

JESUS RAISED LAZARUS

Bible Reference: John 11:1-44

Date: 8/30/26

Age: 2's/3's + 3's/4's

1st Service

Memory Verse:

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life." John 14:6

Jesus is...

Kind

Schedule

- **Arrival/Attendance/Directed Play.....8:55-9:10**
- **Clean Up and Gather For Story.....9:10-9:15**
- **Bible Story.....9:15-9:30**
- **Craft/Coloring Page;.....9:30-9:45**
- **Songs/Memory Verse/Prayer.....9:45-10:00**
- **Snack Time at Tables.....10:00-10:15**
- **Free Choice Play.....10:15-10:45**

Notes and Reminders

We are so excited to have you join us in discipling our preschool 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



Arrival/Attendance/ Directed Play

8:55-9:10

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door. Set up the 3 activities and introduce the children to the lesson through these activities. Encourage the kids to participate in all 3 activities as they play together. You may need to ask the kids to come to the different areas so all of them have the opportunity to participate

Play Lazarus Come Out

- Guide the children to stand around your circle time rug. Explain that when you say "Lazarus In" they should jump onto the rug. When you say "Lazarus, Come Out" they should jump off the rug.

Make Play Dough Food

- Provide a ball of play dough for each child. Encourage the kids to make play dough food. Suggest that they make pizza, grapes, and other foods they enjoy.
- SAY Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were friends with Jesus. When Lazarus got sick, Mary and Martha told Jesus because they knew He loved them, and they believed He could heal Lazarus. Jesus didn't get there in time to help Lazarus but Jesus brought Lazarus back to life to show He is God's Son. Jesus died and rose again so we can live forever with God.

Make and Move with Ribbon Wands

- Give children each a ribbon wand. Play music from the TV or on your phone. Invite children to mimic your movements with their sticks as you make the letter J and other movements in the air
- SAY Who does our phrase say to believe in? Yes, Jesus! What letter does Jesus start with? Yes, Jesus died and rose again so we can live forever with God. Jesus is the promise of life.





Clean Up and Gather for Story

9:10-9:15

Invite the children to begin cleaning up toys and putting away their activities at 9:10. Then remind them to meet at the carpet for Bible story time. Remind the children that we are going to do our best to be good listeners.

Bible Story

9:15-9:30

Welcome Song

- Welcome all the children by singing their welcome song
- (Tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star)
- Welcome, Welcome Everyone
- Now you're here Let's have some fun
- First let's clap our hands like so
- Then reach down and touch our toes
- Welcome, Welcome Everyone
- Now you're here Let's have some fun
 - You can call a group of children names to welcome them and they can stand up and wave if you'd like.

The words from today's story are written below. They are taken from pages 418-422 in the Beginner's Bible. Use the printed pictures or the Bible in your room to share the story with the children. If you are viewing this document online, there is a scanned copy of the story later in the document.

Lazarus Lives Again (John 11:1-44)

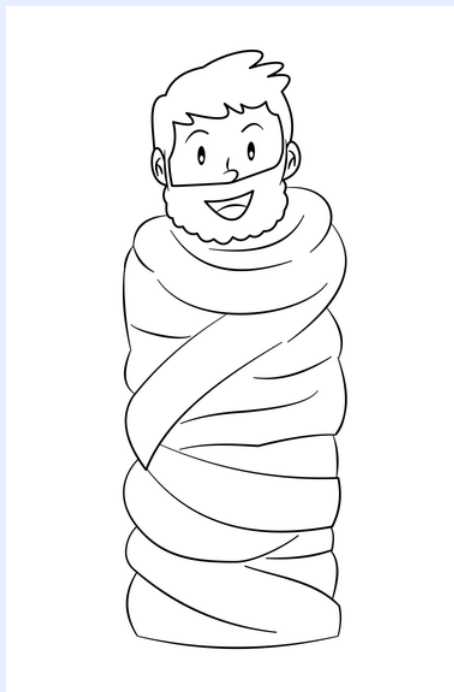
- One day, Jesus received a message from **Mary** and **Martha**. "Jesus, please come quickly. Lazarus is very sick." But Jesus stayed where he was for two more days.
 - Then Jesus traveled to the place where **Mary** and **Martha** lived. **Martha** went to meet him. She was crying.
 - **Martha** said to Jesus, "My dear brother has died. If you had been here, you could have healed him." Jesus was sad. He cried, too.
 - Then Jesus walked over to Lazarus's tomb. He told some men to roll away the stone. Jesus prayed out loud, "Father, I know you always hear me. Now, show everyone that you have sent me. :"
 - Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus walked out of the tomb. He was alive again! Everyone was amazed. Many people believed in Jesus that day.
- 

Craft/Coloring Page

9:30-9:45

After the story, have the children go to their tables and prepare for a craft to go along with the lesson. Our **BIG IDEA** of the week is: Jesus is Kind!

Give each child a half sheet with the picture of Lazarus. Give each child a gluestick and place strips of paper on each table. Help the children glue strips of paper onto Lazarus like he is wrapped up. Remind children that Jesus brought Lazarus back to life!



Songs/Memory Verse/Prayer

9:45-10:00

There is a list of songs for today's lesson on the TV. Use the directions located with the remote to access them.

Prayer (Use there words or your own to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- Dear Jesus, thank you for showing your kindness to **Mary**, **Martha**, and **Lazarus**! Help us remember that we can learn even more about your kindness when we trust in you! In your name we pray, Amen.



