



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:** Jesus makes us new. —from 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation
- Worship: Happy Day, My God
- God's Big Story: The Fall
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Prayer and Blessing





## LESSON 4 FOR LEADERS

### 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:** From 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)!

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

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

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## Welcome

**Slide: Series Welcome Loop**

### As kids arrive...

Walk around the room and welcome as many kids as possible by showing excitement that they have joined you. Give high-fives, fist bumps, encourage them to sit on the floor in their spots, and ask questions about their week.

**Video: Countdown**

Welcome kids to worship time. Introduce yourself by name.

## Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions

**SUPPLIES:** dead or wilted plant or flower (optional)

**RESOURCES:** Tac the Cat puppet

**Leader:** You may remember our friend Tac, the curious cat. Are you ready to talk with him?

**Tac the Cat:** Hi, kids! Today I'm curious today about my flower. It was beautiful and standing tall. Then I forgot to water it for a long time, and something bad happened ...

*(If you have a wilted or dead flower or plant, hold it up to show the kids.)*

**Leader:** What happened, Tac? Did it die?

**Tac the Cat:** Yes, I think so! It's all droopy now. It's turning brown. The petals are falling off the flower. Why did that happen?

**Leader:** That's too bad. Flowers need water in order to grow and stay alive. You might be able to give it some water and see if it comes back to life!

**Tac the Cat:** Oh, I didn't know that. So the flower might come back to life?

**Leader:** It's possible, if it's not all the way dead.

**Tac the Cat:** I can give it some water! I hope it blooms again. It was my favorite flower.

**Leader:** You know what it reminds me of? Our story for today! It's a true story about Jesus.

**Tac the Cat:** Is it a story about Jesus watering a flower?

**Leader:** No, Tac. It's about when Jesus died. It was so sad. But He didn't stay dead. He came back to life!

**Tac the Cat:** That sounds like an amazing story. How did that happen?

**Leader:** It's the greatest story! We'll hear all about it today.

**Tac the Cat:** That sounds great! Well, I'm going to go water my flower plant now and see if it does come back to life.

**Have you ever been curious about something? Let's take a moment and think: What do you think Jesus did that is so special?** Allow the kids to respond. **What are you curious about that has to do with Jesus?** Allow the kids to respond. **The part of God's big story that we'll hear about today will help you understand more about how amazing Jesus is and why we can celebrate.**

Today's Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS ALIVE**. Today we'll celebrate that Jesus is alive!

## Declaring God's Wonder

Show the Early Childhood Declaration Slide and encourage the kids to say the statements and do the motions with you.

**Thank You, God, that You made me!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Make prayer hands, then point up and then to yourself.

**And I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands on your hips.

**Jesus loves me so much.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

**His love for me is big.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

**The Holy Spirit leads me,** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Bring your arms down from above, making a path in front of you.

**And I can follow You.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

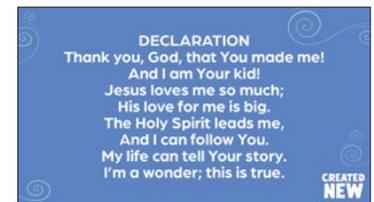
March in place like you're following the leader.

**My life can tell Your story.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

**I'm a wonder; this is true.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands up, shake your fingers, and celebrate ("praise hands").



## Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, You are amazing! We can't wait to hear Your Word today and celebrate Jesus' resurrection! We invite Your Holy Spirit to be with us. Help us know Your love even more. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## Worship

**Today we'll learn about how much Jesus loves us and how He overcame death. Jesus is the best! Let's sing and thank Him!**

Play songs Happy Day, My God and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

### Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

**I open my Bible, and what do I see?** (*Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.*)

**God's big story, waiting for me!** (*Point to yourself.*)

**Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Luke in the Bible, which is in the New Testament.**

Hold up a Bible and show the kids. Open a Bible and show them where the story is found in the book of Luke.

Watch the God's big story video.

# GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

**SUPPLIES:** scissors (prep only), posterboard, painter's tape, magnetic whiteboard (optional), small magnets (optional)

**RESOURCES:** *Storytelling Sheets (1set/LG)*

**Leader Tip:** This information about Jesus' death and resurrection may be hard for preschoolers to understand. Explain it the best you can, but don't worry about the kids grasping all the concepts right away. The most important thing for kids to know is that Jesus is alive, and He loves them.



Ahead of time, print the Storytelling Sheets and cut apart the pictures. Before the activity, set up the posterboard (or tape it to the wall). Set out the pictures and tape. You could also use a magnetic whiteboard (test it—not all whiteboards are magnetic!) and tape small magnets to the backs of the pictures so you can easily move them around.

**You can help with putting pictures on the poster while we tell the story. In the Created New series, we've been learning about when God made everything. We learned that Adam and Eve were the first people God made. They did the one thing God told them not to do. Disobeying God is called sin. Sin messed a lot of things up. But God had a plan to fix His relationship with His people. God sent Jesus to save His people. The Bible tells the story of Jesus.**

**Jesus died on the cross even though He did not deserve it.** Tape the cross picture onto the poster or invite a kid to tape it up. Then tape the Jesus pictures onto the cross. **He died to beat sin once and for all. After Jesus died, people put His body into a tomb.** Tape the tomb onto the poster (or invite a kid to tape it up). Then move the Jesus picture and tape it onto the tomb picture. **The tomb was like a cave. A big stone was rolled in front of the entrance.** Invite a kid to tape the stone picture on top of the tomb picture.

**Back then, people put spices on bodies after people died. The spices helped bodies not smell so bad. So three days after He died, some of Jesus' friends came to put spices on His body.** Invite a kid to tape the two women pictures onto the poster next to the tomb.

**When the women got to Jesus' tomb, they found a surprise! The tomb was open.** Invite a kid to move the stone off the tomb. Then remove the Jesus picture and put it out of sight. **The large stone was rolled away from the entrance. The women looked inside the tomb. Jesus' body wasn't there. The women were very confused: What happened to Jesus?**

**Then two of God's special messengers—angels—suddenly showed up.** Invite a kid to tape the two angel pictures next to the women and the tomb. **The women were scared. The angels said, "Jesus isn't here; He has come back to life!" The women ran to tell Jesus' other followers what the angels said.** Move the women pictures as if they are running off. Move them out of sight.

**This was a big surprise. It was hard for the disciples to believe what the women told them. Was Jesus really alive again after He died? Peter was one of the disciples. He was so excited. He wanted to see for himself. Peter ran to the tomb.** Invite a kid to tape the Peter picture next to the empty tomb. **He didn't see Jesus in the tomb. Peter saw strips of cloth that were on Jesus' body when He died. That's it.**

**A short time later, Jesus appeared!** Invite a kid to tape the Jesus standing picture next to the Peter picture. **Peter and the other disciples saw Him. It was true! Jesus was not dead anymore. He came back to life. Now Jesus can never die again. He lives forever and ever. And since Jesus died for us and fixed our relationship with God, someday we can live with God forever too. Jesus is alive!**

## Connecting the Wonder Truth

Ask the following question to help kids connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

**Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS ALIVE! Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen 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. He beat sin and death. Jesus is still alive, and one day, everyone in heaven and on earth will know that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!**

## Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking Jesus for being alive and for loving us.

**Let's pray and talk to God. Jesus, thank You for showing Your love through Your death on the cross and for coming back to life forever. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

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!