



# Jesus Is Risen

Lesson Aim: To know the true meaning of Easter.

## THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Rose

## THE WORD

Bible Story: John 20:1-18

What He has done: God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.

## THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "The Lord has risen."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." John 21:17b

Unit 4: The King Who Rose			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
18	Jesus Is Risen, John 20:1-18	God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.	To know the true meaning of Easter.
19	The Road to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-18, 27-34	Jesus walked and talked with His friends.	To know Jesus showed His friends He was alive.
20	Jesus Talks with Peter, John 21:15-17	Jesus asked Peter if he loved Him.	To show Jesus we love Him by helping others.
21	The Great Commission, Matthew 28:16-20	Jesus sent His followers to tell the world about Him.	To tell other people about Jesus.
22	The King Ascends, Acts 1:8b-11	Jesus went to heaven.	To know Jesus is in heaven.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 1 Corinthians 15:54-57. Please join us in praying, "Thank You for winning the victory over sin and death. Help the children know and worship you as the Risen King. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an egg
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "The Lord is risen."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Do You Love Me?" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Give Thanks to the Lord" "Here I Am, Send Me" "How Wide?" "It's Praise Time" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love" "Sing Praises" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves the Little Children" "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Cedarmont Toddler Bible Songs The Ultimate Bible Song Collection for Kids Vol. 1
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 4, Lesson 18
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: John 20:1-18	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at John 20:6 Visual: Stone
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Empty Tomb	Cups; plastic spoons (or craft sticks); sturdy, gray paper (or sandpaper or cup lids); any color cloth or sturdy paper; paper fastener, tape, yarn, or string; tape; permanent markers
		Game: Race to the Tomb	Large sheet or blanket
		Game: Easter Symbols	Pictures of a heart, cross, the number "3" printed on the sun, stone (rolled away from tomb), sandals
		Snack: Easter Treats	Eggs (real or candy)
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 4, Lesson 18 Color This Story: "Jesus is Risen"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: John 20:1-18	None
	Up to 10	Game: Send Up Love	Lightweight or inflatable ball (draw hearts onto ball with red permanent marker), large sheet or tarp
	Up to 10	Game: "I Love You" Hopscotch	(11) 8-inch X 8-inch fabric squares (or floor tape)
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about the true meaning of Easter.

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



## The Lord has risen

# 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 plastic egg or stamp or sticker of an egg. **Today, we celebrate Easter because it is the day Jesus came back to life. Eggs remind us of the new life we celebrate at Easter. When you see your egg, remember Jesus is alive! Today's Whisper Verse is "The Lord has risen."** Teach 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: "The Lord has risen."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

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

- "(The) Lord"**      Extend thumb and index finger of right hand to create an "L" shape. Bring "L" shape diagonal across chest from the left shoulder to the right hip as a royal sash.
- "has risen."**      Both hands, palms facing up, are raised to represent something being moved upward.

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:** "The Lord has risen," Luke 24:34. 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 the King who rose

## 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 "It's Praise Time!" as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time! Every year, we celebrate the day Jesus rose to life! We call that day Easter. The first Easter was the day King Jesus rose up to life forever with God. We are always excited about Easter! Three days before the first Easter, people were very sad because Jesus had died. Three days later, Jesus rose to life. Everyone was very happy. That's why we say, "Happy Easter!" It is a very special day. Let's celebrate with a song of praise. Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."**

**Giving our money offering and singing to Jesus are ways we can celebrate. Let's start by giving our offering now.** Play: "Christ, the Lord is Risen Today" as background music while collecting the offering.



**Let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello are celebrating.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 4, Lesson 18.



**Who can tell me the good news about Easter? (Children respond.) The good news is Jesus the Lord has risen! That's today's Whisper Verse. Who can say it with me? Review Whisper Verse: "The Lord has risen." Include sign language. King Jesus will be alive forever! Sing: "Sing Praises."**

**The Lord Jesus has risen. That is the reason we celebrate Easter. We are so happy the Lord has risen because we love Him. Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me?" Peter gave the same answer many of us would give. He said, "Yes, Lord! You know that I do." Our new Bible Memory Verse song lets each of us answer that question from Jesus. Let's listen to it the first time and sing along the second time. Sing: "Do You Love Me?"**



The Lord has risen

## THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** Make the Empty Tomb craft before Watch the Word and have the children use their stick people and cup tombs to act out the story as you tell it.

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

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

**Last time, we learned Peter pretended he didn't know Jesus. Today, we will hear how Jesus came back to life after dying on the cross.** Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to John 20:6.

