

Lesson 34 Tell Everyone That Jesus Lives!

Choose from the options listed below to follow Adventure Trails that lead to Jesus:

Discovery Trails

- TEACHER FEATURE** (5 min.)
Just a Good Trick?
- BIBLE STORY** (10 min.)
Jesus Died and Rose Again (Elementary)
Jesus Came Back to Life (Preschool)
- NOAH'S PARK PUPPETS** (5 min.)
Not Giving Up
- BIBLE MEMORY** (5 min.)
Balloon Batting

Worship Trails

- SINGING PRAISES TO JESUS** (10 min.)
- SHARE AND PRAYER** (5 min.)
Good News Crosses

Wildlife Trails

- SNACK SHACK** (5 min.)
Jesus Lives
- CAMPSITE CAPERS** (15 min.)
Spread the News Tag (Elementary)
Find the Cloth (Preschool)
- COZY CAVE CRAFTS** (15 min.)
Rolling Stone Scene (Elementary)
Resurrection Stick Puppets (Preschool)

Happy Trails

- CLOSING ACTIVITIES** (5 min.)
- OVERTIME ACTIVITIES** (as needed)

believe. Have you seen magic tricks that are hard to believe? Let the kids briefly share some tricks they've seen. A magic trick isn't "real"—it's just a trick. The magician tricks our eyes and ears to not see what he's really doing. Some magicians are so good that their tricks seem impossible!

Back in Bible times, something impossible happened and many people thought it was just a trick. Show the children the blank white paper and the red cross. Jesus was put on a cross and died. Hold the red cross on the white paper. The people watched Him die and knew He was dead. But then a few days later, they saw something they couldn't believe.

You may think this is a red cross, but after just a few seconds you will see this cross will turn to a greenish color. Do you believe me? Let the kids tell you that it is impossible. Ok, let me show you that I can make you see a red cross turn greenish. Stare at this paper until I tell you to stop. Have the children stare intently at the red cross for 45 seconds as you hold it still on the white paper. Remind them to not look away. At the end of the 45 seconds, quickly take the red cross away but continue to have them stare at the paper. They will see a greenish cross in the spot where the red cross had been. You were just staring at a red cross. What did you see when I pulled it away? Let the kids answer. Do the experiment again so all can experience the effect.

You had been looking at a red cross, but when I pulled it away you saw a greenish cross. This was a trick, because the red and white colors played a trick on your brain. The people who saw Jesus alive after He had died saw something real—it wasn't a trick!

If you are separating the elementary and preschool children for the Bible story, have your Park Patrol members lead them to the appropriate class area at this time. If you are keeping them together, be sure to use the Elementary Bible Story to teach the lesson.

DISCOVERY TRAILS

TEACHER FEATURE

Just a Good Trick?

Supplies: Red construction paper (9" x 12"), white construction paper (12" x 18"), scissors

Preparation: Cut a large cross from the red construction paper.

Sometimes we see things that are hard to

ELEMENTARY BIBLE STORY

Jesus Died and Rose Again

(Matthew 27:33-38, 57-61; 28:1-8)

Supplies: Bible, paper, marker

Preparation: On a large sheet of paper, print the word “cry” with a sad face. On another sheet, print “cheer” with a happy face.

Show the children where the Bible story is found, in Matthew 27. Give the “cry” and “cheer” signs to two helpers from the Park Patrol to hold up during the Bible story at your signal. Have the children practice “crying” and “cheering” on cue.

The same people who had cheered Jesus as their King, (Hold up “cheer” sign.) were now watching as He hung on a cross. (Hold up “cry.”) Jesus hadn’t done anything wrong, yet the people who hated Him ordered Him to die. (Cry.) Even though Jesus had the power to save Himself, He instead showed His love for us by dying on the cross for our sins. Jesus’ followers were sad to know He had died. (Cry.) A kind man named Joseph took Jesus’ body and put it in the tomb he had bought for himself. It was like a cave. A huge stone was rolled in front of the tomb as a door. Soldiers were told to guard the tomb so that Jesus’ followers wouldn’t steal His body and then pretend Jesus was alive. (Cry.)

Early in the morning on the third day, two women named Mary came to the tomb. All of a sudden, the ground began to shake. The heavy stone rolled away! The guards fainted, and both of the Marys were afraid. (Cry.) An angel appeared on the stone and told the women not to be afraid. The angel explained that Jesus wasn’t in the tomb, but had come back to life, just as He had said. (Cheer.) The angel also gave the women a job to do. They were to go quickly and tell Jesus’ followers that He was alive! (Cheer.) Jesus showed His love for us in the most powerful way: He came back to life! He proved that He had power over death and sin. (Cheer.)

What happened that we could feel sad or cry about? (Jesus let Himself be killed; He was buried in a

cave-tomb.) What happened in this story that we could cheer about? (Jesus came back to life! The angel told the women the good news; they went and told Jesus’ followers.)

PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY

Jesus Came Back to Life

(Matthew 27:33-38, 57-61; 28:1-8)

Supplies: Bible, set of stick puppets (preschool craft for Lesson 34), rock

Preparation: Make a set of stick puppets from page GC•74 of the *Craft Book*. You will need the Women, the Angel, and Jesus’ Helpers.

Our story today comes from the book of the Bible called Matthew. Show the children Matthew 27 in your Bible.

Some people did a very sad thing. They didn’t like Jesus. They didn’t believe that Jesus was God’s Son. The people had Jesus put on a cross. Later that day, Jesus died.

Jesus’ friends and helpers were very sad. One of Jesus’ friends, named Joseph, took Jesus’ body off the cross and wrapped it carefully in cloth. Then he laid Jesus’ body in a cave. A big rock was used as a door to the cave. (Set the rock in the middle of the circle.) Some women, who were also Jesus’ friends, saw where Joseph had put Jesus’ body. They went home to get spices and perfume ready to put on Jesus’ body.

Jesus died on a Friday. The next day was Saturday. The day after that was Sunday. On Sunday morning, the women were going to put the spices and perfume on Jesus’ body. The women went to the cave. (“Walk” the women puppet to the rock.) When they got there, the big, rock door had been rolled away! The women looked in the cave, but Jesus’ body was gone! Where was He?

(Hold the angel puppet next to the women.) An angel came and talked to the women. “Don’t be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He was dead. But now He came alive again, just as He told you He would. Come look where His body was. Then go tell His helpers and friends that Jesus is alive!”



The women looked into the cave. It was just as the angel said. So the women left to go tell the news to Jesus' helpers. (*Set aside the angel. Pick up the puppet of Jesus' helpers. "Walk" the women toward the helpers.*)

Jesus showed His love by dying on the cross. He died for all the bad things we do. But because He became alive again, Jesus is always with us.

What happened to Jesus? (*He died on a cross.*)
What did the women find? (*Jesus wasn't dead anymore. He was alive again.*) **Let's be happy that Jesus is alive!**

NOAH'S PARK PUPPETS

Not Giving Up

Today's puppet skit is found on page GP-73 of the Noah's Park *Puppet Skits Book*. When the Park Patrol is ready, lead the children to the puppet stage and begin the skit. Have the younger children sit on the floor in front so they can easily see. Encourage Park Patrol members who are not a part of the skit to sit among the children.

BIBLE MEMORY

Balloon Batting

Supplies: Balloon (inflated)

For today's memory verse, choose a Bible verse that corresponds to the lesson theme or that was used in today's Sunday school lesson.

Practice the verse with the class several times by saying each phrase and having the children repeat it after you. Then have the children stand in a large circle. One child gently hits the balloon across the circle, saying the first word of the verse. The child who hits the balloon next says the second word of the verse. The third child says the third word, and so on. Encourage the children to bat the balloon to children who have not yet had a turn so that all may take part.

When the whole verse has been said, play again, this time using phrases of the verse instead of individual words. Repeat the game as time permits. When finished, pop the balloon and have the class recite the verse together.

