

Jesus Is Alive!

Mark 16:1-8



First- and second-graders tend to think about death more than we would imagine. Often, their biggest fear is that one of their parents will die. Use this lesson to emphasize to kids Jesus' complete victory over death. Kids will be comforted to learn that Jesus defeated death, once and for all!

► Bible Point

Jesus is alive.

Key Verse

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies' " (John 11:25).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will celebrate that Jesus is alive and will tell others about him.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Egg-stra Special <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Draw pictures of what Easter means to them.	My Bible Fun, CD player, crayons Teacher Pack: CD	Tear out the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
2 Bible Exploration	A Friend's Betrayal <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Visit the garden where Jesus was betrayed.	Bible, markers, tape, poster board Teacher Pack: Wikki Stix	Set up 3 stations in your room. In one, create a garden. Use indoor plants from your church, or draw a simple garden on poster board.
	At the Cross <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Visit the cross.	brown paper, tape Teacher Pack: Wikki Stix	For a second station, use brown paper to create a cross.
	The Empty Tomb <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Visit the tomb.	table, blanket Teacher Pack: Wikki Stix, Bible Timeline 	For a third station, create a tomb by turning a table on its side and covering it with a blanket.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

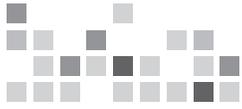




LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Resurrection Crosses <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Make crosses and learn the Key Verse.	Bible, My Bible Fun, art supplies, scissors Teacher Pack: Wikki Stix	
4 Lasting Impressions	Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	My Bible Fun	
	Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Egg-stra Special Supplies

My Bible Fun
CD player
crayons

Teacher Pack

CD: "God's Not Dead"
(track 9)

Egg-stra Special Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.

1 GETTING STARTED

Egg-stra Special

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Play "God's Not Dead" (track 9 on the CD). Play the song softly and continuously throughout this activity.

Say: **Easter is a very important time. It's when we celebrate that Jesus is alive! Today we'll hear about why that's such a special thing to celebrate.**

Distribute the Lesson 6 My Bible Fun pages, and direct kids' attention to the "It's Easter!" section. Ask children to draw in each of the four egg shapes a picture depicting what Easter means to them. Allow time.

Invite kids to explain their drawings to the rest of the group.

Say: **Thank you for sharing what you like about Easter! Today's a very special day, isn't it?**

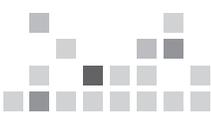
Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was new or interesting to you about what the others in this group shared?
- What can you do to thank Jesus in a new way this Easter?

Say: ► **JESUS IS ALIVE! Easter is one of the most special days of the year. In fact, even if people don't believe in Jesus, it's an important day. That's because Jesus is God. Jesus came to save everyone. And today we'll learn that because Jesus died and came back to life, everyone who believes in him can live forever.**



2

BIBLE
EXPLORATION



A Friend's Betrayal



Tip If you have more than 24 kids in your group, cut the Wikki Stix in half.

What You'll Do

Say: **In Mark 14, it says Jesus had just had dinner with his disciples. Then he asked a few of them to go out with him to a nearby garden so he could pray. Let's go to a garden, too.**

Lead the children to the first station, and have them sit down. Open your Bible to Mark 14:32-42, and show kids the passage. Say: **Jesus knew what was about to happen to him, and he was sad. He asked his friends to keep watch for him while he prayed. So Jesus went a little farther into the garden to pray. But his friends didn't keep watch like Jesus had asked them to. They fell asleep instead. Let's pretend we're sleeping, just like Jesus' friends.**

Have kids lie on the floor as if they're sleeping. Then continue.

Say: **When Jesus came back and found his friends sleeping, he woke them up. Gently shake each child's shoulder. Then Jesus asked them if they were still sleeping. He told them it was time to go. He said, "the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners" and then he told his friends that his betrayer was coming.**

Ask:

- **What do you think the word *betrayer* means?**

Say: **A betrayer is someone who does something rotten and sneaky to a friend. So what's happening here is that one of Jesus' friends is about to do something rotten to him. Let's see who the betrayer is.**

Read aloud Mark 14:43-46.

Have kids form pairs, and give each child two Wikki Stix. Have kids in each pair take turns using their Wikki Stix to tell what's happened so far. For example, kids could use their Wikki Stix to form trees or plants from the garden, sad faces because Jesus was arrested, or stick figures to represent the disciples or soldiers. Allow time.

Say: **The Bible tells us that Jesus knew Judas was going to betray him. In fact, Jesus knew he was going to be arrested in that garden. Here's what Jesus said:** Read aloud Mark 14:41-42. **Jesus knew what would happen in the garden, but he went there anyway. Jesus must've had a very important reason for letting himself be arrested.**

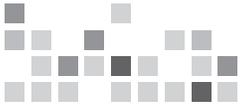
A Friend's Betrayal Supplies

- Bible
- markers
- tape
- poster board
- Teacher Pack**
- Wikki Stix

A Friend's Betrayal Easy Prep

Set up 3 stations in your room. In one, create a garden. Use indoor plants from your church, or draw a simple garden on poster board.





At the Cross Supplies

brown paper
tape

Teacher Pack
Wikki Stix

At the Cross Easy Prep

For a second station,
use brown paper to
create a cross.

Say: **Listen to what the Bible says happened.** Read aloud Mark 14:50. **Since Jesus' friends all left the garden, we'd better leave, too!**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like to show what happened to Jesus with the Wikki Stix?
- What happened so far that helps you know Jesus is God?

