

JESUS RAISED LAZARUS

Bible Reference: John 11:1-44

Date: 8/30/26

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

2nd Service

Memory Verse:

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

Jesus is...

Kind

Schedule

- **Welcome/Arrival.....10:45-10:55**
- **Story Station (LG2).....11:00-11:20**
- **Project Station (Classroom).....11:25-11:45**
- **Game Station (LG1).....11:50-12:10**
- **Back to Classroom:.....12:15**
 - **Dismissal**

Notes and Reminders

We are so excited to have you join us in discipling our PreK and Kindergarten children as we finish our journey through the life of Christ this summer! We encourage you to pray for the children's hearts to be open to new understanding of why we love and obey God!

////// **SUMMER SUNDAYS 2026**

SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

The basic premise of our existence is that we were created to be in a right relationship with God and glorify His name. Even our most difficult circumstances and life events can be conduits for glorifying God. And yet, in the story of Lazarus' resurrection, we see the tension that often comes in the life of people who trust Jesus but are also struggling with their present circumstances.

John 11 begins with Jesus hearing that Lazarus is dying. Yet, Jesus stays where He is two more days (John 11:6). The text uses the verb *menō*—"to remain, to stay, to abide." It is not the stillness of indifference but the stillness of intention. Jesus is not delayed; He is deliberate. This is the same Greek word that Jesus would use in John 15 to describe what should mark our relationship with Him: "Remain in me" (John 15:5). In both places, the Bible is describing deliberate action.

Some of the deepest struggles in our spiritual lives form around the question, "What do I do when Jesus doesn't move at the speed of my pain?" Mary and Martha cried out for help. They knew Jesus loved them. They also had witnessed Him heal numerous people, and they knew that if He would get there in time, everything would be okay. But the clock kept ticking, and Lazarus kept slipping away. What they interpreted as Jesus' absence was preparation for a greater revelation.

Jesus eventually told His disciples exactly why He waited. He said: "It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it" (John 11:4). Jesus knew that a greater story was being written, a resurrection story.

When Jesus finally arrived, Martha ran to Him saying, "Lord, if you had been here ..." This statement is similar to the words the disciples would later share on the road to Emmaus when they reflected on Jesus' crucifixion and said, "We had hoped ...". In both instances, Jesus knew that God would be glorified in a mighty way through resurrection.

This week, point kids to the highs and lows in this story. Remind them that our compassionate God identifies with our pain and went to great lengths to one day make all things right again through His life, death, and resurrection.

OUTLINE



Welcome and Arrival

10:45-10:55

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

Choose one or several of the following activities to organize as the children arrive.

Raise Blocks

- Lay several blocks on a table or the floor. Challenge kids to carefully stand blocks upright on their end. Lead kids to arrange the blocks upright and in a row before gently knocking one over and watching the others fall. Suggest kids lay the blocks flat and arrange them into the shape of the letter J. Mention that J is the first letter in the name "Jesus." Recall that in today's Bible story, Lazarus died and his body was lying in a tomb. Then, Jesus raised him from the dead to be alive again.
- SAY Lazarus's sisters were sad after he died. His body was placed in a tomb. A large rock covered the tomb's entrance. Jesus prayed and told Lazarus to come out. Lazarus got right up and walked out of the tomb. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead! When we trust in Jesus, we will have life with God forever. How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus. Jesus is God's Son. He died and rose again to take away our sin.

Make a Face

- Describe a scenario. Ask kids to use their faces to show how they might feel (happy, sad, surprised, or worried). Use the following scenarios or create your own:
 - Your friend shared her snack with you.
 - You dropped your painting on the floor.
 - You lost your favorite stuffed animal.
 - You got an ice cream cone.
 - You went down a big slide at the park.
- SAY At the beginning of today's Bible story, Mary and Martha were sad. We all have emotions like Mary and Martha. Even Jesus felt sad. Jesus cared so much for His friends, and He raised Lazarus from the dead. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus showed that he is kind.





Jump In and Jump Out

- Gather the kids in an open space in your room and place the plastic hoops on the floor. Explain that you will say, “Jump in!” and everyone should jump inside a hoop. Say “Jump out!” and have everyone jump outside the hoop. Repeat the directions several times, sometimes faster or slower. Change the instructions to “Step in/Step out,” “Tiptoe in/Tiptoe out,” and “Dance in/ Dance out” to keep the activity fun and engaging.
- **SAY** It was so much fun to see you following the instructions in our game! When Jesus told Lazarus to come out of the tomb, he came out immediately. If Lazarus came out of the tomb, does that mean he was dead or alive? [Allow responses.] When we trust in Jesus, we will live with God forever.

Story Station (Large Group 2).....11:00-11:20

Project Station (Classroom)

11:25-11:45

Rainbow Trace Jesus' Name

- Give each child one of the papers with ‘Jesus’ written on it. Provide washable colored markers and let the kids use several different colors to trace Jesus’ name. Since children are not usually very accurate in tracing, so their letters will begin to have a rainbow look as they trace with several colors. Ask them if they know what the word says.
- **SAY** Good job tracing the letters with rainbow colors. Do you know whose name this is? Yes, these letters spell JESUS. J-E-S-U-S. Jesus! Jesus’ friend Lazarus died, and his sisters were very sad. When Jesus came to their town, Jesus called the dead man’s name. He said, ‘Lazarus come out!’ Lazarus came back to life and came out of the grave! That was amazing. We can trust Jesus because He gives eternal life and can do things other people cannot do. How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.

Discuss what the children learned during the Bible Story today. Use the main Takeaways as a guide to your discussion.

- Jesus has power over death! He gives eternal life to all who trust in Him.
- Jesus understands us. He is kind and compassionate.
- God’s timing is always perfect.
- We can trust Jesus in all circumstances.



Sample Questions:

- **What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)**
- **What were some things in the Bible story that made *Mary*, *Martha*, and Jesus happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)**
- **What happened when Jesus said, “Lazarus, come out?” (Lazarus came out of the tomb.)**
- **What does this story show us about Jesus’ power? (Jesus showed He is the Messiah who gives eternal life, Jesus has power over life and death, Jesus can do anything)**
- **How can we show others we believe in Jesus like *Mary* and *Martha* did? (Answers will vary.)**
- **How can we be saved? We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.**

Game Station (Large Group 1)11:50-12:10

Back to Classroom12:15

Dismissal!