Memory Verse

- “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” John 14:6
- Remind kids that our story today shows us how Jesus shared the truth with the Samaritan woman! We know he is the **Messiah** and it is good to follow Him.
 - I am the way- point forward with both hands
 - the truth- hold your hands together like a book
 - and the life- Hold your hands over your head and wiggle your fingers
- This is our final week learning John 14:6. Say each section of the verse separately and teach the children the motions that go along with it. Practice the verse section by section with the children several times, then say the verse all together with the motions several times. Children learn through repetition! You may also find it helpful to keep the children engaged by moving around as you practice the verse (say it standing up, sitting down, walking around the room like a parade, etc.)

Snack Time at Tables

10:00-10:15

Prior to serving the snack have the children use hand sanitizer before choosing a seat at the table. Each child will have veggie straws on a napkin and a small cup of water. **NOTE:** some children with allergies will have their own snack or drink...parents usually remind shepherds of this at drop off. If a question, please contact Kid Min Staff in hallways. Thanks.

While the children are eating their snack, please read the read aloud book that is in the bin labeled Read Aloud book for snack time. Thanks.

Free Choice Play

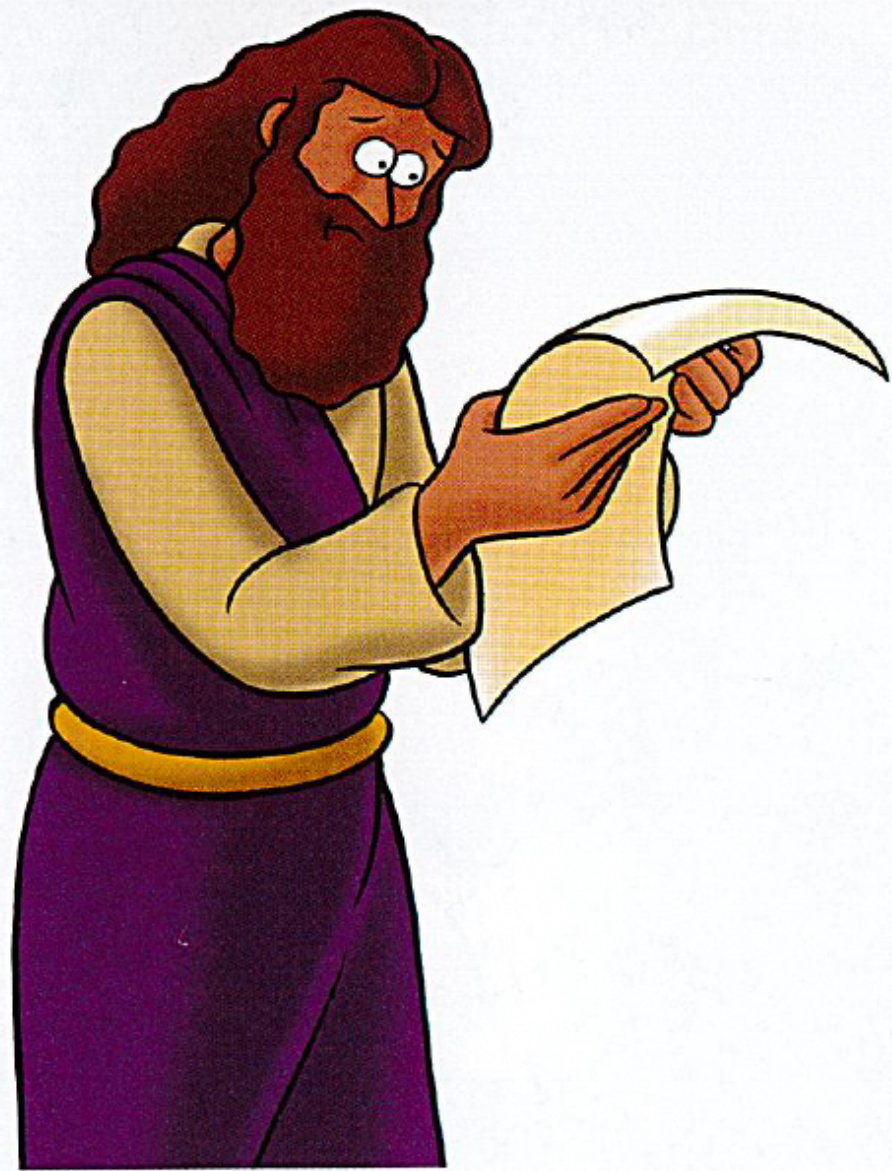
10:15-10:40

Once the snack and read aloud are finished, the children may choose free play until their parents come to pick them up.

At dismissal, please make sure to check the child's tag number to match the parent's tag. Have the children take home any papers from their bin. Finally, check them off the attendance as being picked up (the last column for the date).

Thanks so much for shepherding the little ones this week. We appreciate you!





Lazarus Lives Again

John 11:1-44

One day, Jesus received a message from Mary and Martha.

“Jesus, please come quickly.

Lazarus is very sick.” But Jesus stayed where he was for two more days.



Martha said to Jesus, “My dear brother has died. If you had been here, you could have healed him.” Jesus was sad. He cried, too.



Then Jesus shouted, “Lazarus, come out!”
Lazarus walked out of the tomb. He was
alive again! Everyone was amazed.
Many people believed in Jesus that day.

