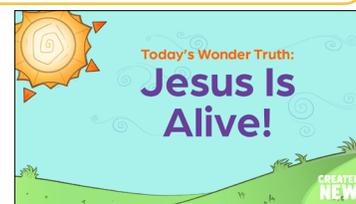
Display the Alive or Not Alive? Slide and gather the kids. Instruct kids to gather in groups of 3-4 and give each group an Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet and a writing utensil. **For our next activity, each of you is a scientist!**

Remove the tablecloth to reveal the items on the table. **Your job is to carefully observe the items on the table to determine if each one is alive or not alive. You can use your eyes, nose, and hands and can even use the magnifying glasses if you want to look more closely! Once you've observed an item and decided if it's alive or not alive, you can mark your answer on your checklist.** Allow time for kids to make their selections and return to their seats. If you have a large group of kids, consider having them come to the table in groups. When they've all finished marking their checklists, talk to the entire group about each item and the choices they made. Let kids explain their choices.



**Leader Tip:** For Younger Kids. Have leaders (or older kids) available to help pre-readers read and mark their checklists.

**What makes something alive?** Allow kids to respond. **Do you think any of the objects that are not alive could come to life right now?** Allow kids to respond. **If that happened, how would you respond?** Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. **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!**

**Make It Inclusive:** This is a fantastic activity to do with kids who may have learning differences or physical disabilities. They will love to touch and smell the objects!

## OPTION 2 Interactive Game: Guess Who's Alive!

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

**RESOURCES:** [Guess Who's Alive! Cards \(1 set/LG\)](#) **\*\*BY REQUEST**

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.

Display the Guess Who's Alive! Slide and 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!**

apple tree (alive)	basketball player (alive)	thunderstorm (not alive)	the sun (not alive)	house (not alive)
dog (alive)	frog (alive)	robot (not alive)	car (not alive)	fish (alive)
vacuum cleaner (not alive)	dancer (alive)	cat (alive)	airplane (not alive)	horse (alive)
baby (alive)	clock (not alive)	bird (alive)	rock (not alive)	doctor (alive)

Wonder Ink LESSON 4 GUESS WHO'S ALIVE! CARDS FIFTEEN

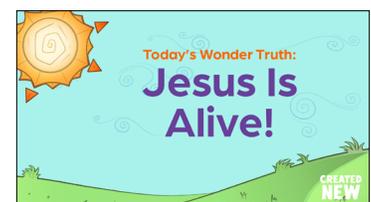


Invite a member of the first team to the front to pick a card. Set the timer for 30 seconds and begin. Alternate between teams, with a different representative acting each time, until all the cards are gone or as time allows. (Just be sure both teams receive an equal number of turns.) When finished, 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?**

Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. **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!****



## Welcome Question

**SUPPLIES:** paper, coloring utensils, poster board OR , whiteboard, dry-erase markers (if needed)

### SLIDE: WELCOME QUESTION

**At service start time**, draw kids' attention to the Welcome Question. Invite kids to write answers on the poster board or whiteboard.

**In today's part of God's big story, we'll talk about something that happened after Jesus died that those around Him didn't expect. But first, it's time for small group.**



## Small Group

Introduce small group time. While kids are in small group, consider sitting in the groups for a few minutes each. Engage and interact as is appropriate.

## Countdown

After about 15 minutes of small group, give a 5 minute warning and begin the countdown.

### VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

**"Hey everyone! Welcome to our Large Group Worship time! My name is \_\_\_\_ and I'm excited to take this time to worship God, review what we just read, and talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning about God! We are going to pray as we prepare our hearts to worship God!"**

## Declaring God's Wonder

Display the **Resurrection Declaration Slide**. Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

**Thank You, God, that You are good!** (Kids repeat.)

**You made me on purpose, for a purpose.** (Kids repeat.)

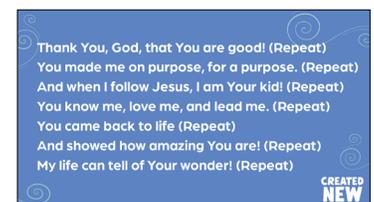
**And when I follow Jesus, I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat.)

