



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 3, Lesson 14

The Miracle of Easter

Lesson Aim: To understand the Easter miracles and acknowledge the eyewitnesses.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite Easter miracle?

GAME: Roll the Stone Away

THE WORSHIP JESUS AS LORD

Read Worship Scripture: John 3:16

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook.

THE WORD JESUS DIED; GOD RAISED HIM TO LIFE

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey's colt.

Point to Jerusalem. **In Jerusalem, Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and was raised from the dead so we might have life forever close to God. Those are the two miracles we celebrate each Easter. As I read, listen closely to see how many eyewitnesses were present.**

Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:50-51, 54-66; 28:1-9; John 20:5-7. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Matthew 28:6. Pray. Read Matthew 27:50-51, 54-66. **God raised His Son, Jesus, from the dead.**

That is called the resurrection. Read Matthew 28:1-9; John 20:5-7.

THE WAY THE EASTER MIRACLE EYEWITNESSES

What were the two main miracles of Easter that change our lives forever? (Jesus' death paid for our sins. He rose from the dead, conquering death so believers will also rise.) **There were many eyewitnesses. Even people who did not believe in Jesus were eyewitnesses.**

It's time for a brain buster to see how many Easter miracle eyewitnesses we can list in the next 30 seconds. Think about everyone who was there at the cross or at the empty tomb. Write the names as the children call them out. Partial list: Centurion, guards at cross, Mary Magdalene, Mary (James' and Jesus' mother), mother of Zebedee's sons, Joseph, angel, tomb guards.

Who saw the stone placed as a seal on the tomb where His body lay? (Joseph of Arimathea, both Marys.) **Who saw the stone was rolled away?** (Angel, tomb guards, both Marys.) **Who saw and heard the angel?** (Both Marys.) **Who saw, heard and touched Jesus that morning?** (Both Marys.)

Why is it important to have eyewitnesses of miracles? (Proof helps others believe.) **Which miracle would you have most wanted to see for yourself and why?**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

What happened in the temple when Jesus died? (God tore the curtain in two.) **1,400 years before God tore it, He told Moses how the curtain should be used. Let's read God's directions for Moses.** Reveal Exodus 26:31-34. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

The temple curtain was not for decoration. It separated the Most Holy Place from the rest of the temple. God's presence was inside the Most Holy Place. Because of our sin, no one could go through the curtain into God's presence. Only the High Priest could enter once a year to ask forgiveness for the sins of the people.

When Jesus died, our sins were forgiven and anyone who believes in Jesus can now go directly into God's presence through prayer. How was the tearing of the temple curtain from top to bottom a sign of the miracle of forgiveness from God in heaven toward believers on earth? (Jesus' death opened a way for God in heaven [top of curtain] to be present forever with believers on earth [bottom of curtain].) **Jesus gave His life for us, so we could be forgiven and have an open way to be with God forever.**

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Stone
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Angel sitting by the empty tomb saying, "He is risen!"
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Stone Rolls

GAME: Easter Egg Relay: He Is Risen Indeed!

CRAFT: Easter Card

DISCUSSIONS: Easter Miracles Egg, What Do You Think?

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: "Sit on the Throne" Musical Chairs, Bible Memory Verse Bop

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW