

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

EASTER

BIG TRUTH: JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 11:25

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus is alive!
- Jesus paid our sin debt in full and overcame death.
- Jesus gives us the hope of eternal life.
- God gives new life to those who place saving faith in Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 28:1-10; JOHN 20:1-10

Jesus took on the sins of the world when He died on the cross. He took these sins on Himself so that He could pay the world's sin debt. He was crucified and died on the cross and then buried in a tomb. His death was not the end to the hope that He brought the world. He didn't stay dead in the tomb. He rose to life again on the third day and defeated death. He's alive today and because He's alive, those who repent and believe in Him have the hope of eternal life after their earthly death.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- All have sinned and are in need of a substitute.
- God sent Jesus to be our substitute.



Every child should feel:

- Loved by a God who gave His Son as their substitute.



Every child should be able to:

- Explain that all have sinned and God sent His Son.



Every child should want:

- The desire to know more about Jesus, who is their substitute.

FAMILY DEVOTION: JESUS OVERCAME DEATH!

Though Jesus died on the cross for the sins of mankind, He did not stay dead. He rose from the grave, raising Himself to life again so that all of mankind may have eternal life with Him in Heaven. Jesus defeated death and the grave and we can have new life in Him.

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 11:25

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

Jesus' resurrection means new life to those who believe.

- When Jesus rose to life again, He overcame death.
- Because He overcame death, those who believe in Him will overcome death and live again.
- Jesus' resurrection means that death is not the end for those who believe in Him.
- New life is not only resurrection one day when Jesus comes again, but a new life now.
- Dying to sin and being made alive in Jesus makes us totally new. We have a new way of thinking, new desires, and new purpose (to live for God instead of ourselves).

Those who place their faith in Jesus will receive new life.

- People who repent and believe in Jesus are united with Him.
- Faith means trusting that Jesus alone can save us from our sin.
- Faith is not just a one-time decision, but instead an ongoing trusting in Jesus as the source of life and joy.
- Repentance means turning from our sin (living for self) and turning to follow Jesus.
- Repentance and regret are not the same thing. Repentance is a change in the way we live and respond to God. Regret is just feeling guilty for the wrong things we have done.

Jesus is the way to eternal life.

- Without Jesus' resurrection there would be no hope of eternal life.
- Because of the work He did on the cross, we have our sins forgiven.
- Because He rose to life again on the third day, we have the hope of life after our earthly death.
- Death on this earth is not final for those who believe. Jesus brings hope of new life to those who believe in Him.
- Because Jesus overcame death, His people will overcome death.
- Jesus told Martha that He is the resurrection. It is only through Jesus that people will live again after death.

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BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 28:1-10, JOHN 20:1-0

Jesus' Resurrection

Supporting Scripture: Romans 3:23; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Timothy 2:6

Teacher Introduction:

Jesus came to this earth to pay the world's sin debt. He was able to pay the sin debt because He was sinless and He lived on the earth without sinning. He faced every temptation to sin that we face, yet He never sinned. Because He was sinless, He could take our place and pay our sin debt. When He paid the sin debt, He gave believers the hope that their sins could be forgiven. Then He was buried and laid in a tomb. He did not stay dead. On the third day, He rose to life again, overcoming death and giving new life to those who believe in Him. His resurrection brings hope to believers because it means that they, too, will be raised to life again after their earthly deaths. Jesus' resurrection brings hope of eternal life to those who believe in Him.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the narrative: *Jesus' Resurrection*. The four points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Matthew 28:1-10 and teach the narrative: *Jesus' Resurrection*. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson, questions are placed to help you guide the children to think about and process the narrative: *Jesus' Resurrection*.

Opening Illustration:

Bring several rolls of toilet paper or strips of white cloth. Take turns wrapping the children up like mummies. Once the children are wrapped up, tell them to unwrap themselves or tear the "grave clothes" off of themselves.

- Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb.
- His body was wrapped up a lot like we wrapped each other up.
- On the third day, He rose to life again and left the tomb.
- Jesus' resurrection is important because it gives us hope of eternal life.

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIG IDEA: JESUS IS ALIVE!

Jesus died on the cross and was buried.

