



Lesson
32

2s & 3s

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED



April 3 - Good Friday

JESUS RESCUES



LESSON GOAL:

Background: In the beginning, God created everything perfect, including the first man and woman - Adam and Eve. Sadly, they disobeyed God and sin entered the world. This sin separates us all from God but God created a plan to save us from our sins by sending Jesus to die on the cross for each of us.

Lesson Goal: For kids to understand that we are all born sinners and make mistakes. Sadly, this sin separates us from God and we need to be rescued from our sin by believing that Jesus died on the cross for us.

Matthew 26-28

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:

Good Friday 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

3:45-4:10 pm
5:45-6:10pm

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.

4:10-4:25pm
6:10-6:25pm

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: Handprint “He is Risen” Craft

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

Supplies: Cross page, yellow stamp pad



DO:

Pass out one cross page per child. Help the child use the stamp pad to make their handprints on the card.



SAY:

Jesus rescues! Jesus came to die for our sins on the cross. Today we are learning about the day that Jesus died for us. Let’s make a craft to remind us of this special time.



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?

We are all sinful (sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against God)

3. What will God do?

God sent Jesus to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sins



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.”



H E I S
risen!



4:25-4:40pm
6:25-6:40pm

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: He is the Light

SONG 2: Happy Day

SONG 3: Jesus Loves Me



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: Cross poster, heart stickers (1 per kid)

Jesus saves! Can you believe how much Jesus loves YOU? Let's give ourselves a hug as we think about Jesus' love for us! **Give self a hug.** Jesus loves you so much that He died on the cross to save you from your sins. Sins are anything we think, say, or do that makes God sad. Let's thank Jesus for saving us as we put a heart sticker on the cross. **Invite kids to put a sticker on the cross and say "Thank you, Jesus!"**



BLESSING

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

May you remember what price Jesus paid to rescue you from sin and death! He loves you THAT much!

BIBLE STORY

Hamilton's Prop: cross



INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

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



SAY:

What do you have there, Hamilton? **Hamilton shows class.** Oh, a cross! Today is a special day, Hamilton. **Hamilton nods.** It's Good Friday. This is the day we remember Jesus died on a cross, just like this one, to save us from our sins. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that makes God sad. **Hamilton looks sad.** I know, it's not fun to make God sad. When we sin, it separates us from Him. But Jesus came and died on the cross to rescue us, or save us, from our sins. **Hamilton shakes with excitement.** Friends, if you're ready to hear our Bible story today, 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 never sinned or did anything to make God sad. Jesus lived a perfect life. **Can you give me a thumbs up to show me that Jesus was perfect?** He did many miracles and many people knew He was the Son of God. 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's so sad! **Can you make a sad face?**

While Jesus was praying one day, some soldiers came and took Him away. **Hamilton shows cross.** Yes, Hamilton, they made Him carry a heavy cross up a big hill and hung Jesus on it between two really bad guys. Jesus didn't deserve to be there. Even though He knew He didn't need to be there, Jesus chose to stay on the cross because of how much He loves us! **Let's give ourselves a hug to remember how much God loves us!**

Jesus died on the cross that day, but it wasn't the end of His story. Three days later, He rose from the grave beating death and sin forever! Jesus died on the cross to rescue us. He saved each and every one of us from our sins. **Jesus rescues! Let's clap together to celebrate that Jesus save us!**

4:40-4:55pm
6:40-6:55pm

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 kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.



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 - I Spy the Cross

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: cross



SAY:

On Good Friday, Jesus died on the cross to save each and every one of us from our sins. **Jesus Saves!** There is a cross hidden in the room somewhere. I want you to use your eyes to find it. When we find it, I (teacher) will say, "Jesus died for you!" and you will respond by saying, "Jesus saves!"



DO:

Hide the cross somewhere in the room (make sure it isn't too hard to find). Have the kids look around to find the cross. When they find it, the teacher should say "Jesus died for you!" and the child should respond, "Jesus saves!" Repeat until each child has had a chance to find the cross.

4:55-5:10pm
6:55-7:10pm

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, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.