



*Use Week of:*

## Easter Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 26–28;  
John 20

**STORY POINT:** The good news is about Jesus.

**KEY PASSAGE:** 1 Chronicles 16:31b

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus gives us true joy  
and life with God forever.

### Bible Story for Toddlers

Jesus was arrested and taken to Pilate, the governor. Pilate's soldiers put a purple robe and crown of thorns on Jesus and then led Him away. Jesus was put on a cross with a sign that said: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Two criminals were put on crosses next to Jesus. Jesus died and was buried in a tomb. A large stone was rolled in front of the tomb. On the third day, two of Jesus' friends, both named Mary, went to the tomb. An angel rolled away the stone, sat on it, and told the women not to be afraid. Jesus was not there. He had risen. The women were so happy! Jesus was alive! They left the tomb to tell Jesus' friends the good news.

### Babies Gospel Gems

- \* Jesus was put on a cross.
- \* Jesus died and was buried in a tomb.
- \* Jesus rose from the dead and is alive!

**Leaders, grow on the go!** Listen to session-by-session training every week on Ministry Grid, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or LifeWay's Digital Pass:  
[ministrygrid.com/gospelproject](http://ministrygrid.com/gospelproject) | [gospelproject.com/podcasts](http://gospelproject.com/podcasts)

*Babies & Toddlers Leader Guide*  
Easter • Session 2

# BABIES Activities

## Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Matthew 26 or John 20. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the **key passage card**.

**SAY** • Jesus was put on a cross even though He did not do anything wrong. Jesus died and was buried in a tomb. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.** [*Pray.*]

## Sing a Bible story song

Sing to the tune of “B-I-N-G-O,” clapping for each letter of Jesus’ name:

“The good news is for everyone—the good news about Jesus!

J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S!

The good news is about Jesus!”

**SAY** • Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. Jesus gives us true joy and life with God forever! **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

## Make Easter lilies

Accordion fold a sheet of paper for each baby. Trace her open hand on the folded paper. Cut out the traced hands, curl the fingertips outward, and roll the base of the palm around a green chenille stem. Tape the lily in place. Repeat with each handprint. Bundle the baby’s lilies with ribbon. Write the story point on the ribbon with a fine tip marker. Talk about the story.

**SAY** • Lilies are Easter flowers that remind us that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

## Roll the stone

Roll a **small ball** back and forth to the baby. Talk about the Bible story.

**SAY** • Jesus died and was buried in a tomb with a stone in front of it. On the third day, it was rolled away! Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the story point, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

# TODDLER Activities

## Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to Matthew 26 or John 20. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

## Count to three

Invite toddlers to take turns tossing three rolled socks into a laundry basket. Help toddlers count to three. After every toddler has a turn, tell the Bible story.

**SAY** • Jesus was put on a cross even though He always obeyed God. Jesus died and was put in a tomb. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

## Celebrate Jesus

Give rhythm instruments to toddlers to play as you listen to favorite songs celebrating Jesus' resurrection, such as "He Lives," "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," and others. Retell the Bible story.

**SAY** • Jesus died and was put in a tomb. His friends were sad. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. Jesus gives us true joy and life forever with God. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

## Look for living things

If weather permits, take toddlers in a stroller to look for living and nonliving things. Or display pictures of living items (people, animals, trees) and nonliving items (rocks, toys, cars) using an electronic device. Retell the Bible story.

**SAY** • Jesus died and was put in a tomb. But Jesus rose from the dead and is alive! **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

## Play out the story

Provide Bible times dress-up clothes for toddlers to play out the story. Drape a blanket over three sides of a table to represent the empty tomb. Tell the story.

**SAY** • Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. Jesus gives us true joy and life forever with God. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

# BONUS Teaching Hour

**SESSION TITLE:** Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 26–28; John 20

**KEY PASSAGE:** 1 Chronicles 16:31b

**STORY POINT:** The good news is about Jesus.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus gives us true joy and life with God forever.

---

## Transition activity: Make cross art

Provide t-shirts or smocks to protect clothing. Pour washable paint onto foam plates. Give toddlers heavyweight paper and a cross-shaped cookie cutter. Show toddlers how to press the cross in the paint, and then press it onto their paper. Keep wipes handy. Retell the Bible story as they work. Write the story point or Christ connection on each child's art. Set it aside to dry.

**SAY** • Jesus was put on a cross and then He was put in a tomb. Some of His friends went to see His body on the third day. Jesus was not there! Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.** Jesus gives us true joy and life with God forever!

## Tell the good news

Using an electronic device, record toddlers taking turns saying the story point. You will say “The good news is about ...” and toddlers will respond “Jesus!” Follow your church's guidelines for recording and sharing media with families. Tell the story.

**SAY** • **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.** Jesus rose from the dead and is alive.

## Look for Jesus

Display a person figure to represent Jesus. Hide the person figure in plain sight and encourage toddlers to look for it. Play as time allows. Tell the Bible story.

**SAY** • The women did not find Jesus at the tomb because Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. **THE GOOD NEWS IS ABOUT JESUS.**

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ Connection, story point, or gospel gems throughout the week.