



Jesus Appears to Mary

John 20:1-18

First- and second-graders may have a hard time recognizing that Easter is really about Jesus. If they haven't been raised to believe in Jesus, this may be a foreign concept to them. Since they are getting old enough to begin to understand reason and think about the future, you will be able to talk to them about the true meaning of Easter and how it affects them eternally. But since first- and second-graders still don't have a firm understanding of God as a spiritual being, emphasize the facts of the Easter story in as simple a way as possible. Once kids have a firm grasp of what happened, the significance of the empty tomb will grow in their hearts as they grow.



► Bible Point

Jesus is alive.

Key Verse

"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will tell others the good news of Easter.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Who Are You? <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Play a fun guessing game to find out the identities of famous people.		
2 Bible Exploration	Lord, Is That You? <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Interact with Mary Magdalene on the CD, and then sing a song of praise.	Bible, CD player, 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) Teacher Pack: CD, "Mary Sees Jesus" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	
	Empty Tombs <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Make empty tombs to help them tell others that Jesus is alive.	plastic eggs, strips of white cloth ½-inch wide, glue	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

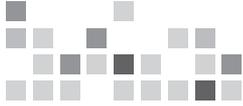




LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>3</p> <p>Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>From My Mouth to My Heart <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Learn the Key Verse, sing a song, and pray.</p>	<p>Bible, My Bible Fun, CD player, markers, 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) Teacher Pack: CD, “Heart, Smile, and Angel” stickers</p> 	<p>Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Fun</p>	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*





1 GETTING STARTED

Who Are You?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

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

Gather everyone together.

Say: **Today we're going to start our class with a guessing game. I want everyone to think of a famous person. It could be someone like Abraham Lincoln or George Washington. Or it could be a modern person such as a sports hero, an actor, or a singer. The class is going to try to guess who your famous person is.**

Once everyone has decided on a famous person, have kids take turns portraying and guessing the identities of those people. Let each child stand while the rest of the kids ask three yes-or-no questions. Then let the class guess who the famous person is. Have kids reveal the famous people if they weren't guessed.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How hard was it to figure out who some of these people were?
- What would've made this game easier?

Say: **In today's Bible story, we'll hear from a woman who didn't recognize Jesus when she saw him. She thought he was the gardener. Jesus had died, and Mary thought his body had been taken away. But in today's story we'll find out that**
► JESUS IS ALIVE. Let's get started!

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Lord, Is That You?

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Turn to John 20:1-18 in your Bible, and show the passage to the class.

Say: **In our Bible story today, we'll meet Mary Magdalene. Mary had been a good friend of Jesus, and she was very sad that Jesus had died.**

Lord, Is That You? Supplies

Bible
CD player
1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson)

Teacher Pack

CD: "The Empty Tomb" (Part 1) (track 6); "The Empty Tomb" (Part 2) (track 7); "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (track 8)
"Mary Sees Jesus" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)





Ask:

- **Have you ever lost a person or a pet that you loved very much? How did you feel?**

Say: **Mary was very sad, and she missed Jesus very much. In today's Bible story, Mary is going to the tomb where they had laid Jesus' body. Let's join up with Mary right now.**

Have kids stand. Cue your CD to "The Empty Tomb" (Part 1) (track 6 on the CD). Explain to kids that the CD will give them instructions throughout the story. Play the segment, and lead kids in the actions suggested on the CD. For example, when the CD says to walk or run, lead the kids in walking and running in place.

After the segment, stop the CD, and have kids form pairs to answer the following questions. After each question, invite partners to share their answers with the rest of the class.

Ask:

- **What do you think Mary thought when she saw that Jesus' body was gone?**
- **How would you feel if someone you loved disappeared?**

Say: **Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and John were amazed that Jesus was gone! They knew he had died on the cross. They knew Jesus' body had been wrapped in the strips of linen they found lying in the tomb. And they knew that a huge stone had been covering the door to the tomb. So they didn't understand how Jesus' body could be gone. Mary Magdalene was sad that Jesus had died. And then when she thought that someone had taken Jesus' body, that made her even sadder. Let's find out the end of the story.**

Play "The Empty Tomb" (Part 2) (track 7 on the CD). After the segment, have kids form new pairs to answer these questions. Again, invite partners to share their answers with the rest of the class.

Ask:

- **How do you think Mary felt when she finally saw Jesus, after first thinking that Jesus was dead and then that someone had taken his body away?**
- **What's the good news of Easter?**

Show the "Mary Sees Jesus" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack). Say: **Mary Magdalene knew that Jesus had died on the cross. She thought she'd never see him again. But now she saw him standing right in front of her, talking to her! Only God could have raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus was alive! And he was talking to Mary Magdalene. She must have been so happy! Jesus, whom she loved, was alive! Mary ran to tell the disciples the good news that Jesus was alive. Let's sing a song to celebrate that wonderful news.**

Cue your CD to "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (track 8 on the CD), and play the song once for kids. Then lead kids in singing along with the song another time or two.





Sing:

 **Christ the Lord is ris'n today! Alleluia!**
All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high! Alleluia!
Sing, O heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King! Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, he all doth save! Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Christ the Lord is ris'n today! Alleluia!
All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high! Alleluia!
Sing, O heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" by Charles Wesley.