- Jesus willingly gave up His life on the cross.
- He did so to pay our sin debt so we would not be held responsible for it.
- He was buried in a tomb after His death and all people knew He was dead.

Jesus rose to life again on the third day.¹

- Jesus was resurrected, or raised to life, on the third day after He was buried.
- He did not stay dead.
- When some of His followers went to His tomb, He wasn't in it.
- They found an empty tomb with only Jesus' grave clothes inside.
- Jesus overcame death and lived again.

Jesus is alive today!

- Jesus rose to life again and is still alive.
- He lives today and forever.
- He ascended into Heaven after His resurrection and is alive today.

What happened to Jesus after He was buried? (He rose to life again.)

What did some of Jesus' followers find when they went to His tomb? (They found only His grave clothes and nothing else.)



Help the children make a list of things that are living, such as trees, plants, pets, their families, etc. Then ask the children how they know these things are alive. Next, remind the children that Jesus is alive like these things are alive. Tell them that He died and then He rose to life again and is alive today!

1. Revelation 1:18: Jesus died and then He rose to life again. He is alive today and will be alive for always.

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIG IDEA: JESUS PAID OUR SIN DEBT IN FULL AND OVERGAMED DEATH.²

Jesus willingly took on our sins so that we could be made right in God's sight.

- We receive new life through Jesus' payment for our sins.
- Jesus did not resist, or try to stop His arrest, trial and crucifixion.
- He willingly laid down His own life so that we might have new life.
- He was willing to pay the price for our sins, so that we don't have to pay the price.

Jesus was crucified, and then He rose again for our sins.

- Jesus took on the sins of all the world when He was crucified and He did so willingly.
- He paid the price for the sin of mankind when He died on the cross.
- Jesus was buried in a tomb and remained there for three days.
- On the third day, He came to life again.
- He defeated death and now lives forever.
- When He rose to life again, Jesus overcame death, giving hope to those who place saving faith in Him to have eternal life.



Read the resurrection story from The Jesus Storybook Bible. Talk with the children about how Jesus willingly gave up His life for our sins and then he rose again to life on the third day overcoming death. Those who place saving faith in Him can have hope of eternal life.

Who paid our sin debt? (Jesus paid our sin debt.)

How did Jesus pay our sin debt? (He paid our sin debt by dying on the cross for our sins.)

How long was Jesus in the tomb? (He was in the tomb for three days.)

How does Jesus overcoming death give those who believe in Him hope? (Because He lives, they will have eternal life.)

2. Romans 6:9: Jesus overtook death, defeating the grave when He rose from the dead after His crucifixion. He showed that death and hell have no power over Him.

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIG IDEA: JESUS GIVES US THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE.³

Jesus' resurrection gives hope to those who believe.

- Because Jesus was resurrected, His people will be resurrected, too.
- Saving faith in Jesus means we will live for all of eternity with Him in heaven.
- Our lives will continue even after we die on earth.
- Just as Jesus died on earth and was raised again, His people will be raised again, too.



Sing "In Christ Alone" with your children and talk about how we know that Jesus is alive today and that brings us hope of eternal life.

Jesus' resurrection gives His people life forever.

- Those who place saving faith in Jesus have eternal life.
- We do not have to fear earthly death because it is not the end for those who follow Jesus.
- Jesus rose to life after He died on the earth and those who believe in Him will raise to life after they die on earth, also.
- Jesus brings hope and life to those who believe because they know they will have eternal life after their earthly death.

What hope does Jesus' resurrection give His people? (They have hope that they will have eternal life with Him in heaven.)

3. 1 Peter 1:3: We can live with great expectation of eternal life because Jesus was resurrected. His resurrection brings us hope.

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

BIG IDEA: GOD GIVES NEW LIFE TO THOSE WHO PLACE SAVING FAITH IN JESUS.⁴

God gives new life to those who believe.

- Jesus' resurrection means that His people will be raised to life, too.
- New life is not only resurrection one day when Jesus comes again, but a new life now.
- Dying to sin and being made alive in Jesus makes us totally new. We have a new way of thinking, new desires, and new purpose (to live for God instead of ourselves).

