

Jesus Raised Lazarus

John 11:1-44

Jesus is: Kind

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
-John 14:6

Summer Sunday Schedule:

8:55-9:05 - Welcome/arrival
9:10-9:30 - Game Station (LG1)
9:35-9:55 - Story Station (LG2)
10-10:20 - Project Station (classroom)
10:20-10:45 - Stay in classroom; snack and transition to 2nd service.

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading John 11:1-44. Note your observations about Jesus' character and what truths you see so you can share them with the kids.

The story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead shows that Jesus truly is the Messiah - the Son of God. He showed that He has power over death and He gives eternal life to all who trust in Him.

Through this story, we also see the kindness of Jesus. He understood how Mary and Martha were feeling and took the time to cry and mourn with them. We also see that Jesus is never late. Even though He didn't go to Lazarus right away, we can see that His timing is always perfect. We also want to trust God and His timing even when it doesn't seem right to us. We can trust that He does all things for our good and for His glory!



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

- None

Ask the class: **Have you ever had a time when you heard a friend was sick? Did you visit or send a get-well card? If you were sick, what would you want your friends to do?** (Allow responses)

Summarize John 11:1-44 and then discuss the following questions:

Why do you think Jesus waited to go to Lazarus? Point out that Jesus could have healed Lazarus while he was sick. Instead, Jesus waited and Lazarus died. Jesus said Lazarus' sickness would end not in death but in God's glory. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead to show His power over death. Help kids recognize that God sometimes allows bad things to happen so that His glory might be displayed.

Did Jesus care for His friends? Yes, He met Mary and Martha where they were at and was sad with them. Jesus even cried with them. He cared about how they were feeling and met them in their sadness.

What did it mean for Jesus to call Lazarus by name? How does He call you by name? It means that Jesus knew Lazarus! He cared about him as a person and knew all the details about his life. The Bible tells us that God knows the number of hairs on our head, that's how well He knows us! He calls us by name too! He wants us to love and follow Him!



Craft:

Paper Tube Lazarus

- Paper Tubes
- Gauze
- Googly Eyes
- Glue sticks

Pass out a paper tube, gauze and googly eyes to each child.

Show them how to glue on their googly eyes and then wrap the gauze around the “body” of their tube. Glue the end of the gauze to the tube.

Discuss how Lazarus was bound by his “grave clothes” like a mummy, but that as humans, we are also bound by something. Ask: What are we bound by?

Explain that we are all bound by sin and death and we have no way to save ourselves. Believing in Jesus and that He died on the cross and rose again is the only way to be free. Jesus calls us from death to life so that we can experience His goodness both here on earth and forever in eternal life with Him.



MEMORY VERSE GAME Verse Strips

- Key Passage Poster
- Envelopes of mixed-up verse strips
- Scotch tape

Practice John 14:6 together a few times.

Divide the class into groups of 3-4 children. Give each group an envelope of mixed-up verse strips and a roll of tape.

Have the groups work together to put the Bible verse back in the correct order.

For extra fun, make it a timed challenge.

*Adapted from The Gospel Project Curriculum,