

March 31

9:00am & 11:00am

Three and Four Year Olds

JESUS WAS RAISED

(MATTHEW 27–28; MARK 15–16; LUKE 23–24; JOHN 19–20)

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything. Jesus rescues us from sin and promises that we will live forever with Him.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over everything.

KEY PASSAGE: I heard every creature ... say, Blessing and honor and glory and power be to the one seated on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever! Revelation 5:13

Key Passage Phrase: Everyone will worship God forever. Revelation 5:13

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Show a cell phone and ask preschoolers what it is and why people use it.

SAY Cell phones like this one make it easy to share information with one another. In Bible times when Jesus and His disciples were on earth, there were no cell phones. So when something important happened, they had to go tell others in person. In today's story, a woman rushes to the disciples to tell them something very important. Let's learn more.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY *Our big picture question is, **How is Jesus the perfect King?** Do you remember the answer? **Jesus perfectly rules over everything.** Mary discovered that the big stone had been moved away from the entrance of the tomb. Jesus rose from the dead and is still alive today! He is the perfect King!*

4. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Revelation 5:13. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Select one preschooler to be "king" or "queen" and invite that preschooler to choose how the entire group will say the key passage. She may choose to lead them to say it slowly, quickly, in a whisper voice, in a robot voice, or another way. Guide her to say the passage, phrase by a phrase, leading the others to repeat each phrase. Repeat the activity, selecting another king or queen to guide the group to repeat the verse. Continue until each preschooler has a chance to be king or queen. Children may choose to repeat another child's way of saying the passage during his turn to lead the group.

SAY You each led the group as king or queen. Our key passage tells us that Jesus is the true King of kings and Lord of lords seated on the throne. He deserves blessing, glory, honor, and power.

5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Review today's Bible story by asking the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)

2. Who are the three people in today's story that went to the tomb where Jesus was buried? (*Mary, Peter, and John*)
3. When Mary, Peter, and John went to the tomb, why was Jesus' body not there? (*He rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything.*)
4. How do you feel knowing that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive? (*Answers may vary, but most preschoolers will feel happy that Jesus is alive and will want to worship and obey Him as King of everything.*)
5. **How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over everything.**

SAY *On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, Jesus' friend Mary went to the tomb. Mary saw that the big stone had been moved away from the entrance. Mary ran to find Peter and John. Peter and John ran to the tomb. John looked inside and saw linen cloths lying there. Then Peter went inside the tomb and saw the cloths too. John believed that Jesus was alive. Then John and Peter went home. Mary went back to the tomb and cried. She saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Him. She thought the man was a gardener. She knew it was Jesus when He said her name. Jesus sent her to tell the other disciples, and she told them, 'I have seen the Lord!' Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything. Jesus rescues us from sin and promises that we will live forever with Him.*

6. PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

SAY *We praise You, Jesus, for rising from the dead! You died in our place for our sin, but three days later, You rose from the dead! You are the King of everything. You are alive today and rule and reign over all!*

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE AS FEW AS ONE ACTIVITY OR USE ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES)

GO AND COME BACK

Stand in the center of a large room. Invite preschoolers to huddle around close to you. Instruct them to go to the edges of the room when you say, "Go!" and to come back to you when you say, "Come back!" Repeat, saying various ways they should move such as walk slowly, walk heel-to-toe, take baby steps, and take large steps. Continue play as long as preschoolers are interested.

SAY *You all did a great job of going and coming back. When Mary saw that the big stone had been moved away from the entrance of the tomb, she ran to find Peter and John. Peter and John ran to the tomb. John looked inside and saw linen cloths lying there. Then Peter went inside and saw the cloths too. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything. When we choose to follow Jesus, He rescues us from sin and promises that we will live forever with Him.*

MOVE IN DIFFERENT WAYS

Give directions to the class to move around the room. Include walking, running in place, jumping, hopping, skipping, twirling around, tiptoeing and other movements. Ask the children how they think Mary moved as she went to the tomb, when she went to find Peter and John, when she saw Jesus, and when she went to tell the disciples she had seen Jesus.

SAY *We can move fast and we can move slowly. We can move when we are sad and when we are excited. When Mary went to the tomb and went to find Peter and John she was sad. When she saw Jesus and went to tell the disciples Jesus was alive she was excited! It is good news that God rose Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything!*

GUESS WHAT I SEE

Describe an item in the classroom or clothing a child is wearing. Say something such as, "I see a child wearing a striped shirt and blue jeans." or "I see an item on a shelf made of wood that we use to build things like a

house or church.” Select one preschooler to tell another child the described item she sees described. Give additional hints if the child needs more clues. If needed, suggest she ask a friend to help her guess the item described. Repeat the game and suggest children take turns describing and guessing the items.

