



UNIT 27 | SESSION 3

JESUS WAS RAISED

MATTHEW 27-28; MARK 15-16; LUKE 23-24; JOHN 19-20

CHRIST CONNECTION: God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Everyone will worship God forever. Revelation 5:13

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- On the third day, God made Jesus alive again.
- John saw the empty tomb and believed.
- Mary saw Jesus, and ran to tell the good news: Jesus is alive!

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, Jesus' friend Mary went to the tomb where Jesus' body was. She brought sweet-smelling spices to put on Jesus' body. When Mary got close to Jesus' tomb, she saw that the big stone had been rolled away. Mary ran to get Peter and John. They ran to the tomb. Peter and John found the cloth that was wrapped around Jesus, but Jesus was not there! John believed that Jesus was alive. Mary was crying, and someone asked her what was wrong. She turned around and saw Jesus! Jesus sent Mary to tell the other friends the good news: Jesus is alive!



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 Matthew 27–28. 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 TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “Deep and Wide”:

“Everyone, everyone

Will worship God forevermore.

Everyone, everyone

Will worship God forevermore!”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says ‘Everyone will worship God forever.’ On the third day, God made Jesus alive. God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything. ”

2 ROLL THE BALL

Print multiple Bible story pictures and slide them in sheet protectors to make picture mats. Tape the mats to the floor. Sit babies in horseshoe-shaped pillows around the pictures. Gather a plastic ball. Review the Bible story as the babies roll the ball on the mats.

SAY “ When Mary got close to Jesus’ tomb, she saw that the big stone had been rolled away. Mary ran to get Peter and John. They ran to the tomb. Jesus was not there! Jesus is alive! ”

3 EXPLORE FULL AND EMPTY

Sit on the floor with the babies in leaders’ laps or horseshoe-shaped pillows. Gather two clear plastic containers. Fill the one container with soft classroom toys; leave the second container empty. Point to the full container and say, “Full.” Point to the empty container and say “Empty.” Allow babies to empty and fill the containers while you say “full” or “empty.” Retell the Bible story.

SAY “ On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, the tomb was empty. Jesus was not there. On the third day, God made Jesus alive again. ”

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 Matthew 27–28. 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 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me": "Jesus is God's only Son. / He died to save me from my sins. / Everyone who trusts in Him / Will be forgiven of their sins. / Yes, He died for me. (repeat three times) / Jesus, He died for me."

SAY " On the third day, God made Jesus alive again. God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything. "

3 TELL THE GOOD NEWS

Display a newspaper. Discuss how some people read newspapers to learn news. Recall the good news Mary shared in our Bible story. Review the Bible story. Invite the toddlers to take turns holding the newspaper and telling each other the good news: Jesus is alive!

SAY " Did Mary see Jesus? Yes! Mary went to the tomb. When Mary turned around, she saw Jesus. What was the good news that Mary shared? Jesus is alive! "

4 PLAY WITH PUZZLES

Print the Bible Story pictures from Sessions 1–3. Cut each picture into four pieces. Guide the toddlers to help you put the pictures together as you review the past Bible stories. Tell the Bible story. Allow toddlers to rework the puzzles as interest and time allows.

SAY " Our Christ connection reminds us that God raised Jesus from the dead to be King over everything. We can tell everyone the good news of Jesus: He is alive! "

5 SAY THE SMELL



Gather different spices (peppermint, cinnamon, garlic, ginger, pepper, or any other strong-smelling spices) in ziplock bags. Lead the toddlers in smelling and guessing each spice. Discuss how each spice smells and how it makes the toddlers feel. Explain that some spices are used in medicines and ointments, like in our Bible story. Review the Bible story.

SAY " Who went to the tomb to see where Jesus was? Yes! Mary went to the tomb to see Jesus' body. What did Mary bring with her to the tomb? Yes! She brought sweet-smelling spices to put on Jesus' body. "

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1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: FIND THE STONE

Bring in a large stone. Instruct the toddlers to close their eyes while you hide the stone. Once you count to three, encourage the toddlers to open their eyes. Allow the toddlers to work together to find the stone. Review the Bible story.

SAY “ In our story, Mary, Peter, and John were looking for Jesus, but what had been rolled away from Jesus’ tomb? That’s right! The big stone had been rolled away! The tomb was empty! Jesus was not there! Jesus is alive! ”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “Deep and Wide”:

“Everyone, everyone

Will worship God forevermore.

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Will worship God forevermore!”

3 EXPLORE NUMBER FUN

Cut out a number 3 from a piece of clear contact plastic. Tape the plastic to the wall at the toddlers’ eye level, sticky side out. Provide tissue paper pieces for the toddlers to decorate the number 3. Review the story. Ask the toddlers how the number 3 is important in our Bible story.

SAY “ How many days after Jesus died was He made alive again? Yes! The third day! On the third day after Jesus died on the cross, Jesus’ friend Mary went to the tomb where Jesus’ body was. Was Jesus there? No! Jesus was not there. Mary ran to tell others the good news: Jesus is alive! ”

4 WRAP UP IN CLOTHS

Gather several pieces of cloth (both large pieces as well as long strips of fabric). Lead the toddlers to play out the Bible story and wrap their bodies in cloth. Retell the story. Be sensitive to toddlers who do not feel comfortable being wrapped in cloths.

SAY “ When Peter and John ran to Jesus’ tomb, what did they find? Yes! They found the cloth that was wrapped around Jesus, but Jesus was not there! Jesus is 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.