Say: **Now let's make something to help us tell others the good news that ► JESUS IS ALIVE.**

Empty Tombs

Empty Tombs Supplies

plastic eggs
 strips of white cloth
 ½-inch wide
 glue

What You'll Do

Say: **Today we're going to make something to help us remember that Jesus rose from the dead and isn't in the tomb anymore but is in heaven with God.**

Give each child a plastic Easter egg and three strips of ½-inch wide white cloth. The strips should be small enough to place inside the egg. Help kids fold the strips of cloth neatly. Then help kids glue or tape the folded strips of cloth inside one end of the egg. Then have kids put the two pieces of their eggs together, closing them.

Say: **Just as Jesus' tomb contained only the strips of cloth his body had been wrapped in, these eggs have only strips of cloth. Take your egg home to show your family how when you open the egg, you see only strips of cloth in it. Then share with your family how Jesus' tomb had only the strips of cloth in it. Jesus wasn't in the tomb anymore—because Jesus is alive!**

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's the good news of Easter?**



Say: **The good news of Easter is that ► JESUS IS ALIVE. Let's take a look at what we should do now that we know the good news of Easter!**



3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

From My Mouth to My Heart

What You'll Do

Have kids turn to the "From My Mouth to My Heart" activity in their My Bible Fun pages. Say: **I want you to draw a picture of yourself. You can add eyes, a nose, ears, and hair, but don't add the mouth yet.**

After kids have finished their self-portraits, open your Bible to the Key Verse, Romans 10:9, and show kids the verse.

Say: **I'm going to read the Key Verse, and I want you to repeat each phrase after me. I'll give you more to add to your picture as we say the verse.** Give one heart sticker and one smile sticker to each child. Tell kids not to put the stickers on their self-portraits yet.

Say: **"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' "**

Have kids repeat after you and add the smile stickers to their pictures.

Say: **"and believe in your heart"**

Have kids repeat after you and add the heart stickers to their pictures.

Say: **"that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."**

Have kids repeat after you. Then have kids repeat the whole verse with you several times.

Cue your CD to "Confess With Your Mouth" (Romans 10:9) (track 3 on the CD), and play the song for the kids. Then lead kids in singing along with the CD several times.

Sing:

**For if you confess,
Confess with your mouth
That Jesus is Lord,
If you believe,
Believe in your heart
That God raised him from the dead...**
(Repeat.)

From My Mouth to My Heart Supplies

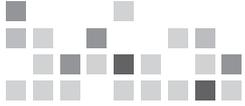
- Bible
- My Bible Fun
- CD player
- markers
- 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson)

- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "Confess With Your Mouth" (Romans 10:9) (track 3)
 - "Heart, Smile, and Angel" stickers

From My Mouth to My Heart Easy Prep

- Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.





(Chorus)

**You will be saved; you will be saved;
you will be saved; o-o-oh.
You will be saved; you will be saved;
you will be saved; o-o-oh.
You will be saved; you will be saved;
you will be saved; o-o-oh.
You will be saved; you will be saved;
you will be saved; o-o-oh.
You will be saved; you will be saved;
you will be saved; oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!**

(Repeat from the beginning; then repeat chorus.)

**Oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!
Oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!**

“Confess With Your Mouth” (Romans 10:9) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What does this verse mean to you?**

Say: **To be saved means to be forgiven for your sins so you can live with God in heaven forever. Our Key Verse tells us that to be saved, all you have to do is say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. And that’s the good news of Easter!**

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:

- **Tell a sibling the good news about Easter, and thank God for raising Jesus from the dead.**
- **Ask an adult to read John 20:1-18 aloud with you. Then talk together about what it would’ve been like to see Jesus after he rose from the dead.**
- **Have an Easter egg hunt with a friend. Then tell your friend the good news about Easter—that Jesus is alive!**

Daily Challenges
Supplies

My Bible Fun





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 kids 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: **Let’s remember that the good news of Easter is that ► JESUS IS ALIVE by following through on our Daily Challenges.**

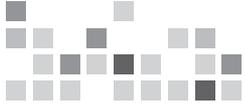
Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how Jesus is alive. 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.





Lyrics

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is ris'n today! Alleluia!
 All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
 Raise your joys and triumphs high! Alleluia!
 Sing, O heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King! Alleluia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
 Dying once, he all doth save! Alleluia!
 Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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 All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
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 Sing, O heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" by Charles Wesley.

Confess With Your Mouth (Romans 10:9)

For if you confess,
 Confess with your mouth
 That Jesus is Lord,
 If you believe,
 Believe in your heart
 That God raised him from the dead...
(Repeat.)

(Chorus)

You will be saved; you will be saved;
 you will be saved; o-o-oh.
 You will be saved; you will be saved;
 you will be saved; o-o-oh.
 You will be saved; you will be saved;
 you will be saved; o-o-oh.
 You will be saved; you will be saved;
 you will be saved; o-o-oh.
 You will be saved; you will be saved;
 you will be saved; oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!
(Repeat from the beginning; then repeat chorus.)

Oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!
 Oh—YOU WILL BE SAVED!!!

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