New life is only possible by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

- Jesus was our substitute because we could not pay the price for our sins.
- The price for our sin is death, but because Jesus died for our sins, we don't have to. It is grace (a free gift we do not deserve)
- All those who repent and place their faith in Jesus are saved from the punishment of sin.
- Faith means trusting that Jesus alone can save us from our sin.
- Faith is not just a one-time decision, but instead an ongoing trusting in Jesus as the source of life and joy.
- Repentance means turning from our sin (living for self) and turning to follow Jesus.
- Repentance and regret are not the same thing. Repentance is a change in the way we live and respond to God. Regret is just feeling guilty for the wrong things we have done.
- Those who repent and believe have had their sin taken away. God no longer sees them as sinners. They are in right standing with Him, or considered righteous.



Give every child two black jelly beans. Ask them to taste one of the black jelly beans. Show the children a bag of jelly beans that don't have black jelly beans in them. Ask them if they want to trade their black jelly bean for a different color. If they do, give them a different color. Talk to them about how Jesus traded His life for ours. He took on our sins and if we repent and believe in Him, we receive new life in God.

What does God give to the people who have saving faith? (He gives them new life.)

What does it mean for a person to have a new life in Jesus? (They are no longer seen as sinners by God.)

4. Colossians 3:9-10: Those who have saving faith in Jesus receive new life. They put off the old, sinful self and instead put on the new life they have in Christ. This new life enables them to live like Christ and to please God.

HOOKS

**Jesus Is Alive**

Use a pop-up tent or blankets to make a “tomb” in the classroom. Lead the children through the resurrection story. Wrap up a doll or stuffed animal in white cloths or toilet paper and place them in the “tomb”. Have the children pretend to be some of Jesus’ followers who come to visit the tomb and find it empty. Remove the doll so the tomb is empty before they get there.



- What did Jesus’ followers find when they came to His tomb on the third day? (They found it empty except for the grave clothes.)
- What does it mean that the tomb was empty? (It means that Jesus wasn’t there because He had risen to life again.)
- Jesus rose to life again and He’s alive today!

**Jesus Overcame Death**

Using rolls of toilet paper or long strips of white cloth, allow the children to take turns wrapping themselves up like Jesus would have been wrapped up when He was placed in the tomb.



- When Jesus died on the cross, He was really dead.
- He was prepared for the tomb, just like you are wrapping yourselves.
- On the third day, Jesus rose to life again.

Tell the children to break free from their “grave clothes.”

- We can have new life in Christ when we repent of our sins and place our faith in Him.
- Jesus overcame death when He rose to life again and we can have eternal life, too, when we believe in Him.

Jesus Took Our Place

Bring in a box of stickers or small pieces of candy. Tell the children that you are going to give each of them what they deserve or what they’ve earned. Give each child a small pebble or rock. Ask the children if they’d rather have the rock or the nice surprise that you brought.

- You can trade your rock for the nice surprise. Jesus took our places on the cross and though we deserved to die for our sins, He took our place and we get eternal life and heaven instead of death.

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HOME HOOKS

These Hooks are provided as examples of ways that you can practically teach the Big Truth. Use these or similar activities to help pursue the Aims: the things that we hope and pray children and families Know, Do, Feel, and Want coming out of this series.



As a family memorize John 11:25. Talk about how we can have eternal life through Jesus.

Gather a container of water in a clear pitcher. Next drop a couple of drops of iodine into the water. Then pour some bleach into the iodine water. The water will become clear again. Talk with your child about how we are the water, the iodine is sin. When we sin, it stains our whole life. We can't make it clear again on our own. The bleach represents Jesus. When Jesus died on the cross, He took away our sins and gave us new life just like the bleach made the water clear again. When Jesus died on the cross, He took away our sins.

Spend some time as a family making resurrection rolls. A quick Google search will give directions for making resurrection rolls. Talk with your child about how Jesus died and was placed in the tomb, but He rose to life again on the third day. Just like the roll is empty now, the tomb that Jesus was buried in is empty. Jesus overcame death when He rose to life again. Now we have hope for eternal life if we repent of our sins and believe in Him.

Spend some time with your child singing worship songs that focus on the resurrection. Some examples are "Forever" and "He Lives". Talk with your child about the hope of eternal life we have because Jesus was resurrected.