Say: **Jesus knew he was going to be betrayed by his friend, Judas. He even knew he'd be arrested in the garden. He knew because he's God. Even though his friend betrayed him and Jesus eventually died, today ► JESUS IS ALIVE!**

At the Cross

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lead kids to your second station, and have them stand near the cross.

Say: **After Jesus was arrested, he was put on trial and sentenced to die. In those days, they hung criminals on crosses, and that's exactly what happened to Jesus. He was hung on a cross, and he died.**

Ask kids to think about what happened to Jesus. Then invite them to pray, thanking God and sharing their thoughts. Lead them by starting and closing the prayer.

Say: **Just as Jesus knew he was going to be arrested in the garden, he also knew that he was going to die on the cross. Since Jesus is God, he could have decided not to die on the cross. He could have said no, or he could have called angels to help him. But Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to die on that cross.**

Have kids use their Wikki Stix to tell what happened at the cross to their partners. Kids might form crosses, frowns, or hearts to show that Jesus loves us.

Say: **Jesus must've had a very important reason for letting himself be hung on that cross. As we find out more, we'll have even more of a reason to believe in Jesus. Today, ► JESUS IS ALIVE and we can follow him in our lives.**

The Empty Tomb

What You'll Do

Lead kids to your third station, and have kids sit down near the tomb.

Say: **After Jesus died on the cross, he was placed in a tomb. In those days, people were buried in little rooms that were carved out of the rocky sides of hills. A big stone was rolled in front of the opening of the tomb where Jesus was placed. Three days later, a few women who had been followers of Jesus came to the tomb. It was just after sunrise as they neared the tomb, and they were worried about who might be able to roll the stone away for them. But when they saw the tomb, the stone had already been rolled away! So they went inside it.** Let kids crawl inside the tomb you made. After everyone is in the tomb, continue.

Say: **As the women entered the tomb, they saw an angel dressed all in white sitting inside! What a surprise!**

Show the “Jesus Rises From the Dead” picture on the Bible Timeline. Then put kids in pairs, and encourage kids to use their Wikki Stix to tell about this scene to each other. They may form angels, a tomb, or the stone.

Say: **Listen carefully to what the angel told the women: “Don’t be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter.”**

Say: **Jesus must have had a very important reason for coming back to life. Our Bible Point for today tells us that we celebrate Easter because ► JESUS IS ALIVE. Let’s find out more!**

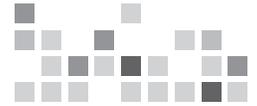
Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What’s so amazing about Jesus coming back to life?**
- **Why is it so important to believe that Jesus is alive today?**

Say: **Jesus was dead, but he came back to life. He beat death! ► JESUS IS ALIVE. When we believe in him, we can live forever with him in heaven. And we can have a relationship with him, the one and only God, here on earth. That’s something to celebrate!**

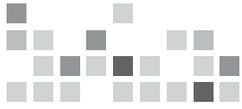


The Empty Tomb Supplies

-
- table
 - blanket
 - Teacher Pack**
 - Wikki Stix
 - Bible Timeline

The Empty Tomb Easy Prep

For a third station, create a tomb by turning a table on its side and covering it with a blanket.



Resurrection Crosses Supplies

Bible
My Bible Fun
art supplies
scissors
Teacher Pack
Wikki Stix

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Resurrection Crosses

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Our Key Verse reminds us why Jesus died on the cross for us and why Easter is so important. Let's look at our Key Verse from John together now.** Open your Bible to John 11:25, and show it to kids. Say: **"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies' " (John 11:25).**

Say: **That means people who believe in Jesus will live forever. Let's say that together!** Lead kids in saying the adapted Key Verse aloud several times: **People who believe in Jesus will live forever (John 11:25).**

Say: **God wants everyone to hear the good news about Jesus. He's alive, and he wants us to live forever with him in heaven!**

Give each child a Lesson 6 My Bible Fun page. Point out the "Resurrection Cross" section. Have kids form new groups of two or three. Set out art supplies. Have kids decorate their crosses and then cut them out. Remind kids that because Jesus is alive, the cross will not have a person on it! Tell kids they may also use their Wikki Stix to decorate their crosses. Kids might use the Wikki Stix to outline their crosses or to spell out the name of Jesus. Let kids use scissors to cut their Wikki Stix, if desired.

Say: **Our Bible Point tells us that we celebrate Easter because ► JESUS IS ALIVE. Jesus said that if you believe in him, you can live forever with him in heaven. That's the truth of Easter.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Tell about why you decorated your cross the way you did.
- Why do you believe in Jesus?
- Tell about someone you want to know and believe in Jesus.

Say: **Jesus hung on the cross and died, but now ► JESUS IS ALIVE. It's wonderful to believe in Jesus because he forgives us and he helps us have a relationship with God.**

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

Say: **Let's think about how ► JESUS IS ALIVE.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Each morning when you rise from your bed, thank Jesus for rising back to life to save you from your sins.**
- **Read Mark 16:1-8 with your family. Tell your family members that Jesus is alive and he wants us to live forever with him in heaven.**
- **Find a rock outside and decorate it with markers. Put it in your room to remind you of the stone that was rolled away from Jesus' tomb.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: **Jesus was betrayed by his friend, hung on a cross, and died. But he came back to life! Let's remember and celebrate that ► JESUS IS ALIVE by following through on our Daily Challenges.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about Jesus coming back to life. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God that Jesus is alive. Have all the kids lie down, and then invite each child to sit up and pray individually to thank Jesus for coming back to life. Pray: **God, you're awesome. You brought Jesus back to life so that we can be forgiven and live in heaven with you forever. Thank you so much. In Jesus' name, amen.**



Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Fun

