



Lesson  
**33**

2s & 3s

# JESUS' RESURRECTION

April 4 & 5 - Easter  
**JESUS RESCUES**



## LESSON GOAL:

**Background:** Jesus died on the cross and was buried in the tomb. But after three days, Jesus rose from the grave and was alive again! This was all part of God's plan to rescue us from our sins!

**Lesson Goal:** For kids to understand that Jesus, God's Son, came to earth and died on the cross for each one of us. He rose from the dead showing God has conquered death and sin once and for all! We can choose to accept Jesus as our own savior who rescues us from our sin.

**Matthew 27:62-28:10**

## KEY VERSE:



Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**John 14:6, NIRV**

## LESSON OVERVIEW:

*Easter service is about 1 hour long*

### **40 minutes - CHECK-IN**

30 min prior to the start of service until 10 min after service starts

### **10 minutes - EXPLORE**

Craft to introduce lesson topic

### **15 minutes - LARGE GROUP**

Worship, Bible Story, Worship Response & Blessing

### **10 minutes - RESPOND**

Reinforce the lesson by talking about God Statement and doing an activity together

### **15 minutes - EAT & PLAY**

Have kids eat snack then lead kids in games or free play

### **CHECK-OUT**

Follow check-out procedures as parents arrive to pick up

Until 10 min  
after service  
starts

# CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



## WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

### **SAY:**

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

**(Insert parent name)**, do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!

### **DO:**

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



## FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.

### **DO:**

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

### **Examples:**

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

10  
min

# EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## MAKE: Empty Tomb

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

**Supplies:** Empty tomb craft kit



### DO:

Pass out one craft kit per child and help them assemble their empty tomb craft.



### SAY:

Today is Easter which means we are celebrating how Jesus rescues us from our sins! He died on the cross but rose again to conquer death! We get to celebrate this special truth, today! Let's make a fun craft to remind us that Jesus Rescues.



## CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by discussing the Big 3 questions.



### SAY:

**Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson**

**1. Who is our story about today?**

Jesus and us

**2. What is the problem?**

Jesus died on the cross for our sins

**3. What will God do?**

God rose Jesus from the dead after three days, showing that God defeated sin and death



## CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



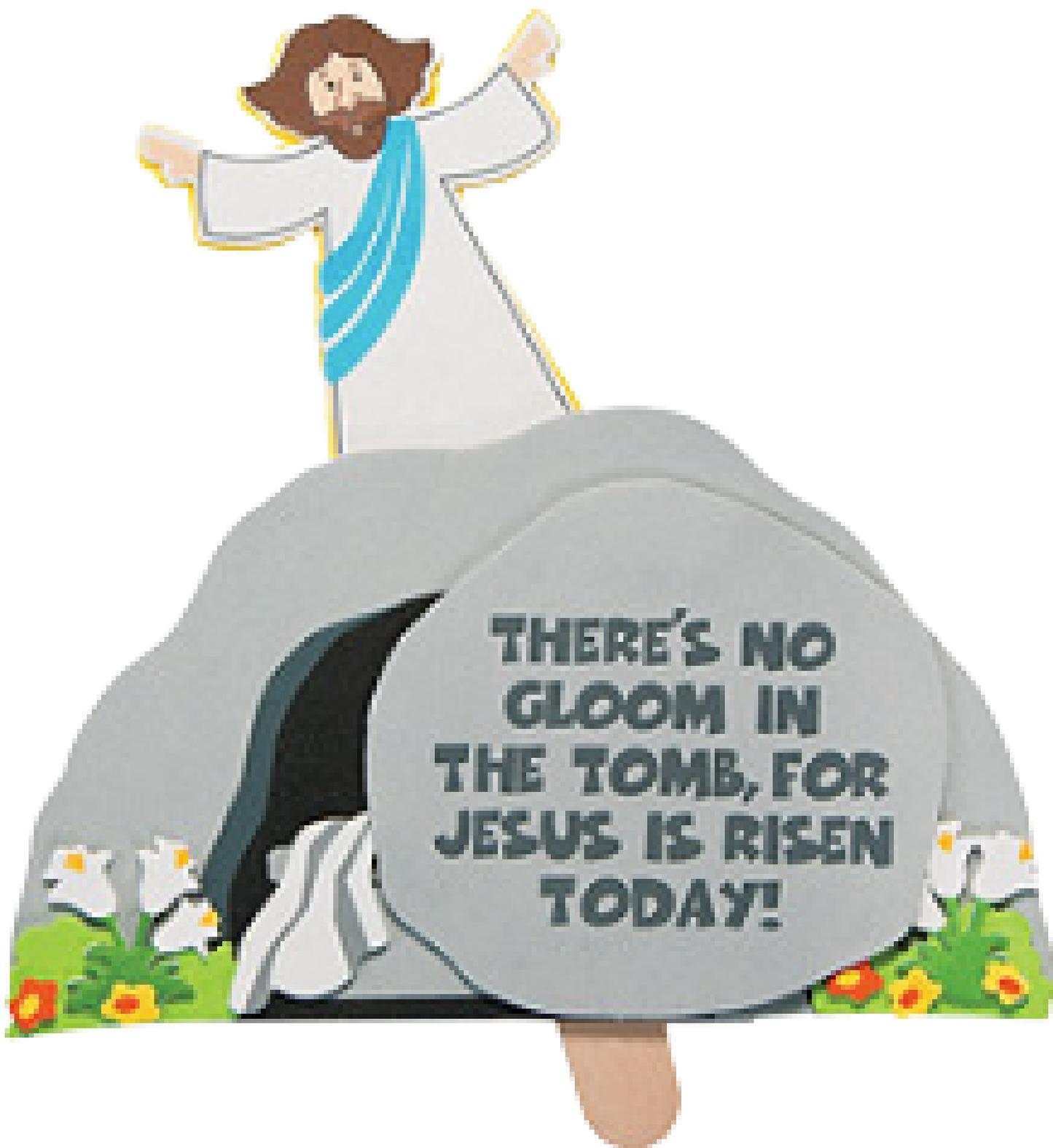
### SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

