



Raising Lazarus

Lesson Aim: To understand why Jesus raised Lazarus;
to know Jesus will one day resurrect
all who believe in Him.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: Jesus as Lord

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 11:3-6, 14-15, 21-27, 32-36, 40-45

What He has done: Jesus called Lazarus from out of the tomb.

Key Verse: John 11:25-26

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Job 19:25, 27

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be praise and honor
and glory and power for ever and ever."

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns." Revelation 5:13b; 19:6b

| Unit 3: Jesus as Lord | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
| 11 | Banishing An Evil Spirit, Luke 4:31-37 | Jesus commanded the evil spirit to come out. | To know Jesus is the highest authority and power. |
| 12 | Raising Lazarus, John 11:3-6, 14-15, 21-27, 32-36, 40-45 | Jesus called Lazarus from out of the tomb. | To understand why Jesus raised Lazarus; to know He will one day resurrect all who believe in Him. |
| 13 | Riding into Jerusalem, Luke 19:28-42 | Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. | To see when Jesus is the Lord of our lives, we can trust Him and give to Him whatever He asks of us. |
| 14 | The Miracle of Easter, Matthew 27:50-51, 54-66; 28:1-9; John 20:5-7 | Jesus died on the cross and God raised Him from the dead. | To understand the Easter miracles and acknowledge the eyewitnesses. |
| 15 | Appearing on the Shore, John 21:1-12 | Jesus appeared on the shore to His followers. | To expect and recognize Jesus' presence and activity in our daily lives. |
| 16 | Ascending into Heaven, Luke 24:50-53; Mark 16:19-20 | Jesus blessed His disciples and ascended into heaven. | To know Jesus is now in heaven blessing us and working with us to build His kingdom. |

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 116. Please join us in praying, "Lord, we thank You for the compassion You show us. We give You praise for giving us life and the promise of eternal life with You. Amen."

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| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|-------------|----------|---|---|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 15 | Meet & Greet | None |
| | | Game: What's Different? | None |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org | Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "To Him Who Sits on the Throne" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Am the Way" "Neither Death nor Life" "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God |
| | | Worship Scripture Reading: Revelation 5:11-14 | Bible |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | Lesson 12 Bonzai Brothers script or storybook |
| THE WORD | Up to 10 | Read the Word: John 11:3-6, 14-15, 21-27, 32-36, 40-45 | Map—Bethany, Israel (near Jerusalem), Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters |
| THE WAY | Up to 25 | Discussion | Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters |
| | | Christ Connection: Job 19:25, 27 | |
| | | Golden Bowl | |
| GOT TIME? | Final 5 | Final Five Minutes | Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards |
| | Up to 10 | Snack: Lazarus Wraps | Treasure Treat—Eternity ring (any ring or unbroken circle), Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "To Him Who Sits on the Throne," CD player |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Relay Wrap | Strips of flour tortilla wrapped around a cheese stick or Fruit Roll-Ups |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Find That Miracle | Floor tape; 4 rolls of crepe paper, toilet paper, or rulers pre-wrapped in long strips of linen |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Find That Miracle | Bibles, lined paper, paper, pencils, poster board or dry erase board, marker |
| | Up to 10 | Craft: I Will See God | Bibles, lined paper, paper, pencils, poster board or dry erase board, marker |
| | Up to 10 | Craft: I Will See God | Cardboard, colorful sturdy paper, cellophane, craft decorations (glitter, foam shapes, jewels stickers, fabric scraps, tissue paper, etc.), pencils, scissors, glue or glue sticks, crayons or markers |
| | Up to 10 | Bible Memory Verse Activity: "Sit on the Throne" Musical Chairs | Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "To Him Who Sits on the Throne," CD player, chairs, large red cloth or sheet |
| | Up to 10 | Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Bop | Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster |
| | Up to 5 | Bible Timeline Review | Timeline |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite miracle?

GAME: WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

Purpose: To introduce the idea that what we see in heaven will be different than what we see on earth.

Supplies: None

**We know that what we will see in heaven will be different than what we see here on earth.
What do you think we will see in heaven?** (Children respond.)

Let's play a game where the object is to notice the little differences we may see in each other now.