**You know me, love me, and lead me.** (Kids repeat.)

**You came back to life** (Kids repeat.)

**And showed how amazing You are!** (Kids repeat.)

**My life can tell of Your wonder!** (Kids repeat.)



## Prayer of Invitation

Lead kids in a prayer of invitation before entering into worship and God's big story: **God, we're in awe of You! We can't wait to hear Your Word today and celebrate Your resurrection! We invite Your Holy Spirit to be with us. Help us to know Your love even more today. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## Worship

**Let's praise God together because Jesus is alive!** Play songs [You Have Overcome](#), [Praise the Lord](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

## God's Big Story

Display the Resurrection Title Slide.

Tell kids that today's story is from the Bible and is found in Luke, the third book of the New Testament.

**Today we are hearing the incredible news that changed the world forever. The women who went to Jesus' tomb expected one thing, but they discovered something completely different. As you watch, pay attention to the moment they realize Jesus is alive and how that good news begins to spread to His friends.**

[Watch the God's Big Story Video.](#)



## LESSON 4 THE RESURRECTION

### EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

**SUPPLIES:** cardboard for a cross, tomb, and stone; scissors (prep only); long white cloth; strips of white fabric or linen; prop box; colorful scarves (5); white scarves (2); brown scarf; robe; fake beard (2, optional)

Ahead of time, cut a large cross from cardboard and secure it on stage. Drape a white cloth on the sides of the cross. Create a tomb from cardboard and place it on the opposite side of stage. (The tomb can be a large cardboard box—such as an appliance box—laid on its side to form a tiny room.) Place the strips of white fabric or linen inside the tomb. Also cut a large stone out of cardboard. It should be large enough to cover (or nearly cover) the opening of the cardboard tomb. Set it to the side of the tomb. Place the costume pieces in the prop box and set the box at the edge of the stage area.

While telling the story, you'll invite kid volunteers on stage to act out these parts: five women who went to the tomb (they will wrap colorful scarves around their hair), two angels (they will wear white scarves around their necks), Peter (he will wear a brown scarf on his neck and an optional fake beard), and Jesus (He will wear a robe). Have your Jesus volunteer put on a robe and an optional fake beard. Ask him to stand quietly at the back of the room until the indicated time in the story.

If your group is small, consider having fewer kid volunteers on stage. For example, invite 1–2 girls to represent the women, one kid to represent the two angels, etc.

**Leader Tip:** The role of Jesus might be played best by a leader rather than a kid. This will help keep kids calm and show the importance of the moment when the resurrected Christ revealed himself to His disciples.

**Since the very first people on earth disobeyed God and sin entered the world, God had a plan to rescue His people and fix their relationship with Him. The Gospel of Luke tells the story of God's Son Jesus—the Rescuer—who lived, died, and rose again.**

**After Jesus had been sentenced to die by the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, He was taken away and crucified. The Romans and the religious leaders at the time thought they had defeated Jesus and proved He wasn't the Son of God like He said He was. But Jesus had allowed Himself to be killed. Jesus knew that by dying, He made the way for all people to be forgiven of their sins—the wrong things we say and do. Even though it might have looked like weakness to the Romans and religious leaders, Jesus' death on the cross showed His love and strength. Jesus' death healed our relationship with God.**

**And the story isn't over. I need a few volunteers to help tell the next part of the story. If you're interested in helping, I'll ask you to quietly raise your hand at the parts when I need your help!**

**After Jesus took His last breath on the cross, one of His followers named Joseph of Arimathea [a-ri-ma-THEE-uh] went to the Roman governor and asked to take Jesus' body down and bury it. The governor agreed, and Joseph took Jesus' body down (gently take the white cloth off the cross), wrapped it in linen cloth, and placed it in a large, cave-like tomb (slowly and calmly lay the cloth in the tomb). Then soldiers rolled a huge stone in front of the tomb (roll the stone in front of the tomb).**

**Because decaying bodies start to smell, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and a few other women who were friends with Jesus prepared spices and perfumes to take with them to cover His body.**

**Can I have five volunteers to be the women?** Select five girls to come on stage and wrap their hair in the scarves. (If your group is small, you can choose 1–2 girls instead of five.)

