



**3/7/2015**

**PRAY FOR WISDOM:**

Lord, thank You for subjecting Yourself to the pain and humiliation of the cross. Thank You for bearing the punishment that I deserved. Praise and glory are Yours forever and ever!

**LESSON MEMORY VERSE:**

Matthew 28:6 "The angel said, "Jesus isn't in the grave! He's alive"

**BIBLE STORY:**

The Cross (based on Matthew 27:31-61)

Even though Jesus had done nothing wrong, mean soldiers beat Him. They made Him carry a heavy cross through the city. Many people watched and followed. When they reached a hilltop outside Jerusalem, everyone stopped.

Then the soldiers nailed Jesus' hands and feet to the cross. Hanging on the cross hurt very. It was so hard for Jesus. But He loved people and wanted to pay for all their sins.

Some people in the crowd made fun of Jesus. "If You're really the Son of God," they yelled, "then come down from the cross!" The people thought Jesus was a liar or fake! But they were wrong. He loved them and wanted to forgive them.

Soon the sky became very dark. Many people were afraid. "What's going on?" they wondered. The people didn't realize it. But Jesus was dying for their sins.

Suddenly, Jesus called out to God with a loud voice. Then He died.

At that moment, the earth shook. The sky became black like nighttime. "This man surely was God's son!" declared the leader of the soldiers.

Later that day, several of Jesus' friends came and took His body off the cross. They wrapped His body in cloths and buried it in a cave. All of Jesus' followers were sad and confused. "What will happen next?" everyone wondered.

After three days, some of Jesus' followers went to look in the cave where He was buried. What did they find? This big stone was gone! An angel was there! Saying "Don't be frightened and don't be scared! For Jesus isn't here! He's alive like He said! Now go and tell everyone that Jesus isn't dead!"

Oh, they ran back home, full of joy and fear, And right there on the road, Jesus appeared!  
He said, "Tell the others! Share the good news, And never be afraid! I'm alive for you!"

So you see, boys and girls, Jesus DID come to save;  
He came to forgive others and returned home from the grave!  
And all that He promised has surely come true, Jesus lived and He died and came alive fro YOU!

So let's all stand up! Let's jump around! It's all so exciting, we can't sit down!  
Jesus is alive! Yes, He's alive again! Yell it out loud and tell all your friends!  
Jesus is alive! He's alive again!

### **PRAYER:**

Thank God that Jesus is not dead. He is alive again! Ask God to help them love Him more every day!

### **ACTIVITIES:**

#### Making a Tomb Picture

Supplies: large and small plates (one per child), paper fasteners, brown or black crayons.

Cut a straight section off the bottom of the large paper plate so that it is horseshoe-shaped. Also, cut a half circle shape to represent the doorway. This will represent the doorway. Cut a circle form the small paper plate large enough to cover the doorway to represent the stone. Punch a small hole through each plate for attaching the stone to the cave. Give a cave, stone, and paper fastener to each child and show them how to attach the paper fastener. They can see the cave closed and then roll away the stone to see that the cave is empty. Jesus is not dead anymore. He is alive again!

#### Happy-Sad Plate Puppets

Supplies: two paper plates per child, large craft sticks, stapler, crayons, markers

Staple two paper plates together so the backs are facing outward. Insert a large craft stick in between the plates and staple securely. Give each child a set of plates and have them draw with crayons or markers a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other side. Tell the Bible story again where Jesus' friends buried his body in a cave and how sad they must have been. Have the children show with their plate puppets how they might have looked. Then read in the Bible store what happened after three days with Jesus' friends went to look at the cave and what they found there. Have the children show with their puppets how they might have looked.

For additional resources please visit:  
<http://www.discipleland.com/>