SAY *You described, guessed, and told friends things you saw. On the third day after Jesus died, Jesus’ friend Mary went to the tomb. She saw that the big stone had been moved away. She ran to tell Peter and John that Jesus’ body was not in tomb. Peter and John ran to the tomb. Peter and John looked inside and saw the cloths; John believed that Jesus was alive. Mary went back to the tomb and saw Jesus standing there. Mary went to tell the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord!’*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, emphasize the The Christ Connection.

SAY *Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23–24; John 19–20. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

JESUS WAS RAISED

STORYTELLING TIPS

Create the scene: On one side of the teaching area, lay some linen cloths on the ground, with one of them folded up to show what the empty tomb may have looked like.

Play it out: Invite children to play out the roles of Mary, Peter, John, Jesus, and any other people in the story as desired. Direct the children on what to do as you tell the story.

On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, Jesus’ friend Mary went to the tomb early in the morning. **Mary saw that the big stone had been moved away from the entrance. Mary ran to find Peter and John.** “**They have taken the Lord** out of the tomb, and I do not know where His body is!” **she said.**

Peter and John ran to the tomb. John looked inside and saw linen cloths lying there. Then Peter went inside the tomb and saw the cloths too. The cloth that had been around Jesus’ head was folded up. **John believed that Jesus was alive. Then John and Peter went home.**

Mary went back to the tomb and cried. She looked inside and saw two angels. “Why are you crying?” they asked.

“They’ve taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they put Him,” Mary said. Then **Mary turned and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Him. She thought the man was a gardener.**

“Why are you crying?” Jesus asked. “Who are you looking for?”

Mary said, “Sir, if you have taken away Jesus, tell me where He is and I will go get Him.”

Jesus said, “Mary.”

Mary looked at Him and said, “Teacher!”

Jesus sent Mary to tell the other disciples that He was going back to the

Father. Mary did what Jesus said, and she told the disciples, “I have seen the Lord!”

While this happened, some of the soldiers who were guarding the tomb went into the city and told the religious leaders what happened. The leaders gave the soldiers money and told them to lie about what they saw. They told them to say that Jesus’ disciples stole His body while they were sleeping. So the soldiers took the money and told everyone that Jesus never rose from the dead.

Christ Connection: Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He rose from the dead and is alive! God raised Jesus from the dead to be the King over everything. Jesus rescues us from sin and promises that we will live forever with Him.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

March 31
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds

JESUS WAS RAISED

(MATTHEW 27–28; MARK 15–16; LUKE 23–24; JOHN 19–20)

CHRIST CONNECTION: We deserve to die because of sin, but Jesus died for us.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus rules over everything.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Everyone will worship God forever. Revelation 5:13

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY: FIND THE STONE

Bring in a large stone. Instruct the toddlers to close their eyes while you hide the stone. Once you count to three, encourage the toddlers to open their eyes. Allow the toddlers to work together to find the stone. Review the Bible story.

SAY *In our story, Mary, Peter, and John were looking for Jesus, but what had been rolled away from Jesus' tomb? That's right! The big stone had been rolled away! The tomb was empty! Jesus was not there! Jesus is alive!*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Say the key passage phrase in different voices (whisper, underwater, shouting, etc) Ask the children how they think Mary may have sounded when she ran back to tell everyone the good news that Jesus was alive.

SAY *Our Christ connection reminds us that God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything. We can tell everyone the good news of Jesus: He is alive!*

ACTIVITIES

SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of "Deep and Wide":

"Everyone, everyone

Will worship God forevermore.

Everyone, everyone

Will worship God forevermore!"

SAY *Our key passage phrase says 'Everyone will worship God forever.' On the third day, God made Jesus alive. God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the main points below:

On the third day, God made Jesus alive again.

John saw the empty tomb and believed.

Mary saw Jesus, and ran to tell the good news: Jesus is alive!

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22 and tell the following Bible story.

JESUS WAS RAISED

On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, Jesus' friend Mary went to the tomb where Jesus' body was. She brought sweet-smelling spices to put on Jesus' body. When Mary got close to Jesus' tomb, she saw that the big stone had been rolled away. Mary ran to get Peter and John. They ran to the tomb. Peter and John found the cloth that was wrapped around Jesus, but Jesus was not there! John believed that Jesus was alive. Mary was crying, and someone asked her what was wrong. She turned around and saw Jesus! Jesus sent Mary to tell the other friends the good news: Jesus is alive!

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.