**On the third day after Jesus had died, the women went to the tomb, carrying their spices and perfumes with them.** Encourage the volunteers to pantomime carrying spices to the tomb. **But when they arrived, they found something completely unexpected: The large stone that covered the tomb’s doorway had been moved to the side, and Jesus’ body was not there.** Roll the stone away from the tomb’s entrance. **The women were very confused: What had happened to Jesus?**

**Suddenly, two of God’s special messengers—angels—appeared to the women. Can I get two volunteers to be the angels?** Select two kids to be the angels, draping the white scarves around their shoulders and directing them to stand in front of the open tomb, facing the women and the rest of the audience.

**The women were frightened** (encourage the girls to cower), **but the angels said** (have the angels repeat after you), **“Jesus isn’t here; He has come back to life! Why do you think a living person would be hanging out among dead bodies?”** Thank the angels, collect their white scarves, and direct them to return to their seats.

**The women ran to Jesus’ other disciples and told them what the angels had said.** Direct the girls to repeat after you: **“Jesus is alive! Jesus is alive!”**

**People don’t usually come back to life after dying, so it was hard for the disciples to believe that something so amazing had actually happened.** To the kids in the audience: **Pretend to be the disciples and cross your arms like you’re not quite sure what to think about this news. Could it really be that their best friend, Jesus, was alive again?**

**The disciples struggled to believe what Mary Magdalene and the other women were telling them. But there was one person who had to find out. Can I get a volunteer to be Peter?** Drape the brown scarf around Peter’s shoulders. If using fake beards, give one to Peter to put on. Thank the girls and invite them to be seated in the audience with their head scarves on for the remainder of the story.

**Peter could not contain his excitement. He sprinted to the tomb and went inside to check it out for himself.** Encourage Peter to run to the tomb and look or go inside and pick up the strips of linen as though examining them. **All he found were the strips of linen cloth that had covered Jesus’ body. Peter still wasn’t sure what had happened, but he would soon find out.** Invite Peter to come out of the tomb and return to the audience, still wearing the scarf and playing the part of Peter.

**A short time later, Jesus appeared to him and the other disciples in person.** Invite the Jesus volunteer, who has been at the back of the room in a robe this entire time, to slowly make his way through the audience up to the stage. He can face the audience with his arms out invitingly and a smile on his face.

**Jesus obeyed God, His Father, by dying for the sins of the whole world. But that wasn’t the end of the story! God showed that Jesus really is His Son by raising Him from death to life. Now Jesus can never die again; He lives forever and ever. And since Jesus died for us and healed our broken relationship with God, God will one day raise us so that we can live with Him forever. Jesus is alive!**

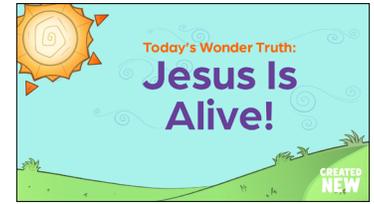
Thank the volunteers and collect the remaining costumes.

## Connecting the Wonder Truth

Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. Our Wonder Truth today is **JESUS IS ALIVE**. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story? Allow kids to answer freely.

Jesus fulfilled God's promises by dying for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that He is God. Jesus is now exalted to the

highest place, and one day, everyone in heaven and on earth will acknowledge that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!



## In Awe of God's Wonder

Spend a few moments allowing kids to think about the wonder of God's story.

**What amazed you about today's story?** Allow kids to answer freely. Be willing to share your answer.

**If you were the women at the empty tomb, what would you wonder about?** Allow kids to respond.

## Responding in Worship

### SLIDE: RESPONDING IN WORSHIP

Talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning with next steps such as tithing, prayer, asking questions, and worship. Encourage kids to ask their SG leaders any questions they were wondering during the lesson.

\*\*\*Introduce this next song and invite kids to respond and participate in worship. See the "Worship Posture Tutorial" on the RBKids Resource Page.

### WORSHIP VIDEO: WORTHY OF IT ALL



## Blessing Your Kids

Close your time together by blessing the kids in your group. Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**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!