

# Bible Discovery

Today our Bible story shows us **Jesus is God's Son**. (*Hallelujah!*) One of the friends in the story was very sick.

- Have Connect Crews get comfy in knee-to-knee circles.
- ❓ **Tell about a time someone you know was sick.** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.


We often ask Jesus for help when people we love are sick. Jesus' friends Mary and Martha asked Jesus for help, too. Let's find out what happened—I'll need your help!

- Give each child a tissue.
- Crew Guides help kids fold the tissues to look like notes.

One day Jesus' friends Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus, who was in a different town at the time.

- Have everyone unfold their tissues and pretend to read a message.

You read your pretend message, and I'll read the message from Mary and Martha from the Bible.

 Read aloud John 11:3.

**What a sad message.** Hold up a tissue. **When I'm sad, I sometimes need a tissue like this to wipe away my tears. Do this with me.**

- Pretend to wipe tears with the tissue.

**Jesus is God's Son.** (*Hallelujah!*) Jesus knew God's plan would end with Lazarus being well again, so Jesus didn't hurry to Mary and Martha's house. Instead, Jesus stayed where he was for two more days.

- Have everyone count to two on their fingers with you.

**After two days, Jesus told his friends, the disciples, "Let's go see Lazarus." They had a long journey to get to where Lazarus was. Do this with me.**


- Pat legs to make a walking sound.
- Pretend to get tired, then wipe brow with the tissue.

**Meanwhile, Lazarus had been so sick that he died. He had been dead for four days by the time Jesus and the disciples got there. We usually feel sad when people we love die. Let's wipe our eyes again.** Wipe eyes with tissues. **People were sad for four days.** Count to four.

## Supplies

- Bible
- "Jesus Brings Lazarus Back to Life" Bible Story poster
- tissues


We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

 Read the verse from the Bible. You're showing kids that God's Word is special. Don't worry—we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

As Jesus entered the town, Martha went out to meet him. She knew **Jesus is God's Son**. *(Hallelujah!)* But she was upset that Jesus hadn't come sooner to help Lazarus. Jesus told her that he would help Lazarus live again, but Martha was upset and she just didn't understand.

- Have everyone wad their tissues in a fist and give them a squeeze.
- ❓ **I wonder, what's something that's hard for you to understand?** Share an example from your own life, then have everyone share in their Crews.
- Give Crews several minutes to talk.


**Jesus is God's Son.** *(Hallelujah!)* So Jesus can do anything! Sometimes it just takes time for us to understand how Jesus is helping us. Let's read what Jesus said to Martha.

 Read aloud John 11:25-27

Martha said **Jesus is God's Son**. *(Hallelujah!)* She called for Mary, and together they went to the tomb—which is like a cave with a big rock rolled over the front. The tomb is where they had put Lazarus' body. Mary and Martha were so sad that they cried. Use tissues to wipe away pretend tears. Jesus cried, too. But Jesus had a plan.

Jesus said to move the rock from in front of the tomb. Mary and Martha still didn't understand. But the people there obeyed Jesus.

- Have everyone make a "rolling" circle motion with their arms in front of them, as if rolling away a rock.
- **Jesus then prayed and talked with God.**
- Have everyone fold their hands to pray. **Let's read what Jesus prayed.**

 Read aloud John 11:41-44.

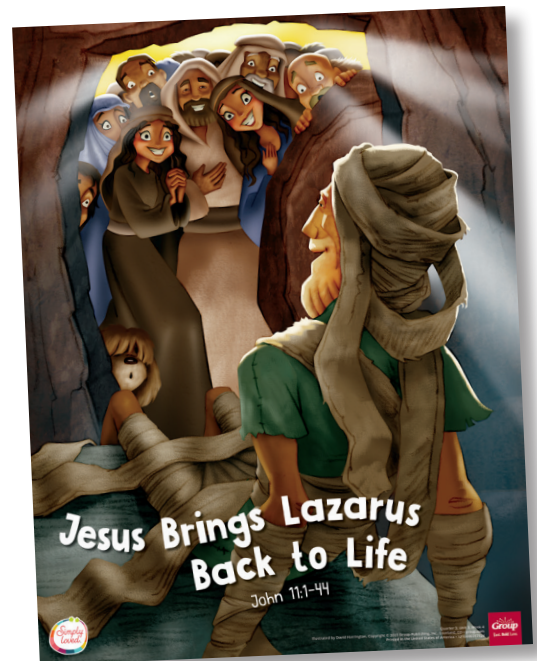
**Jesus is God's Son,** *(Hallelujah!)* so Jesus brought Lazarus back to life!

- Show kids the Bible Story poster.
- Hold up a tissue and explain that it reminds you of the cloth they had wrapped around Lazarus' body.

**Lazarus didn't need those cloths anymore. And we don't either!**

- Have everyone throw away the tissues.

**Jesus is God's Son.** *(Hallelujah!)* And Jesus has the power to do anything—even bring someone back to life!



Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today's Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.