### **WATCH THE WORD: JOHN 20:1-18**

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a stone. Other visual options include craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **King Jesus came to save the world.**
- **He died for every boy and girl.**
- **He died on the cross for me and you,**
- **And then they buried Him in a tomb.**
  
- **They closed the tomb with a heavy stone.**
- **His friends were sad—they felt alone.**
- **But Mary came back on the third day.**
- **She saw the stone was rolled away.**
  
- **Mary ran to tell Peter and John!**
- **They ran and saw that Jesus was gone!**
- **Peter wondered where He could be?**
- **John looked inside and he believed.**
  
- **Then, Mary saw Jesus with her own eyes!**
- **"I've seen the Lord," she said with surprise.**
- **Mary ran to tell all her friends,**
- **"The Lord has risen from the dead."**

**Who has risen? (Jesus.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "The Lord has risen."** Include sign language or hand motions. **Another name for Jesus is Lord.**



**What did Peter see when he went inside the tomb?** (Strips of linen or cloth.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read John 20:6 from the teacher's Bible. **The tomb was a special place to put people after they died.**



## Celebrate Easter **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: EMPTY TOMB**

**Purpose:** To know the true meaning of Easter.

**Supplies:** Cups; plastic spoons (or craft sticks); gray sturdy paper (or sandpaper or cup lids); any color cloth or sturdy paper; paper fastener, tape, yarn, or string; tape; permanent markers

**Prepare:** Cut a circle from gray sturdy paper for stone; leave a straight, one-inch tab on one side for a flap. On front of gray circle, print: **"The Lord has risen."** Cut three small triangles from any color cloth to make clothes for Mary, Peter, and John.

#### **Directions:**

1. Draw hair and face on spoons with permanent markers to make Mary, Peter, and John.
2. Tape triangle-shaped clothes onto Mary, Peter, and John.
3. Attach stone to opening of cup with paper fastener, tape, yarn, or string so the stone can be moved away from the cup opening.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("The Lord has risen.") **Let's say it together with hand motions.**
- **We are happy Jesus came back to life. We celebrate Easter to remember that day. Jesus lives forever!**
- **Use your "Empty Tombs" and Mary, Peter, and John figures to help tell our Bible Story. It teaches us what happened that first Easter day.** Tell, or retell, the story from The Word section; guiding the children to use their "Empty Tomb" craft to act out the story.

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: RACE TO THE TOMB**

**Purpose:** This game will help children experience the Bible Story.

**Supplies:** Large sheet or blanket

**Prepare:** Create a tomb on one end of the room by draping the sheet or blanket over a table or chairs. Leave an opening on one end and enough space for several children to fit underneath.

**Let's pretend to be Mary, Peter, and John on that first Easter day.**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the girls act as Mary. Assign half the boys to act as Peter and the others as John.
2. Have all the children stand away from the tomb.
3. Read the following and lead the children in acting out the instructions. If possible, have a class helper lead each group.

**Mary walked to the tomb.** (Mary walks to tomb.)

**Mary did not see Jesus.** (Mary shakes her head, "No.")

**She ran to tell Peter and John.** (Mary runs to Peter and John.)

**John ran to the tomb. He waited outside.** (John runs to tomb and stops.)

**Peter ran to tomb. He went inside.** (Peter runs to tomb and goes inside.)

**Then John went inside, too.** (John goes into tomb.)

**Jesus was not in the tomb.** (Shrug shoulders.)

**He had risen. Jesus was alive!** (Shout "Hooray!")

**Peter and John, come out of the tomb.** (Peter and John come out of tomb.)

**Let's all give a cheer because Jesus is alive!** (All children cheer.)

## **GAME: EASTER SYMBOLS**

**Purpose:** Children will recognize different objects to help them remember Jesus' resurrection.

**Supplies:** Pictures of a heart, cross, the number "3" printed on the sun, stone (rolled away from tomb), and sandals

**Prepare:** Place the objects around the room where children can find them.

**I have hidden some special symbols. Each symbol will help us remember the Easter story!**

### **Directions:**

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. Choose one child to find the heart shape. Instruct the children not to tell if they find another picture.
3. **This is a story about Jesus love for you. Let's find the heart.** As child looks for the heart, tell each child by name that Jesus loves them.
4. **Jesus died on the cross to save us. Let's find the cross.** Choose one child to find cross.
5. **Three days later, God raised Jesus back to life. Let's find the sun.** Choose a child to find the number "3" printed on a picture of a sun.
6. **The stone was rolled away from the tomb. Jesus was not there! He had risen. Let's find the stone.** Choose a child to find the stone.
7. **Mary saw Jesus. He was alive. She ran to tell her friends, "I have seen the Lord!" Let's find the sandals.** Choose a child to find the sandals.
8. As time allows, repeat steps 2-7.

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: EASTER TREATS**

**Purpose:** Children will enjoy an egg or egg-shaped candy while they discuss the meaning of Easter.

**Snack Suggestion:** Eggs (real or candy)

### **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 our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "The Lord has risen."
  - **Our Bible Story was about the first Easter when Jesus rose to life. We are eating eggs because they remind us of new life. Blooming flowers, eggs, baby chicks, and baby rabbits are all signs of new life that come in the springtime. Each time you see these signs, remember Jesus is risen. He lives forever!**
  - **Mary went to the tomb because she thought Jesus was there. Was Jesus there?** (No.)
  - **When Mary saw the tomb was empty, she ran to tell Jesus' friends, Peter and John. They ran back to the tomb. Was Jesus in the tomb?** (No, the tomb was empty.)
  - **Why wasn't Jesus in the tomb?** (He had come back to life.)



