

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:

10:45-10:55 - Welcome/arrival
11:00 - 11:20 - Game Station (LG1)
11:25-11:45 - Story Station (LG2)
11:50-12:10 - Project Station (Classroom)
12:15 - Stay in room for dismissal

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!



ACTIVITY:

Guess the Picture

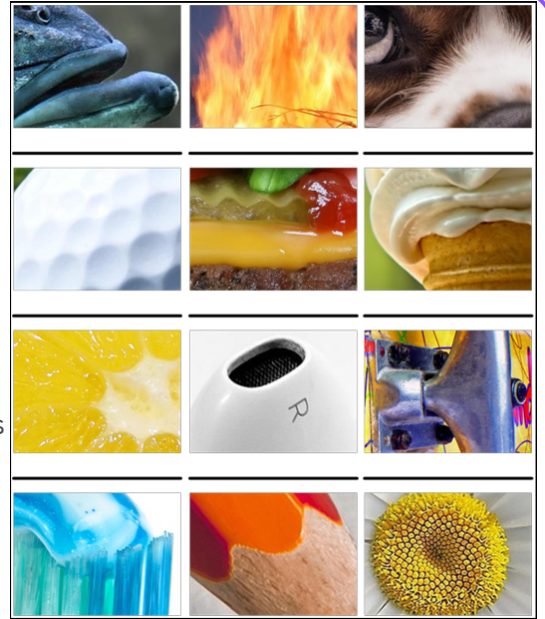
- Envelopes with "Guess the Picture" cut-outs
- Pencils

Discuss with the class about how Jesus' disciples and Martha and Mary were not able to fully understand what Jesus was doing in the moment.

His disciples wondered why He waited and didn't go to Lazarus right away.

Mary and Martha wondered why Jesus would take the stone away when Lazarus had already been dead for 4 days and smelled!

They couldn't see the full picture, just like we sometimes can't see the full picture of what Jesus is doing in our life. Sometimes we don't understand God's timing or why He lets certain things happen, but God can see the whole picture and is working all things together for our good and His glory!



Pass out the envelopes of "Guess the Picture" cut-outs to small groups of 3 or 4.

Have the groups work together to figure out what the pictures are. Have them write what it is on the line below.

Once everyone is done, go over the pictures together as a class.



Doodle Prayer

- Doodle Page
- Pencils
- USB link to Kidz at Heart Doodle Prayer Experience

Pass out paper and pencils and ask the kids to spread out across the room.

Inform them that you are going to give them some time to sit alone, think, and pray, asking God to reveal anything in their lives that they may need to turn from. Encourage them to bring their requests, questions, struggles, joys and trials before God and to simply relax and enjoy being still in His presence as they doodle.

Pull up the link on the USB to the KidZ at Heart Doodle Prayer Experience. Hit play and follow along with the audio prompts.

**Check it out ahead of time [HERE](#)

Doodle Prayer is also a great spiritual practice to help children connect personally with God! It can be done with children of nearly all ages, and helps them stay focused during quiet times. We encourage you to introduce it as a way to help students discover God's love for them.

*Adapted from The Gospel Project Curriculum; Truway Kids and Kidz at Heart