



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.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "He cares for you."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
 and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

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 and 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."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "He cares for you."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	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 Am with You" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love"
		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: Tissue or handkerchief to symbolize wiping tears
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	None
		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
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 12 Color This Story: "Lazarus, Come Out!"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44	None
	Up to 10	Game: Heart Hop	Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape
	Up to 10	Game: Lots of Love Tango	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
	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.



He cares for you **THE 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. Today's Whisper Verse is "He cares for you."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "He cares for you."

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

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- "He"** Point directly upward to indicate Jesus in heaven.
- "cares (for)"** Form sign for letter "K" (thumb between index and middle finger) with each hand. In this position, move hands together in a circular motion as in to keep forever.
- "you."** The index finger of the right hand points forward as the arm moves forward from body at waist level.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "He cares for you," 1 Peter 5:7b. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as Lord

THE WORSHIP

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.

It’s Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus as the Lord who cares for us. That reminds me of today’s Whisper Verse, “He cares for you.” Let’s try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: “He cares for you.” Include sign language.



Jesus cares for us because He loves us. We want to show Him our love. One way we can do that is to sing praises to Him. Sing: “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God.”

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.

In today’s story, we will see how Jesus cared when his friends Martha and Mary were sad. He cried when He saw how sad they were. Jesus cared for His friends so much that He did a mighty miracle to help all His friends believe in Him. Let’s sing praises to the Lord who does mighty miracles to help us believe in Him. Sing: “He Is Mighty to Save.”



Let’s see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. 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

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.

Last time, we heard how Jesus told His followers to let the children come to Him. Today, we will hear how Jesus cared for Martha and Mary when they were sad. 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 points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a handkerchief or tissue for wiping tears. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **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.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it to each other: "He cares for you." Include sign language or hand motions.



What did Jesus say to Lazarus when the stone was rolled away? ("Lazarus, come out!") Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read John 11:43b from the teacher's Bible: "Jesus said in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"



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: None

Why were Martha and Mary sad? (Children respond.) **They were sad because their brother Lazarus had died. 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.)

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle. One child stands in the middle.
2. Child shares about a time he or she was very sad.
3. Remaining children chant or sing the following to the tune of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star:
**When you were sad, Jesus knew.
He was sad; He cares for you!**
4. Each child takes a turn in the center.

Why do you think Jesus cried when His friends were sad? (Children respond.) **It is because He cared about their feelings. Our Whisper verse from the Bible tells us so. Let's say it together: "He cares for you."** Include motions.

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. Mary and Martha's brother Lazarus had died. They were very sad. All of their friends were sad too. What did Jesus say in a loud voice when the stone was rolled away? ("Lazarus, come out!") **Let's say that together in our strong loud voices.** Everyone shouts together, "Lazarus, come out!"

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 WATCH THE WORD poem, 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 snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other 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. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("He cares for you.") **Let's say that promise to each other.** Include sign language or hand motions.
 - **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.**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Lazarus, Come Out!" craft. Use it to tell someone what Jesus said to Lazarus.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Think about ways you can show others this week you care for them.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Lazarus, Come Out!" Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God," as children color.



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 acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **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 and with all your soul
and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

GAME: HEART HOP

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

Supplies: Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape

Directions:

1. Tape the paper heart shapes in a large circle on the floor.
2. Children stand on every other heart.
3. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse. Have children repeat each word after you.
4. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse again. This time, children turn to their right and hop from one heart to the next heart on each word.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LOTS OF LOVE TANGO

Purpose: To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

Do you love Jesus, the Lord? (Children respond.) **Jesus wants you to love Him with every part of your body—from the top of your head to the tips of your toes! Look at everyone around you. They are your neighbors! Wave to your neighbors! God wants you to love everyone around you, too!**

Directions:

1. Help children find partners. Partners stand together.
2. Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song and lead the following motions:
 - "You shall love the Lord your God,** (Point up to God in heaven.)
With all your heart and with all your soul (Pat sides of body from head to toes.)
and with all your mind.
 - Love your neighbor as yourself—** (Hug partner.)
the best commandments you'll find!"
 - Praise Time chorus. (Hop, clap, or dance to the rhythm of the music.)



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 11: Jesus and the Children

PONDER! Read John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44 with your family. What did Jesus say to Lazarus? Talk about the way Jesus was sad when His friends Mary and Martha were sad. How do you feel when your friends are sad? The Lord 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 on the card, "He cares for you." Give the card to someone who is sad.

Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse: Matthew 22:37

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."