



Jesus Cares for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

Lesson Aim: To see when we are sad, Jesus is sad for us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as Lord

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44

What He Has Done: Jesus wept when He saw their sorrow.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37a

Unit 3: Jesus as Lord

| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
|----|---|---|--|
| 11 | Jesus and the Children, Mark 10:13-16 | Jesus told the disciples to let the children come to Him. | To know children are important to Jesus. He wants them to come to Him. |
| 12 | Jesus Cares for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44 | Jesus wept when He saw their sorrow. | To see when we are sad, Jesus is sad for us. |
| 13 | Riding into Jerusalem, Mark 11:1-10 | Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. | To praise Jesus as they did when He rode into Jerusalem. |
| 14 | The Miracle of Easter, Matthew 28:1-7 | God raised Lord Jesus to life after He died for us. | To learn God raised Jesus to life and Jesus lives forever. |
| 15 | Appearing on the Shore, John 21:1-14 | Jesus appeared on the shore to His followers. | To show Jesus proved He was alive after God raised Him to life. |
| 16 | Jesus Goes Up to Heaven, Luke 24:50-53 | Jesus blessed His disciples and was lifted up to heaven. | To know where Jesus is. |

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 116. Please join us in praying, "Lord Jesus, thank You for the compassion You show us. Help the children see how You sympathize with their pain and loss. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Jesus cares for you. Young children need a sense of belonging. They want to know they are cared for and safe. The story of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus teaches them that they are always in Jesus' care, no matter what happens.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|-------------|----------|--|---|
| THE WELCOME | | Welcome | Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart |
| | | Coloring Center: Jesus Brings Lazarus to life | Coloring pages of Jesus and Lazarus, crayons |
| | | Play-Dough Center: Pray to Jesus | Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools |
| | | Puppet Center: Sad Friends | 3-4 people puppets |
| | | Dramatic Play Center: Mirror Game | None, optional: mirror |
| | | Preparing for Worship | None |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. | Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love" Additional Song Suggestions: "Jesus Loves the Little Children" |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | <i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 12 |
| THE WORD | Up to 10 | Watch the Word: John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44 | Teacher's Bible with bookmark at John 11:43b Visual: Picture of the Bible story, Happy Face/Sad Face Stick (craft stick with a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other) |
| THE WAY | Up to 25 | Craft: Lazarus, Come Out! | Sturdy gray and white paper, 1-inch x 12-inch strips of gauze (or white cloth or tissue paper), paper or plastic cup, tape, crayons or markers |
| | | Game: Jesus Cares about You | Happy Face/Sad Face Stick from THE WORD |
| | | Game: "Lazarus, Come Out!" | Crepe paper, tissue paper, or strips of cloth as Lazarus' burial wrap, optional: small tent or oversized box, Bible times costumes |
| | | Snack: Jesus' Caring Heart | Heart-shaped cookies or cookies with heart-shaped decorations |
| | Final 5 | Final Five | Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 12 |
| GOT TIME? | Up to 10 | Say & Do: John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44 | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Memory Verse Circle | None |
| | Up to 10 | Game: I See Someone Jesus Loves | Binoculars (toy or real) or spy glass (paper rolled into a tube) |
| | Up to 10 | Story Time | Any story about Jesus and Lazarus or about Jesus caring for us |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as Lord

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **When you look at your heart stamp (or sticker), remember Jesus cares for you.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: JESUS BRINGS LAZARUS TO LIFE

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Jesus and Lazarus, crayons

DO

Children color while talking about the story.

TALK ABOUT

Jesus' friends Mary and Martha were sad because their brother Lazarus had died. Jesus cared for His friends and He was sad, too. Mary and Martha believed Jesus could heal their brother, and He did! It was a miracle. Do you remember what a miracle is? (An amazing surprise only God can do.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: PRAY TO JESUS

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children make sad faces with the play-dough while discussing how Jesus cares when we are sad.

TALK ABOUT

Show me your sad face. Can you make a sad face with your play-dough? Are you ever sad? (Children respond.) **What made you sad?** (Children respond.) **When you are sad, what can you do?** (Children respond.) **Jesus cares when you are sad. He wants you to pray and talk to Him. What could we pray for right now?** Lead the children in a brief prayer.

THE WELCOME *continued...*

PUPPET CENTER: SAD FRIENDS

SUPPLIES

3-4 people puppets

DO

Use the puppets to act out situations where a friend is sad. Ask the children how they could help.

TALK ABOUT

Have you ever helped a friend who was sad? (Children respond.) **Why were they sad?** (Children respond.) **How did you help them?** (Children respond.) **Let's act it out!**

Sample situations:

- **Wendy is sad because she broke her favorite toy. What could you do for Wendy?**
- **Sam is sad because no one will play with him. What could you do for Sam?**
- **Diane is sad because she fell and hurt her knee. What could you do for Diane?**

DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: MIRROR GAME

SUPPLIES

None, optional: mirror

DO

Take turns mirroring each other's facial motions. If you have a mirror, children can see the faces they make.