**Sing:** "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."



## Craft Example



15  
min

# LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God through Worship, an engaging Bible story and a time of response.



## EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video ([Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s](#))



### SAY:

We're glad to be at church today.  
We will listen, we will pray.  
We'll sit quietly in our spot.  
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!



### DO:

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



## WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to [Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s](#) folder.

**SONG 1:** Happy Day

**SONG 2:** Jesus Loves me

**SONG 3:** The Way



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



## WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

**Supplies:** worship song (Happy Day) in Plex ([videos > 2s & 3s > curriculum > April](#))

Jesus saves! Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins...But did He stay dead? **Let kids respond.** No! Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead! This was all part of God's plan to save us from our sins. I'm so happy Jesus came back to life! I'm even more happy that Jesus did this because He loves me and wants to save me! How can we show Jesus how happy we are? By singing and dancing to Him! Let's worship Jesus together and praise Him! **Invite kids to stand and worship to "Happy Day" in Plex.**



## BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

*May you celebrate that Jesus is our great rescuer! He loves you and came to save YOU!*

# BIBLE STORY

**Hamilton's Prop:** Empty Tomb



## INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



**SAY:**

What is that, Hamilton? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** A tomb? Like a cave where they used to bury people? But it looks like there's no one inside. Why do you have that? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Wow! That is so cool. Friends, do you want to find out what this empty tomb is all about in our Bible story today? If you're ready to hear our Bible story, can you wiggle your ears with me? **Wiggle ears together.** Let's dive in



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



**SAY:**

Jesus is God's Son! Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned or did anything to make God sad. This was all part of God's plan to rescue each of us from our sins!

Not everyone liked Jesus and some people didn't believe He was God's Son. They wanted to stop Jesus from telling others about God's great rescue plan. That makes me feel sad! **Show me your sad face.** Jesus was hung on a cross to die for you and me. He did this because Jesus loves us THAT much. **Can you give yourself a big hug to remind us how much Jesus loves us?**

After Jesus died on the cross and was buried in the tomb, some people were afraid something would happen to him. So they placed a big stone over the door to the tomb and placed guards right outside of it. No one could get in or out! **Let's pretend to roll a big stone over the tomb.**

Three days later, Mary and Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. When they got there, the stone was rolled away and Jesus was no longer in the tomb. What a surprise! **Show me your surprised face!** The tomb was empty, just like your tomb, Hamilton! The angel told them Jesus had risen from the grave and the women ran to go tell the disciples. Let's stand up and shout this good news together! **Encourage kids to stand and shout "The tomb is empty! Jesus rescues us!" together.**

Jesus rose from the grave - this was all part of God's plan to rescue us, or save us, from our sins. He loves us so much that he was willing to die, but He is so powerful that He came back to life. Because of this, we now have hope that one day we will get to be in Heaven with Jesus forever. **Jesus rescues!**

10  
min

# RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the students remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing simple motions to help them remember the phrase.



### SAY:

Today our God statement is **Jesus Rescues!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

*Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.*



### DO:

Use simple hand motions to help kids remember the God Statement as you say it together.



## ACTIVITY- Roll the Tomb Away

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

**Supplies:** 1 ball



### SAY:

On Easter, we celebrate Jesus rose from the grave! Jesus died and rose from the grave to save us from our sins. Let's play a game to help us remember that amazing truth! We are going to sit in a circle and roll the ball to each other. As you roll the ball, you will say "Jesus saves!" to remember how Jesus died for you and me!



### DO:

Encourage kids to sit in a circle. Roll the ball to the first child as you say, "Jesus saves!" Each child should roll the ball to another child while saying, "Jesus saves!" Throughout the activity, remind the kids that "Jesus saves" means He died for each of them. Repeat until all kids have had a chance to roll the ball.

15  
min

## EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



### SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



### GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.

#### DO:

- Face Copy Game (happy, sad, silly)
- Picture Naming (“What do you see?”)
- Stuffed Animal Toss
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing
- Follow the Leader (walk like animals, tiptoe, march)
- Body Part Pointing (“Where’s your elbow?”)
- Animal Movements (hop like a frog, slither like a snake)
- Organizing toys (by item, by color, by shape)
- March + Stop (march until you say “STOP!”)

As parents  
arrive after  
service

## CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.

#### DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up. This is also a great time to get each child’s belongings organized and prepared for pick up time!