



Jesus is Alive – Resurrection

Matthew 28:1-10

God Statement: Jesus Is Our Hope

KEY VERSE: “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8b, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

MAKE: Letters to Compassion Child

(To be done during check-in, prior to Explore Activity)

As kids check-in, invite them to write letters to your Compassion Child to go with the Missions focus for this month – Compassion International.

Supplies: blank paper, markers/crayons

Directions: Encourage kids to color/decorate and write a special note for your Compassion child. Kids can write a Bible verse or a fun joke or share about themselves. Give Woodmen Kids staff member the finished letters.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: Jesus is Our Hope

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is our Hope.

SAY:

What very important holiday did we just celebrate last weekend? Easter, that's right! Why do we celebrate Easter? Turn to the person next to you and tell them why you think we celebrate Easter. *Let a few kids share with the group after they turn to their neighbor.*

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Resurrection is a big word, but it just means that Jesus rose from the dead after 3 days. Isn't that amazing? Jesus came back to life and defeated death! Jesus is alive, and Jesus is our hope!

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Roll the Stone Away!

Supplies: roll of masking/painters tape, silver yarn balls

Say: *Today, we're learning about one of the most exciting parts of the Big God Story – Jesus' resurrection! Before we do that, we're going to play a relay game called Roll the Stone Away!*

Directions: Tape two long lines on the table or floor using masking tape. Have children get into two teams and line up at the end of one line. One child takes the ball (stone) and has to blow it all the way down the line. When they reach the end, they pick it up, run it back, and have the next child go. The first team to finish wins.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

BIBLE CHALLENGE**Host**

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

Spiritual Discipline – Fasting

Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:

Throughout the Old and New Testament, the Bible teaches that there are times we should give up something important to focus our hearts on prayer and listening to God.

Although for children, this may not look like fasting from food, the idea of giving up something important to us in order to devote that time to God is important to our spiritual walk. Encourage kids to talk to their families and think of things they can “give up” to focus on God more – i.e. video games, watching tv, etc.

As the kids take on the challenge, encourage them to share with their class in small group time how their family is learning about and engaging with the idea of fasting.

******After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Worship” slide.******

WORSHIP & CHLOE’S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE’S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe’s Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

****** After Worship & Chloe’s Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides.******

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says “hot” or “cold” to give them clues if they’re getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8b, NIRV)**

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: EMPTY BOX (EMPTY TOMB)

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

What is this? Does anyone know? It looks like a box but what’s in the box? That’s right. It’s an **empty box**! Why would we have an empty box today? What do you think? Let’s find out more. Do you know what time it is? It’s time for us to dive into God’s Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. ****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK’S LESSON: Jesus is Alive – Resurrection

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

**** After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God. ****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through this time.

Supplies: dried beans, ziploc bags, paper towels, water/spray bottle of water, sharpie

OPTIONAL - Prepare Ahead: place wet paper towels in ziploc bags to make it easier for kids to just add beans during the activity

Jesus died for us. He was killed on the cross and buried. But did He stay dead? No way, He sure did not! He rose from the grave and He is alive today – loving us and helping us.

Pass out 3 beans to each kid.

Look at your bean seeds. Do you think they are dead or alive? They sure look dead. They are dry and crunchy. They are stiff and cold. Could there be any life in them?

When Jesus rose from the dead, when He became alive – that was a miracle! Once people and animals are dead, their bodies stay dead. Their spirits stay alive and if they believe in Jesus they will go to Heaven. Jesus is special and unique. He is God's son. His body resurrected and became alive again.

We're going to plant these bean seeds as an example to remind us that Jesus was dead and now He is alive and that gives us hope!

Have each teacher/assistant help their kids make their Resurrection beans.

1. **Write your name on the bag.**
2. **Fold your paper towel so it will fit in your bag.**
3. **Spray the paper towel so it is very damp but not drippy.**
4. **Put the damp paper towel in your bag.**
5. **Add your seeds. Be sure you can see them when looking at your bag.**
6. **Zip the top.**

When you get home, you can tape the bag to a sunny window or put it close to a window. Check it every morning. In a few days you should see some sprouts beginning to grow!

Jesus was dead after He was crucified. He was buried in the ground for 3 days and then He was alive! That's such an amazing thing to celebrate. Let these beans remind you that Jesus is Alive!

Close time in prayer.

*****After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Compassion & Offering slides.*****

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the

impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Compassion Give a Bible

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

Say: We spend time every week talking about our Compassion child that we sponsor! He/she is so important to us because they are a child of God, just like you and me, and we get to be a part of helping them feel loved by God! We have a special missions focus we want to challenge each of you to engage with. We’re going to work together to raise money to give 50 Bibles to kids in need! Let’s check out this video about Compassion to learn about what it means to give a Bible to our friends across the world.

Play Compassion video in PowerPoint.

Say: Each Bible through Compassion International is just \$10. That means to get to 50 Bibles, we need to raise \$500 dollars over the next 4 weeks at all of our campuses. Do you think we can do it? How can you earn/raise money to donate? ***Are there things you can give up, like we’ve been talking about with our fasting challenge, to raise money to help give a Bible? Maybe that new toy you really wanted?***

Let’s pray for our Compassion child and for every child that could receive a Bible because of your donations!

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, may you always remember that Jesus is our hope!! Jesus was dead and now He is alive! He did all of this just for you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story** (Matthew 28:1-10).
2. **Who were Mary Magdalene and other Mary looking for at the tomb? (Jesus). Was He in the tomb?** (no)
3. **Who did they find instead?** (An Angel!)
4. **What happened to him?** (He had risen! Just like He had promised).
5. **Wow! This is such beautiful news. Jesus died for us and rose again! God loves us so much; He sent His own son to die on the cross for us. Turn to your neighbor and share how this makes you feel.**

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

MAKE – Resurrection Mini Book!

Supplies: mini books, markers or crayons

Directions: Pass out a mini book to each child. Have them pick a buddy or two and read the mini books together. Children can color and read the mini books with their buddies for the remainder of class. This can be sent home with children if time does not allow for it to be done in class.

Say: *The greatest story of all time is the story of Easter! Without Jesus' death and resurrection, we would not be able to have a relationship with Him. Jesus is our hope! We're going to make these mini books so that we always have a way to remember and share the amazing story of Easter with others!*

CHECK-OUT

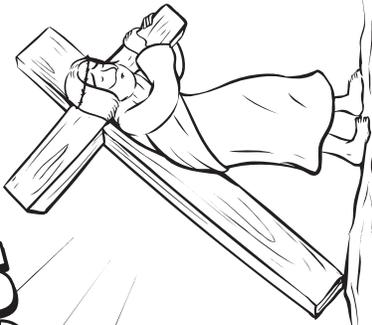
Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.

Jesus' Death and Resurrection

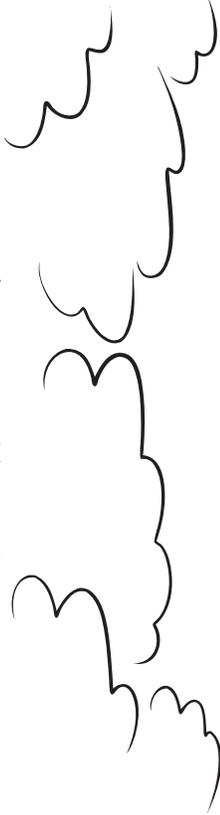
10 MINUTES OF QUALITY TIME



Jesus was arrested and given to the Romans.



Jesus died on a cross to atone for humankind's sins.



When the women went to visit Jesus' grave, his body was gone and an angel told them Jesus was alive.