TALK ABOUT

Today, we will hear a story that reminds us that Jesus loves us and when we are sad, Jesus is sad for us. This is my sad face. Show your sad face. **Can you show me your sad face?** Encourage each child to show their sad face. **When I am happy, I smile.** Show your happy face. **Now, you show me your happy face.** Encourage each child to show their happy face. **Let's see if you can mirror (or copy) my motions.** Choose different motions for children to copy such as a sleepy face, silly face, angry face, or scared face. **Now, I want you to make a face and we will copy you.** Allow children to take turns making faces.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| "Love | (love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest. |
| the Lord your God | (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash. |
| with all your heart." | The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart. |
| Matthew 22:37a | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as Lord

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



How do we talk to Jesus? (Prayer.) Let's talk with Him right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for caring for us when we are happy and when we are sad. Help us to remember You are always with us. Amen.**



Are you ready for Praise Time? (Children respond.) Let's praise God! Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God."



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37a. Let's review our Bible Memory Verse together with the motions. Practice a few times.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| "Love | (love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest. |
| the Lord your God | (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash. |
| with all your heart." | The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart. |
| Matthew 22:37a | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |



Another way we can show Jesus we love Him is to give our offerings to His church. Let's do that now. Sing: "We Love" while collecting the offering.



Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know what our story is today. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 12.



Just as Jesus cared for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, He cares for you. His love is wide and long and high and deep. It never ends. As we sing this song, let's see if we can stretch our arms out to show HOW WIDE the Lord's love is. Let's stretch our arms in front of us to show HOW LONG His love lasts. Let's reach up high to show HOW HIGH His love reaches. Let's bend way down low to show HOW LOW His love can go. Sing: "How Wide?"



Jesus cares for His friends

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at John 11:43b, picture of the Bible story, Happy Face/Sad Face Stick (craft stick with a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other)

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| With my eyes on my teacher; | Point to eyes. |
| My mouth quiet as can be, | Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign. |
| I will listen to hear, | Cup hand around ear. |
| How God loves you and me. | Hug self, point to others, and then self. |

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Hold up the craft stick with the happy face showing. **Who can show me your happy face?** Encourage each child to show you their happy face. Mention them by name and compliment them on their great smiles. **Who can show me your silly face?** Compliment their silly faces. **What do you look like when you are sad?** Hold up the craft stick with the sad face showing. If you have time, ask them what things make them sad and what cheers them up. **Jesus cares for you when you are sad.**

Today, we will hear why Jesus' friends were sad and what He did to show them He cared. Let's listen. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to John 11:43b.



WATCH THE WORD: JOHN 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Martha and Mary were so sad**
- **When their brother Lazarus died.**
- **When Jesus saw tears in their eyes,**
- **It made Him sad and so He cried.**

- **He said, "Take the burial stone away."**
- **Then He looked up and began to pray.**
- **And in a loud voice, all heard Him shout,**
- **"Lazarus, come out, come out!"**

- **Out Lazarus came – he was alive!**
- **A miracle right before their eyes!**
- **The Lord who cares for every friend**
- **Brought Lazarus back to life again.**

Jesus cried when He saw how sad his friends Mary and Martha were. He cared about their feelings. Do you think Jesus cares about our feelings? (Yes.)



Jesus cares for you

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: "LAZARUS, COME OUT!"

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Jesus calling Lazarus out of the tomb.

Supplies: Sturdy gray and white paper, 1-inch x 12-inch strips of gauze (or white cloth or tissue paper), paper or plastic cup, tape, crayons or markers

Prepare: Round the upper corners of a 3-inch x 4-inch sheet of grey paper to look like a cave-like tomb. On a 1-inch x 2 ½-inch label or strip of white paper, print: **"Lazarus, come out!" John 11:43.** On white paper, draw and cut out a 6-inch tall Lazarus. Cut a 12-inch strip of gauze.

When Lazarus died, his body was laid to rest in a special tomb which was like a cave with a large stone for a door. When Jesus went to the tomb, they rolled away the stone. What did Jesus say in a loud voice? ("Lazarus, come out!")

Directions:

1. Color Lazarus.
2. Wrap the cutout of Lazarus in the 12-inch strip of gauze.
3. Secure the wrap with tape.
4. Tape the gray paper tomb cutout to the top of the open end of a plastic or paper cup.
5. Place Lazarus inside the tomb.
6. Attach the label to the side of the cup.

Craft Discussion:

- **Let's act out the story using your craft.** Show children how to put Lazarus in the tomb.
- **How do you think Jesus, Martha, and Mary felt when Lazarus was in the tomb?** (Children respond.)
- **Let's say in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"** Bring Lazarus out of the tomb.
- **How do you think his friends and sisters felt to see Lazarus come out alive?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: JESUS CARES ABOUT YOU

Purpose: For children to realize how Jesus cares about their feelings.