## **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 \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (say each 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 "Empty Tomb" craft. Use your "Empty Tomb" with Mary, Peter, and John to tell someone how Jesus has risen. The tomb was empty and Jesus is alive!

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jesus came back to life.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Jesus is Risen." Discuss Bible Story and play Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "Do You Love Me?" as children color.





If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### **SAY & DO: JOHN 20:1-18**

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

- **King Jesus came to save the world.** (Point to heaven.)
- **He died for every boy and girl.** (Point to other children.)
- **He died on the cross for me and you.** (Spread arms.)
- **And then, they buried Him in a tomb.** (Cup hands with palms up.)
  
- **They closed the tomb with a heavy stone.** (Close palms as a closing an entrance.)
- **His friends were sad—they felt alone.** (Make a sad face.)
- **But Mary came back on the third day.** (Raise three fingers.)
- **She saw that the stone was rolled away.** (Hands on cheeks with look of surprise.)
  
- **Mary ran to tell Peter and John!** (Run in place.)
- **They ran and saw that Jesus was gone!** (Run in place.)
- **Peter wondered where could Jesus be?** (Shrug shoulders, palms up.)
- **John looked inside and he believed.** (Cup hands around eyes as eyeglasses.)
  
- **Mary saw Jesus with her own eyes!** (Point to eyes.)
- **“I’ve seen the Lord,” she said.** (Point to self.)
- **Mary went and told her friends,** (Run in place.)
- **“The Lord has risen from the dead!”** (Whisper Verse motions.)



### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” John 21:17b

### **GAME: SEND UP LOVE**

**Purpose:** Children use the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse to show Jesus they love Him.

**Supplies:** Lightweight or inflatable ball (draw hearts onto ball with red permanent marker), large sheet or tarp

**Jesus loves you and me. He loves to hear you tell Him you love Him, too. Let’s tell Jesus we love Him by saying our Bible Memory Verse. Repeat after me.** Say Bible Memory Verse pausing after each word to allow children to repeat each word. **Let’s pretend this ball with hearts on it is our love for Jesus. We can send our love up to Jesus!**

**Directions:**

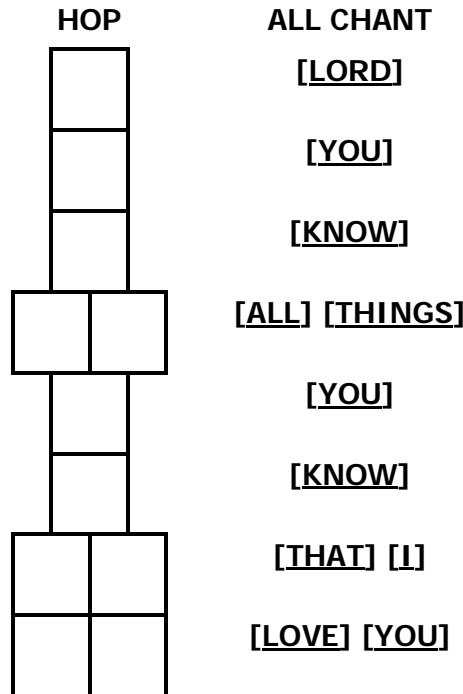
1. Spread sheet on the floor and have children gather around the edges.
2. Have children grasp the edges with both hands. Practice raising and lowering the sheet together.
3. Place the heart-covered ball in the middle of the sheet as the children raise and lower it.
4. Have children pretend they are sending Jesus their love as they bounce the ball on the sheet.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: "I LOVE YOU" HOPSCOTCH**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** (11) 8-inch X 8-inch colorful fabric squares (or floor tape) placed on the floor in the shape below:



Jesus loves you. He came back to life on Easter to help you know He loves you. He wants you to tell Him you love Him, too. Our Bible Memory Verse says "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Let's all say the verse together as we clap one time for each word. Now let's have one "hopper" jump on the squares as we say each word.

### Directions:

1. Choose one child as a volunteer "hopper."
2. Children chant "Lord" with one clap. Hopper jumps onto the first square.
3. Children chant "You" with one clap. Hopper jumps onto the next square.
4. Children chant "know" with one clap. Hopper jumps onto the next square.
5. Continue with chanting one word at a time of the Bible Memory Verse: **"Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."** Let each child that wants to be the hopper have a turn as all of the children repeat the chant and clap.



## 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 the true meaning of Easter.

## **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 4, Lesson 18: Jesus is Risen

**PONDER!** Read John 20:1-18 with your family. Use your "Empty Tomb" craft to tell the story of the first Easter to your family. Talk about the true meaning of Easter; how Jesus rose to life. What family traditions do you have or can you start to celebrate the true meaning of Easter?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "God, thank You that Jesus came back to life. Thank You that He is alive. We will remember to celebrate the true meaning of Easter. Amen."

**PLAY!** Play Hide and Seek. When the seeker finds a hiding player, the hiding player should shout, "The tomb is empty!" The seeker should shout back, "The Lord has risen!" After the game, talk about how Mary, Peter and John may have felt when they saw that Jesus was not in the tomb. He had risen!

**Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse:** John 21:17b

"Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."