Jesus didn't have to come to earth and die. He could have stayed in heaven with God. But because Jesus loved us so much, He did come to earth and allow Himself to be put to death. We can be happy that the story didn't end there. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! He will always be alive and always with us. That's good news that we can tell others! Let's praise Jesus now.



SINGING PRAISES TO JESUS

Supplies: Noah's Park CD and CD player

Project the words to the Unit Song, "Be a Friend," on a screen or blank wall so the children can read along as they sing. You might have a Park Patrol helper point to each line on the screen as it is being sung. As time allows, sing more songs that praise Jesus for being alive and for His love.

SHARE AND PRAYER

Good News Crosses

Supplies: Paper, scissors, pencil

Preparation: Cut out cross shapes, 3" tall, from paper, one for each child.

Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb. It looked like the story of Jesus had ended, but instead He rose from the dead! Hearing that Jesus was alive was probably the best news that Jesus' followers had ever heard. They went and told everybody!

We also can tell people the good news that Jesus is alive. Who would you like to share this good news with? Let volunteers name people.

Pass out a cross and a pencil to each child. **Write down the name of at least one person you will tell this great news to this week. Then during our prayer time, you can ask Jesus to help you to tell that person the news that Jesus is alive.** Allow a few minutes for the Park Patrol to circulate and help the children with writing. Also, have children

put their own names on the back of their crosses. That will help them identify their cross when it's time to gather their things to leave.

Gather the children in a large prayer circle. Begin the prayer time by thanking Jesus for being alive and asking Him to help the children joyfully tell others. Also ask God to prepare the hearts of the people to hear the news about Jesus. Go around the circle letting each child name in prayer the person they will tell about Jesus. If time permits, you may also let the children pray for any personal requests they have.

After the prayer time, collect the Good News Crosses until the end of class.

WILDLIFE TRAILS



Let the Park Patrol guide the preschoolers and elementary-age kids to their separate areas for crafts, games, and snacks. You might let them use Noah's Park puppets to tell the children what they will do next. If you prefer, you can keep all the children together until after the snack time. Then have the Park Patrol lead the children to their areas.

SNACK SHACK

Jesus Lives

A lesson-related snack idea is on page GS-73 of the Noah's Park *Snacks and Games Book*. As the children spell and eat, you might have various Noah's Park puppets visit and ask what the big news is today. (*Jesus is alive!*)

CAMPSITE CAPERS

Spread the News Tag (Elementary) *Find the Cloth (Preschool)*

The elementary children will play the game "Spread the News Tag." It will work best in a large open area, or if the weather is nice may be played outside. The preschoolers will be playing "Find the Cloth." Directions for the games are on pages GS-73 and GS-74 in the Noah's Park *Snacks and Games Book*.

COZY CAVE CRAFTS

Rolling Stone Scene (Elementary) *Resurrection Stick Puppets (Pre.)*

The preschoolers will make "Resurrection Stick Puppets" to help them retell the Bible story. Patterns and directions are on page GC-74 of the *Craft Book*. The elementary craft, "Rolling Stone Scene" is found on page GC-73 in the *Craft Book*. Be sure the children have their names on their crafts, and set them in a designated spot until it is time to go home.

HAPPY TRAILS



CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Before class ends, allow a few minutes for all the children to take part in straightening up the room. Let the Park Patrol use the Noah's Park puppets to encourage the children in their work. When the cleanup is finished, gather the children into one large group on the floor.

Pair up the children, with one preschooler and one elementary-age child in each pair. Have the children use their crafts to retell today's Bible story to each other. This can be good practice for them in telling someone this week about Jesus.

Be sure the children have their crafts and Good News Crosses as they go home.

OVERTIME ACTIVITIES

If you have time left while waiting for parents to pick up their children, you may practice the Bible memory verse or let the children make Easter cards. You can provide 9" x 6" pieces of construction paper in a variety of springtime colors. Let the children use crayons or markers to color a nice picture on the front and put Easter greetings on the inside. Park Patrol members can help with the spelling as needed. If you have decorative stickers available, the children can also use them to help decorate their cards.