Supplies: Happy Face/Sad Face Stick from THE WORD

Jesus loved his friends. How do you think he felt when He saw Mary and Martha were so sad? (Sad.) How do you think Jesus feels when you are very sad? (Sad.) Jesus cares for you.

Directions:

1. Children sit or stand in a circle. One child stands in the middle holding the Happy Face/Sad Face Stick with the sad face showing.
2. Lead the children in chanting or singing the following words to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

**When you're sad. He's sad, too.
Jesus loves and cares for you.**

3. Child in the center turns the Happy Face/Sad Face Stick to the happy face and says, "**Jesus cares for me!**"
4. Each child takes a turn in the center.

GAME: LAZARUS, COME OUT!

Purpose: To help the children remember the story of Jesus raising Lazarus to life by acting it out.

Supplies: Crepe paper, tissue paper, or strips of cloth as Lazarus' burial wrap, optional: small tent or oversized box, Bible times costumes

Teacher Tip: Bathrobes or adult size T-shirts with rope belts can be used for costumes.

Jesus did mighty miracles to help people see and believe He was the Lord. A miracle is an amazing surprise only God can do. Let's act out our Bible story and remember Jesus' mighty miracle.

Directions:

1. Make a tomb with a tent, oversized box, or a circle of chairs with one chair to push away for the stone.
2. Assign four children the roles of Jesus, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. The remaining children are their sad friends. If available, dress all children in simple Bible times costumes.
3. Read the Bible Story from THE WORD, directing children to act out their roles.
4. If time allows, play again. Assign different children to the various roles.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: JESUS' CARING HEART

Purpose: Children eat a heart-shaped snack to represent the heart of Jesus caring for each child.

Snack Suggestion: Heart-shaped cookies or cookies with heart-shaped decorations

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **How does it feel to know the Lord who does mighty miracles is sad when you are sad?** (Children respond.)
 - **Did the Lord Jesus care about His friends' feelings when they were sad? (Yes.) How can you show your friends you care for them when they are sad?** (Children respond.)
 - **When your friends are sad, show them you care for them. Tell them Jesus cares for them, too.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| "Love | (love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest. |
| the Lord your God | (Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash. |
| with all your heart." | The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart. |
| Matthew 22:37a | Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible. |

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: JOHN 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Mary and Martha were so sad** (Point to eyes.)
- **When their brother Lazarus died.** (Rub eyes, as if crying.)
- **When Jesus saw tears in their eyes,** (Rub eyes, as if crying.)
- **It made Him sad and so He cried.** (Rub eyes, as if crying.)

- **He said, "Take the burial stone away."** (Point, as if giving an order.)
- **Then He looked up and began to pray.** (Fold hands, as if praying.)
- **And in a loud voice, all heard Him shout,** (Cup hand at ear to hear.)
- **"Lazarus, come out, come out!"** (Beckon motion with hand.)

- **Out Lazarus came – he was alive!** (Open mouth in surprise.)
- **A miracle right before their eyes!** (Point to eyes.)
- **The Lord who cares for every friend** (Hug self.)
- **Brought Lazarus back to life again.** (Clap hands to celebrate.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37a

GAME: MEMORY VERSE CIRCLE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

You are important to Jesus and He loves you very much. He wants you to love Him with all your heart (your feelings), **and with all your soul** (the part of you that will live forever), **and with all your mind** (your thoughts).

Directions:

1. Stand in a circle with the children and hold hands.
2. Walk in a circle as you say the verse together, taking one step with each word.
"Love the Lord your God with all your heart."
3. Play again, but walk in the opposite direction.
4. Play several times, doing different motions each time. Motions may include: jumping in place, clapping, hopping, etc.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: I SEE SOMEONE JESUS LOVES

Purpose: To see Jesus loves everyone.

Supplies: Binoculars (toy or real) or spy glass (paper rolled into a tube)

You are important to Jesus; He loves each and every one of you. I'm going to use my binoculars (or spy glass) to see who Jesus loves. Let's see if you can guess who I see.

Directions:

1. Scan the room with the binoculars. In your mind, choose one of the children without revealing who you have chosen to the children.
2. Say, "**I spy with my little eye someone Jesus loves. It's a girl wearing a pink dress. Do you know who it is?** Allow the children guess until they guess correctly. You may choose to give a second hint, if needed.
3. **That's right! Jesus loves child's name.**
4. Play several times.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about Jesus and Lazarus, or about Jesus caring for us.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 3, Lesson 12: Jesus Cares for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

PONDER! Jesus was sad when His friends Mary and Martha were sad (John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44). How do you feel when your friends are sad? Jesus cares for you so much that when you are sad, He is sad, too.

PRAY! Pray this prayer praising God for three new things each day this week: "Lord Jesus, thank You for understanding our feelings and caring for us. Amen."

PLAY! Create a "Cheer up" card for someone you know who is sad. Draw a picture and ask a family member to write, "Jesus cares for you!"

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Love
the Lord your God

with all your heart."
Matthew 22:37a

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

The middle (touch) finger taps the chest over the heart.
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.