Directions:

1. Divide the kids into two teams.
2. Give Team B 30 seconds to memorize what Team A is wearing.
3. Take Team A into another room or have Team B face the wall.
4. Team A switches 4 items of clothing or accessories with one another. Note: If Team B is in the room, then Team A needs to do this quietly.
5. Team B then must try to guess all the switches that have been made in a minute or less.
6. Add up how many items Team B guessed correctly.
7. Have teams switch places and play again.
8. The team with the most correct answers wins.
9. Play again, if time allows.

Teacher Tip: Adjust the number of items to be switched or the amount of time the second team gets to guess to fit the age group of your children.



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 music as children move to the designated area.

The Seven Stars of Lent

If this lesson is taught during the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter), we recommend the Seven Stars of Lent activity located at ResourceWell.org under Children - Other Resources. Choose one star for each week of the Lent season.



Today, we worship Jesus as the Lord of life. Jesus did miracles to help us believe in Him. Everyone who believes in Him will be raised from the dead and will live with God forever. In the book of Revelation, John describes a scene in heaven in which everyone is worshiping Jesus as the Lamb of God and the Redeemer. He sees more than one hundred million angels there. Imagine that! Sing Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "To Him Who Sits on the Throne."

You may choose to sing songs that focus on eternal life.



Read Revelation 5:11-14.



As we give our offering today, let's ask God to use it to help others know who the Lord Jesus is. Sing: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" as the offering is collected.



Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 12.



Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned Jesus banished an evil spirit from the man in the synagogue. Today, we will learn about a miracle that took place in the small town of Bethany, just two miles from Jerusalem. If a map of Ancient Israel is available, point to Bethany, near Jerusalem.

Jesus' friends, Martha and Mary, sent word to Jesus that their brother, Lazarus, was very ill. Lazarus was also one of Jesus' close friends.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: John 11:3-6, 14-15, 21-27, 32-36, 40-45. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: John 11:25-26.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

As we read about what happened that day in Bethany, listen for the word, resurrection. The word resurrection means, "bringing to life." Eternal life means "life forever." Read John 11:3-6, 14-15, 21-27.

Then, Jesus went with them to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. He told them to take away the stone. They knew Lazarus had been dead for four whole days, but they believed in Jesus, so they obeyed Him and took away the stone. Let's find out what happened next. Read John 11:32-36, 40-45.



Jesus gives life forever to believers

THE WAY

What did Mary and Martha do when their brother was sick? (Sent word to Jesus.) **How do you think they felt when Jesus did not come as quickly as they had hoped?** (Children respond.) **What did Mary and Martha tell Jesus?** (If He had been there, Lazarus would not have died.) **Have you ever been disappointed in God's timing in answering your prayers?** (Children respond.)

Jesus knew his close friend Lazarus had died. Why did Jesus tell the disciples He was glad this happened? (He knew they might believe after they saw Him raise Lazarus from the dead.)

Jesus said, that by raising Lazarus, God's Son would be glorified, which means praised and honored. What did Jesus mean by this? (Everyone would see He had the power to raise people from the dead.) **How do you think Lazarus' death and resurrection changed his sisters' lives for the better?** (Children respond.) **What did many of the Jews, who had come to comfort Mary, do after seeing this miracle?** (They put their faith in Jesus.)

Jesus told Martha the way to have life forever. Listen carefully as I read what He said to her. Imagine Jesus is saying these words to you. Read John 11:25-26. What will happen to us if we believe in Jesus? (Even if we die, we will not die.) **Even if our bodies die, Jesus will give life forever to the souls of believers. One day, Jesus will resurrect (bring to life) all who believe in Him and take them up to heaven to live close with Him forever. After explaining this, Jesus asked Martha, "Do you believe this?" What did Martha say?** ("Yes, You are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.") **What would you say if Jesus asked you, "Do you believe this?"** (Children respond.)

The Jewish people believed God would send someone into the world on the last day to raise all believers up to heaven to live forever with God. Martha believed this. What do you think Jesus meant when He said, "I am the resurrection and the life"? (Children respond.) **Jesus is the way we have resurrection and life forever. Jesus is the Christ, the one God sent to bring us life forever with Him.**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Over 1000 years before Jesus explained the resurrection to Martha, a man named Job described the future day when the Lord would come and raise him up to heaven. He called the Lord, his Redeemer. At that time, Job did not know the Redeemer he was waiting for would be named Jesus.



