



UNIT 8 | SESSION 4

GOD'S MIRACLES PROVE WHO HE IS

MARK 16

CHRIST CONNECTION: God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is alive.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God shows His strength to people. Psalm 77:14

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- Jesus' friends went to the tomb where His body was.
- The stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty.
- God made Jesus alive again. It was a miracle!

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

On the third day after Jesus' death, Mary Magdalene (MAG duh leen) and two of her friends went to the tomb where Jesus' body was. The friends had spices with them to put on Jesus' body. When they arrived at the tomb, the big stone was rolled away! The women went inside. They saw a man in a white robe sitting there. He was an angel. "Do not be afraid," the angel said. "Jesus has risen and is alive! Go, tell others the good news!" It was a miracle! The women were excited and ran from the tomb.



BABIES ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to Mark 16. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage phrase card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”:

“God shows His strength to people,
God loves you and cares for you.
He shows you which way to go,
Jesus, oh, He loves you so.
God shows His strength to people
We should worship God alone!”

| **SAY** “ God shows His strength to people because He loves and cares for us. We should worship God. ”

2 CREATE AN EMPTY TOMB

Provide black, white, and gray construction paper; glue sticks; and yellow crayons. Cut a large gray half circle and a small black circle. Glue the gray half circle (as the tomb) to the white paper. Then glue the black circle (as the entrance to the tomb) on top of the gray. Assist babies in coloring a sun or patting the circles to help glue in place as you retell the Bible story. Print Jesus is alive! on each child’s page.

| **SAY** “ The tomb was empty! God made Jesus alive again! It was a miracle. ”

3 OPEN THE BOX

Provide different size boxes with lids and baby toys. Place toys in each box, except one. Allow babies to open the boxes, saving the empty box for last. When the empty box is opened, celebrate! Say, “The tomb was empty. Jesus is alive!”

| **SAY** “ Jesus’ friends went to the tomb. The stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty. An angel told the friends that Jesus is alive! ”

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 Christ connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



TODDLER ACTIVITIES

LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible story picture as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to Mark 16. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the key passage phrase card and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 SPICE SENSORY PAINTING



Post an allergy alert. Fill small containers with white washable paint. Add a different ground spice (such as cocoa powder, cinnamon, or dry mustard) to each paint container. Provide paper, paintbrushes, and painting smocks or aprons for each toddler. Allow toddlers to paint with the “spices,” exploring the rough, grainy, and bumpy texture of each spice.

SAY “ Friends were taking spices to put on Jesus’ body, but when they got to the tomb, it was empty. Jesus is alive! ”

3 TAKE A WALK WITH FRIENDS

Create a path on the floor using painter’s tape. Place the Bible story picture facedown at the end of the path. Encourage toddlers to take a walk with you, two at a time. When you arrive at the end of the path, turn over the picture and celebrate that the tomb was empty.

SAY “ Jesus’ friends were on the way to His tomb. When they arrived at the tomb, the big stone was rolled away! Jesus is alive! ”

4 COUNT TO THREE

Guide toddlers to find different items in sets of three around the room (such as three cars, three blocks, or three toys). Help toddlers count as you review the Bible story. Explain the importance of three as the toddlers search.

SAY “ On the third day after Jesus’ death, His friends were coming to visit the tomb. When they got there, the tomb was empty! An angel told them not to be afraid because Jesus is alive! ”

5 CREATE MOTIONS FOR THE STORY

Teach toddlers motions to go along with the story: hold up three fingers for three days, pretend to smell spices, raise arms in circle over head for tomb, shake finger for “do not be afraid,” cup hands beside mouth in a shouting motion for “tell others the good news.” Guide toddlers through hand motions as you retell the Bible story.

SAY “ We celebrate that God raised Jesus from the dead. God made Jesus alive again! It was a miracle! We can also celebrate that Jesus is alive by telling others the good news about Jesus. ”

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MARK 16

CHRIST CONNECTION: God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is alive.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: God shows His strength to people. Psalm 77:14

1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: SENSORY PLAY DOUGH



Post an allergy alert. Provide white play dough and dried herbs (such as lavender, rosemary, or basil). Provide toddlers with the play dough and an herb. Show the toddlers how to mix the herbs into the play dough. Review the Bible story as toddlers explore.

SAY “Jesus’ friends were bringing spices for His body. When they arrived at the tomb, the big stone was rolled away! Jesus is alive!”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing the chorus of “Go Tell It on the Mountain,” changing the last line to “that Jesus is alive!” If you are unfamiliar with the tune, look it up online before class.

3 CELEBRATE THE EMPTY TOMB

Cut a U-shape from one side of a disposable cup. Place the cup upside-down on the table. Use the cut cup as the tomb. Allow toddlers to place a people figure inside the cup. Rotate the cup away from the toddler and count to three. Remove the figure, turn the cup back toward the toddler, and reveal the tomb is empty. Retell the Bible story.

SAY “Three days after Jesus’ death, His friends were going to visit the tomb. Jesus wasn’t there—it was a miracle! Only God could make Jesus alive again. Jesus is alive!”

4 LACE THE TOMB

Provide paper plates (1 per child) and crayons. Precut lengths of yarn, knotting one end of the yarn and using tape on the other end to make threading easier for toddlers. Print Jesus is alive! on the inside of the plate and fold in half. Punch holes 1 inch apart around the edge of the plate and allow toddlers to color. Give toddlers yarn and guide them to lace the edge of the plate closed. Open the plate to reveal the message. Read the Christ connection and review the Bible story.

SAY “Three days after Jesus’ death, His friends were going to visit the tomb. When they arrived at the tomb, the big stone was rolled away! Jesus wasn’t there; He was alive!”

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, or gospel gems throughout the week.