

# Jesus Comes Back to Life

Matthew 27:27-56; 28:1-10

**Tip for Children’s Ministry Directors**

*If you’re sending this lesson to families, send it as is! If you’re recording a video, either pause for the discussion questions or tell families to pause the video while they share.*

**Bold text** is spoken aloud.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Let’s Praise God	Worship God along with music videos.	Rescue Me <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJes6qZMGBc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJes6qZMGBc</a> I Have Decided to Follow Jesus <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEL0WpeH088">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEL0WpeH088</a>	
Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus is Crucified</b> Explore what happened in Jesus’ crucifixion.	Bibles, four flashlights or candles (phone flashlights work), pencils, paper, blanket, table, tape, unsweetened drink or sour or bitter snack (you could add a little salt to lukewarm water)	
Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Jesus is Alive</b> Learn what Jesus’ death and resurrection accomplished.	Bibles, blanket, table, paper, markers	

► **Bible Point**

Jesus is alive.  
.....

**Key Verse**

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”  
(Galatians 2:20).  
.....

**Weaving Faith Into Life**

Kids will learn that Jesus lives within us.  
.....

# Let's Praise God!

Play these music videos and have kids sing and do the motions along with the videos.

Rescue Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJes6qZMGBc>

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sELOWpeH088>

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Jesus Is Crucified

#### What You'll Do

The lights will need to be dim. Everyone will find Matthew 27:27-49 in their Bibles. Using the light from a flashlight or candle, readers will take turns reading the three parts, as follows.

The first reader will read Matthew 27:27-31. Everyone will use sharpened pencils to poke themselves gently on their hands. Caution kids to be careful while holding the pencils and to refrain from poking anyone except themselves.

Discuss:

- **What feelings or thoughts do you have about Jesus' humiliation at the hands of the soldiers?**
- **Tell about a time you felt humiliated.**

Have one person blow out one candle or turn off one flashlight. Have a reader read aloud Matthew 27:32-40. Everyone will try the sour or bitter drink or snack.

Say: **The drink offered to Jesus was probably much more bitter and sour than what you tasted.**

Observe a few moments of silence.

Then have one person blow out a second candle or turn off a flashlight. Have a reader read aloud Matthew 27:41-44.

Say: **Sit quietly for a moment and think about things people say to one another that are hurtful. Think of specific words people have said that hurt you, and replay them in your head.**

Sit quietly and think for a moment.

Discuss:

- **What feelings or thoughts do you have about the insults hurled at Jesus by the various people in the passage?**
- **Tell about a time you felt made fun of, insulted, or hurt by words.**

Have someone blow out the third candle or turn off the third flashlight. A reader will then read aloud Matthew 27:45-49.

Discuss:

- **What feelings or thoughts do you have about the sense of abandonment and hopelessness Jesus experienced while on the cross?**
- **Tell about a time you felt abandoned or hopeless.**

Have someone blow out the last candle or turn off the last flashlight.

Say: **Our sin keeps us separated from God. Jesus died on the cross so we could have forgiveness for sins and have a relationship with God. Through Jesus, we now have a friendship with God. Let's look at that now.**

The room lights will be turned on now. Have someone hold up the blanket and have another person read aloud Matthew 27:50-51.

Say: **Imagine that God is on the other side of this blanket, like the curtain in the Temple. This blanket is like how sin separates us from the holiness of God—we can't get close to him or see him or understand him because our sin keeps us away from him.**

Put the blanket down on a table and spread it across the top. Have everyone take some paper and a pencil, and have them each write or draw one sin they have committed recently.

Have everyone attach their papers to the blanket with masking tape. Allow them to tape them facedown if they don't want others to see them.

Say: **Each of these papers represents just one sin. But Jesus died for all the sins of every person who's ever lived. Jesus tore through the barrier between us and God, as only the son of God can.**

Someone will lift the blanket off the table and hold it up. Another person will read aloud Matthew 27:50-54. When the reader says, "Surely he was the Son of God," the blanket-holder will drop the blanket.

## **Talk With Kids**

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to experience an example of the way Jesus tears through the barrier of sin to bring us closer to God?**
- **How is that like or unlike what happened when the Temple curtain was torn?**
- **What are ways we can show respect for what Jesus did for us on the cross?**

Say: **It must've been awful for Jesus to go through what he did that day. But he did it for us—for you and for me. Jesus was willing to die on the cross so we could be forgiven for our sins. Because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, the separation from God is gone. We can go to God now because Jesus paid the price for our sins. Isn't that great news? But our passage doesn't end with Jesus' death—because ► JESUS IS ALIVE!**

## Jesus is Alive

### What You'll Do

The lights need to be dimmed again. Say: **After Jesus was crucified, the Roman governor ordered that his dead body be sealed in a tomb. Let's create a "tomb" here to understand a little of what that meant.**

Everyone will work together to create a tomb by draping the blanket over a table and turning off the lights. (Remove the papers from it first.)

Then kids will crawl through the tomb. As they do, an adult will turn on all the lights in the room so that it is very bright when they come out.

Say: **The day Jesus was crucified, a lot of people said and did very cruel things to him. But a few people stayed faithful to him. Let's look at some of Jesus' followers after they found out that Jesus was alive, which meant that Jesus was who he said he was—the Son of God!**

Read Matthew 28:1-10 aloud while kids write descriptions or draw pictures of the faith in Jesus. Have kids share what they wrote or drew with one another.

### Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to be in our "tomb"?**
- **What was it like to come out of our "tomb"?**
- **Tell about a time you went through a dark time in life, but in the end everything worked out.**
- **What were some of the ways people in this Bible passage showed or didn't show faith in Jesus?**
- **How does it change your life and faith to know that Jesus is alive?**

Say: **When Jesus came back to life from death, everything changed for all of God's creation. Trusting in God's power over death is a central part of what it means to follow Jesus. The women shared the great news that ► JESUS IS ALIVE. The news changed their lives and the lives of many others!**