FIND IT FIRST > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Job 19:25, 27. Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read Job 19:25, 27.**

What did Job know about his Redeemer? (He lived. In the end, He would stand upon the earth.) **One day, when Jesus has raised up everyone who believes in Him, then we will see Him with our own eyes, and we will live with Him forever. What do you think it will be like when we are taken to heaven?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is an eternity ring. Eternity means time without end. What is special about a ring or circle shape? (It has no end.) Jesus promises that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life—a life that never ends. Wear your ring to help you remember Jesus' promise and use it to tell others about Jesus' promise to give eternal life to all who believe in Him.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 12 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus at the tomb calling, "Lazarus, come out." The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "To Him Who Sits on the Throne," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: LAZARUS WRAPS

Purpose: Children will eat a snack wrap while discussing the end of the story of Jesus raising Lazarus.

Snack Suggestion: Strips of flour tortilla wrapped around a cheese stick or Fruit Roll-Ups

How does John describe Lazarus' grave clothes? ("His hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.") **As we eat our wraps, imagine what it would have been like to unwrap Lazarus after Jesus raised him from the dead.**

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What do you think Mary and Martha would have told Lazarus as they unwrapped him from his grave clothes?"**

GAME: RELAY WRAP

Purpose: Children wrap and unwrap their relay team members in cloth or tissue to celebrate the unwrapping of Lazarus' grave clothes when Jesus raised him from the dead.

Supplies: Floor tape; 4 rolls of crepe paper, toilet paper, or rulers pre-wrapped with long strips of linen

Prepare: Use floor tape or chalk to mark start and finish lines at opposite ends of the play area.

When Jesus raised Lazarus, he came out of the tomb wearing grave clothes. His hands and feet were wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth was wrapped around his face. What did Jesus tell the others to do with Lazarus? ("Take off the grave clothes and let him go.") **Let's play a game celebrating the day Lazarus' friends helped him unwrap from his grave clothes.**

Directions:

1. Divide children into teams of 3-5 players. Give each team a roll of paper/linen. Teams stand behind the start line.
2. Each team chooses a child to be Lazarus.
3. On your signal, the teams wrap their Lazarus with the of paper/linen.
4. When Lazarus is wrapped in the entire roll, he or she runs to the finish line and then back to his or her team.
5. The team unwraps Lazarus and rolls the paper/linen back onto its holder.
6. The team presents the roll to the teacher or designated judge for approval.
7. Once the roll is approved, the team races to cross the finish line.
8. The first team to cross the finish line, wins.

Limited space? Eliminate the running. Teams compete to see who can wrap, unwrap, and roll the grave clothes back on their holder.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: FIND THAT MIRACLE!

Purpose: Children learn to locate and report God's miracles.

Supplies: Bibles, paper, pencils, poster board or dry erase board, marker

Preparation: Display the Scripture references below on poster board or a dry erase board.

Genesis 7:1-5, 10

Exodus 14:21-28

Exodus 17:5-6

Numbers 22:27-28

Matthew 14:25-27

Acts 2:1-4

Teacher's Tip: If time is limited, give each team a different scripture to locate and read aloud.

By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus was able to show the people watching that He has power that is stronger than death. He can give life. What do you think the people thought when they saw the life-giving power of Jesus? (Children respond.) **God has done many amazing things that have shown His power. Let's play a game where we discover some of the amazing things God has done.**

Directions:

1. Form teams of three to five children. Give each team a Bible, a piece of paper, and a pencil.
2. Ask teams to choose a scribe to write their answers and a reporter to share their answers.
3. Give the teams time to locate each scripture and write a brief answer as to what amazing thing happened in that verse.
 - Genesis 7:1-5, 10: God flooded the earth and saved Noah, his family, and two of each animal.
 - Exodus 14:21-28: God divided a big sea into two with dry land down the middle.
 - Exodus 17:5-6: God made water come out of a dry rock.
 - Numbers 22:27-28: God made a donkey talk to the man riding it.
 - Matthew 14:25-27: Jesus walked on water.
 - Acts 2:1-4: God caused the disciples to speak in different languages they did not know.
4. After the teams are finished, ask the reporters to share their team's answers.

CRAFT: I WILL SEE GOD

Purpose: Children will make a pair of eyeglasses to remember all who are resurrected will see God.

