



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for April 12, 2009

Released on April 8, 2009

"Jesus Lives for Us" (Easter)

Devotional Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-26

Background Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

Lesson Text: Luke 24:1-12

Memory Verse:

"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:5-6)

Luke 24:1-12

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that Jesus' rising again shows that the penalty for our sin has been paid in full.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. The angel announced that Jesus, who had died, had come back to life.
2. Jesus' living again tells us that God accepted His dying in our place.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, you will need pictures of three crosses (not close-up), Joseph, a tomb, a small group of women, two angels in the tomb, several disciples, and Peter.

For Telling How to Live, you will need a picture of one empty cross.

For Helping to Remember, provide crayons and sheets of yellow poster board cut in half lengthwise.

For the Lesson Activity, make a copy of the word search for each of the students.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 30

Place: Jerusalem

Easter is a wonderful season and a special time in which we remember the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. In last week's lesson, we were reminded how Jesus died for us. Jesus died on the cross – finishing what He came into the world to do. But the miraculous story does not end with His death!

The old chorus "He Who Was Dead Is Alive Again" told of two truths basic to Christianity: by His death, Jesus paid in full the penalty for our sin, and the Father showed He accepted that payment by bringing Him back to life. Jesus has paid our debt in full. We are required only to believe what He has done. And that is good news.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Ruthie was telling Dad and Mom about a story Mrs. Bell had read to the class that day.

"It started off sad," Ruthie said. "But the ending was happy."

"Hmm," her mother said. "Do you know why a story like that makes me think of the first Easter?"

Right away Ruthie smiled a big smile. "I know! The beginning was sad because Jesus had died. But the ending was happy because He became alive again. That is better than Mrs. Bell's story, though, because that is true."

TELLING THE LESSON:

The beginning of the Easter account was sad. (Show crosses.) Jesus' friends had watched as Jesus died on the cross. Why would such a sad thing happen? At that time they did not know it was so that He could die for them — and for us too. They just knew for sure that Jesus had died.

A friend named Joseph got permission to take Jesus down from the cross. (Show Joseph.) Joseph and his helpers carefully wrapped Him in strips of cloth. Then they put Him in a little stone room dug out in the side of a hill. (Show tomb.) They rolled a big stone in front as a door. Rooms like that were often made for people who had died. Such a place was called a grave or a tomb.

Some women who had been Jesus' friends for a long time stood watching the men do this. (Show women.) Then they went home and prepared some good-smelling perfumes to pour on Jesus' cloth wrappings. How sad they were! Jesus was dead.

Just as the sun was coming up on the first day of the week, the women took their perfume and sadly started back to the tomb. As they walked, they were worried. They talked about the heavy stone the men had put in front of the tomb. Who would roll away the stone for them? How would they get inside?

The women did not need to worry, though. The big stone was already rolled back! (Show tomb.) They could go right in, and they did.

But, oh! What had happened? The wrappings were all there, but Jesus was not. Their friend Jesus was gone!

All at once two men in shining clothes were standing in the tomb, two angels. (Show angels.) The women were very afraid.

"Why are you looking for someone who is alive in a place for dead people?" the angels asked. "He is not here. He is alive again. Remember what He told you? He said bad men would kill Him, but after three days He would be alive again."

Now the women did remember. They turned around and went back into the city. Perhaps they hurried too, for they had wonderful news to tell. They found Jesus' friends. (Show disciples.) They told them, "Jesus is not in the tomb! Some angels said He is alive!"

What do you suppose the friends said? They said such news was just too good to be true.

Two of them, though, Peter and John ran to see for themselves (John 20:3). Peter stooped down and looked inside the tomb. (Show Peter.) The wrappings were there, but Jesus was gone just as the women had said. Peter went home thinking and thinking. Could it really be true? Was Jesus really alive again?

Of course He was. What the angels had said was true: "He is not here. He has risen." Jesus is not on the cross today. Jesus is not in the grave today, either. Jesus is in heaven today. He lives for you and me! What a happy ending for something that had such a sad beginning!

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

I wonder whether you remember what was put on Jesus when He was on the cross. (Show cross.) Our sins - yours and mine - were put on Him. Jesus came alive again and is in heaven, but no sin is in God's heaven. Our badness, which was put on Jesus, is gone. It was all paid for by His death on the cross. Jesus did it. And God is pleased with what He did.

Are you pleased with what Jesus did for you? Do you believe He gave His life for you when He died? Jesus once said, "The one who believes on Me has everlasting life" (see John 6:47).

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Help the children fold back two inches on one end of their poster board so that their artwork will stand up. On the front have them draw a large tomb and print "ALIVE AGAIN" on the open doorway.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:5-6)

You have played hide-and-seek, so you know that "seek" means "to look for." The women were looking for Jesus. They looked in the tomb, because that is where they thought He would be. A tomb was for people who had died, and Jesus had died. But an angel told them Jesus would not be in a place like that anymore since He was alive again. He still is!

CONCLUSION:

When we are faced with the news of the resurrection of Jesus, we can either believe or disbelieve it. For some of us it may take a little time, but our lesson this week shows us that without the resurrection of Jesus, there is no hope of new life for anyone.

Through the resurrection we have new life. It is our duty as Christian believers to share the good news of the resurrection with all we meet. We are called to spread the good news to the world! Jesus lives for us!

PRAYER:

Father God, we thank You for Jesus, our risen Lord. Thank You that He died for us and is alive again. Help us to tell this good news to others, in Jesus' name, amen.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "[Jesus Helps Us Tell About Him](#)" and focuses on being witnesses for Christ. Study Luke 24:44-53.

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The Word For You Today, Atlanta, GA.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books.

LESSON ACTIVITY
"Jesus Lives for Us"
(Luke 24:1-12)

Find each of these key words from the lesson:

SPICES

WOMEN

ALIVE AGAIN

STONE

EASTER

RESURRECTION

JESUS

DISCIPLES

ANGELS

CRUCIFIED

THIRD DAY

RISEN

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SOLUTION TO LESSON ACTIVITY

"Jesus Lives for Us"
(Luke 24:1-12)

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