

WEEK 4 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

Jesus can change anything.

BIBLE

Jesus Raises Lazarus: John 11:1-45

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Life-Changing Praise!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "Robot Rock" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)
 - "Open My Eyes" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)
 - "2 Corinthians 5:17" (The Corner Room)
 - "God Makes Messy Things Beautiful" (Slugs and Bugs)

ACTIVITY | Five Little Robots

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Let's get jumping! Sing "Five Little Robots" with your large group of kids. "Five little robots jumping in the spaceship. One fell off and bumped his head. Mama called the doctor and the doctor said, 'No more robots jumping in the spaceship!'" From there it keeps moving down until there's no robots left! Encourage the kids to jump, fall as a group, and wave their fingers at "no more." Use [this](#) song to help you out.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Our toddler friends may not get through all five verses and that's okay! Try starting "three little robots" and going down from there.
- **How high can you jump?** Show me!
- **How fast can you fall?** Show me!
- Let's sing a song together that has some jumping and some falling. Here we go!

ACTIVITY | Shape Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show this [Storybots video](#) (or just the first two shapes if pressed for time). Then, provide blocks, [Magna-Tiles](#), or [large foam shapes](#), and have kids work together to build different things out of all the shapes.
- All these different shapes can be changed into anything as long as we use our imagination! Today, we are going to learn about someone who can do that but BIGGER!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | John 11:1–45 (Jesus Raises Lazarus)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read and tell the Bible story using the same robot motif as you did in previous weeks. Make your voice sound monotone like a robot or like a smart assistant (like Siri, Alexa, or Google). You can use story images like [these](#) or the ones provided in the Teaching Videos folder. Show images of emojis (sad, surprised, and happy) to help kids understand the feelings expressed throughout the story.
- Hello. It's me, your favorite storytelling robot! Today, I am going to tell you another story about Jesus. Are you ready to begin?
- One day, Jesus was sad. *[Show sad emoji.]*
 - **What are some things that might make a person sad?**
- Jesus was sad because his friend Lazarus had died.
 - **Have you ever seen something die before? Flowers? Insects? A plant at your house?**
 - Flowers die, insects die . . . and so do people. And when people die, it is very sad.
- All of Lazarus' friends and family thought they were never going to see Lazarus again. But Jesus had a plan!
- Jesus walked right up to where his friend was. Lazarus' body was put in a cave. Jesus said, "Roll away the stone!" and then Jesus spoke these amazing words, "Lazarus . . . come out!"
 - **Can you shout that with me?**
- Suddenly, to everyone's surprise, Lazarus walked out of the grave! *[Show a surprised emoji.]* He was alive! *[Show a happy emoji.]*
- Most things (and people too) don't come back after they have died.
- But it was different for Lazarus. Jesus made a big difference by bringing him back to life! Things like this are called miracles!
 - **Jump up with me and say, "Miracle!"**
- That is the end of today's story. Powering down. *[Make a whirring noise and lower your head.]*

BIG IDEA | Jesus can change anything.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the [Jack-in-the-Box toy](#) (or the [one you made](#)) from previous weeks, write the Big Idea on an index card and attach it to the puppet inside. Reintroduce your kids to the Big Idea "mystery box," and share that this week's Big Idea is inside of it. Play [this](#) song while each kid comes up and cranks the box once. At the end of the song or whenever the box is opened, pull out the card and read it aloud. Use the hand motions to help them learn it.
- Ready for today's big idea? **Jesus can change anything!** Nothing is too big, nothing is too scary. He can do anything at all!
 - **Jesus** (Point upward.)
 - **can change** (Spin your hands together horizontally.)
 - **anything** (Stretch your arms out really big.)

VIDEO | Changing Gears, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Jesus Woke Up Lazarus

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the kids in "Jesus Woke Up Lazarus" to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." Encourage the kids to sing while lying down but jump up at the last line.
- Let's learn a song together that will help us remember the Bible story!

- **Jesus woke up Lazarus**
- **Lazarus, Lazarus**
- **Jesus woke up Lazarus**
- **And he came back to life!**
- Jesus spoke, and His friend went from being dead to being alive! If Jesus can change something that big, we can be sure that **Jesus can change anything.**

PRAYER

- Dear Jesus, no problem is too small for you. No problem is too big for you. You can change anything! Thank you for changing me to be more like you. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Alive Again Cookies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids Teddy Grahams and a spoonful of white frosting.
- A man stepped out of his tomb in white cloth in today's story, surprising everybody! They thought they would never see their friend Lazarus again, but Jesus changed that! **Jesus can change anything.**
- **Show us your best robot voice. I challenge you to speak in that voice for the entire snack time!**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the robot face you made for Week 1, pass it around in a game of hot potato while playing the month's worship songs. When the song stops, whoever's holding the robot gets to answer the review question.
- Let's pass around my robot friend as we think about today's true Bible story, and our Big Idea, **Jesus can change anything.**
- When you hear music playing, pass around the robot. When the music stops, freeze! Whoever's holding our robot friend will get to answer a question! Ready? Let's go!
- **Why was Jesus sad in today's Bible story?**
- **What did Jesus say to Lazarus, who was inside the tomb?**
- **What happened?**
- **What is one thing about your room at home that you want to change?**
- **If you could change anything in the world, what would it be? Why did you pick that? Can Jesus do it?**

ACTIVITY | Recycled Robot Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using recycled items and random arts and crafts supplies, kids will make fun recycled robots. Check out [this craft](#) for inspiration.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of having little ones create an entire robot from scrap materials, have them glue random items or place [foam sticker shapes](#) on printed robots [like this](#). Print out an outline of a robot for each kid [like this](#).
- All of these items used to be something different. These all could have ended up in the trash can, but we brought them back to life in the form of this robot!
- Jesus can do more than make a robot out of recycled materials. Jesus can help sick people get better. Jesus can help sad people feel happy again. Jesus can help angry people not be mad anymore. **Jesus can change anything!**

MEMORY VERSE | 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

- **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This week, read the whole memory verse to the kids, Then, practice combining all of the parts together.*
- Here’s what we have learned:
 - **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ”** (Point up high.)
 - **“the new creation has come”** (Wave your arms around you, motioning “new.”)
 - **“The old has gone, the new is here!”** (Motion with both hands left: **“the old has gone,”** and right: **“the new is here”**).

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today’s Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.*

ACTIVITY | In Gear

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set out some [gear blocks](#) for the kids to play with and experience. This week, have kids try to build a robot shape using the blocks.*

ACTIVITY | Robot Stacking

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set out [these](#) cool wooden robot toys and encourage the kids to see how many they can stack without them all falling down! No robot stackers? No problem! Give kids [domino blocks](#), and let their imaginations run wild!*