Supplies: Cardboard, colorful sturdy paper, cellophane, craft decorations (glitter, foam shapes, jewels stickers, fabric scraps, tissue paper, etc.), pencils, scissors, glue or glue sticks, crayons or markers

Prepare: From cardboard, create templates the children can trace in the shape of eyeglasses. From cellophane, cut oval shapes that will completely cover the inside of each eye opening.

Optional: Cut out a pair of eyeglasses for each child instead of creating templates.

In the book of Job, Job writes about what will happen when those who believe in Jesus, the Redeemer are resurrected. Who did Job say that he would see with his own eyes? (God.) **What do you think God looks like?** (Children respond.) **Let's make some glasses to remind us that if you believe in Jesus, then one day you will see God with your own eyes.**

Directions:

1. Using a template, trace and cut out a pair of eye glasses onto colorful sturdy paper.
2. Glue or tape colored cellophane ovals on the backside of the eye openings.
3. Decorate the eyeglasses.
4. Bend and crease each side before trying on the glasses.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be praise and honor
and glory and power for ever and ever."

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns." Revelation 5:13b; 19:6b

GAME: "SIT ON THE THRONE" MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: Children will give examples of how we can give praise, honor, and glory to Jesus or an example of His power.

Supplies: Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "To Him Who Sits on the Throne," CD player, chairs, large red cloth or sheet

Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the book of Revelation. It tells us that the Lord God Almighty, who is seated on the throne in heaven, is the one who deserves all the praise, honor, glory, and power. Let's play a version of musical chairs in which we share examples of Jesus' power or ways we can give praise, honor, and glory to Him.

Directions:

1. Place chairs (one per child) back-to-back in a line.
2. Drape the red cloth over one chair to represent Jesus' throne.
3. Play the Bible Memory Verse as the children walk in a line around the chairs.
4. Stop the music periodically.
5. When the music stops, each child sits in the nearest chair as quickly as possible.
6. The child sitting on the throne gives an example of a way to praise, honor, and glorify Jesus (sing, pray, tell others about Him, serve others, love others, etc.) or an example of His power (creating the earth, making the sun, calming the sea, miracles of healing, etc.).
7. Have all children stand and shout, **"Hallelujah, for the Lord God Almighty reigns!"**
8. Place the red cloth on a different chair and play again.

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE BOP

Purpose: Children will memorize the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Display Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Repeat the Bible Memory Verse several times together.
3. Toss the balloon into the air reciting the first three words of the Bible Memory Verse.
4. Each child who "bops" the balloon must say the next three words of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Each round is complete when the Bible Memory Verse is completed.

Teacher Tip: Children may help each other remember the words so the balloon never falls.

Competitive Version: Form two teams in two separate circles. The first team to complete the Bible Memory Verse without the balloon touching the ground is the winning team.

Timed Version: Time each round. Challenge children to achieve a faster time each round.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part One studies the miracles of Jesus, which took place during His public ministry (Circa 30-33 A.D.). This list is not chronological, as the Bible does not give a definitive order of the miracles. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Healing the Ten Men (Circa 30-33 A.D.) The ten men had a skin disease called leprosy. What did they ask Jesus to do? (Heal them.) How many men did Jesus heal that day? (Ten.) How many men returned to thank Jesus? (One.)

Banishing An Evil Spirit (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Who did the evil spirit say Jesus was? ("The Holy One of God".) When the evil spirit obeyed Jesus, the crowd said, "With authority and power He gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" What did the crowd do after seeing this? (They were amazed. They spread the news.)

Raising Lazarus (Circa 30-33 A.D.) What did Jesus tell the people to do when He went to Lazarus' tomb? (Roll away the stone.) What happened when Jesus called, "Lazarus, come out"? (Lazarus walked out of the tomb alive.)

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Miracles of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.
Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

The Miracles of Jesus: (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Changing Water into Wine > Filling the Nets > Calming the Storm > Healing Jairus' Daughter > Feeding the Five Thousand > Healing the Centurion's Servant > Healing the Paralyzed Man > Healing the Sick Woman > Healing the Deaf and Mute Man > Healing the Ten Men > Banishing an Evil Spirit > Saving the Official's Son > Walking on Water > Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind > Raising Lazarus > Riding into Jerusalem > The Miracle of Easter > Appearing to the Disciples > Appearing to Thomas > Appearing on the Shore > Ascending into Heaven