



LESSON 4 **THE RESURRECTION**

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

GOD'S BIG STORY: Three days after Jesus' death, God raises Him from the dead. Jesus is no longer dead! He is alive!

WORD OF WONDER: When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! —2 Corinthians 5:17

CURIOSITY 15 minutes • Large Group or Small Group

Hands-on activities to spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God

- Welcome Question: When has something happened to you that you didn't expect?
- Curiosity Questions
- Elementary Multisensory Activity: Alive or Not Alive?
- Preteen Interactive Game: Guess Who's Alive!
- Declaring God's Wonder



BELIEF 25–35 minutes • Large Group

An interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder

- Prayer of Invitation and Worship
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder

FAITH 15 minutes • Small Group

An intentional conversation that helps kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own

- Word of Wonder Activity
- Discussion Questions for Elementary Kids and Preteens
- Small Group Prayer Time

IDENTITY 10 minutes • Large Group or Small Group

An interactive worship response activity that creates space for God to remind kids that they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder

- Elementary Responding in Worship: Posters and Praise Parties!
- Preteen Responding in Worship: Because He Lives
- Blessing Your Kids

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Growing up in Los Angeles, my family had a tradition of taking long, beautiful drives up and down the coast. And back in the day, when we didn't have tablets or TVs in the car, I would spend most of my time talking to God as I stared at the vastness of creation outside the window. In the moments when the sun would shine through the clouds and onto my face, I would imagine God holding me and letting me know how much He loved me. I knew, even at that young age, that the living God of the universe was with me.

Read Luke 24:1–12. What do you notice that you've never noticed before? If you had been with the women at the tomb, what would have surprised you most about that morning?

The greatest difference between many other religions and Christianity is Jesus Christ—the *living* God—crucified, resurrected, ascended into heaven, and returning to earth one day. Without Jesus, and without His resurrection, there is no hope—we would be worshipping a mere, good human. But because God rose Jesus from the dead and He is alive, we can walk with heads and hands held high—we worship a living God! And through the Holy Spirit, that living God lives in us.

Jesus—the *living* God—is with you and in you. What questions do you have for Him today? What words of praise and thanksgiving are on your heart? Tell Him!

—Catherine Hwang-Jin

Children's Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

God's big story reaches its high point when God raises Jesus from the dead—He is risen! Jesus' resurrection is discovered and proclaimed by women, a great honor in a culture that often undervalued women. They proclaim the truth with joy!

WHAT?

Jesus told His disciples He would die and rise again. They wanted Him to be a conquering king who would defeat Rome and restore Israel to power. But Jesus' victory was bigger and better—it brought salvation to the world!

WHERE?

Jesus was buried by Joseph of Arimathea in a tomb near the site of the resurrection. Joseph was accompanied by Nicodemus, the same man who had come to Jesus to hear about how God so loved the world that He sent His one and only Son.

WHEN?

Jesus is risen on a Sunday morning, the third day after He died. This would have fallen on the Festival of First Fruits (Leviticus 23:9–13). Jesus is the “first fruits” of those who will be resurrected, a further reminder of the hope we have!

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY:

Jesus fulfilled God's promises by dying for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that His sacrifice was sufficient and that He is God. Jesus is now exalted to the highest place, and in time, all will acknowledge that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!

Large Group or Small Group

Spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Series Bumper and Countdown Videos

Choose between the [Created New Series Bumper Video](#) and [Countdown Videos](#) to introduce the kids to the series.

Welcome Question

SUPPLIES: paper, coloring utensils, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Resurrection Welcome Question Slide

Before kids arrive, display the Resurrection Welcome Question Slide or write the following question on a whiteboard: “When has something happened to you that you didn’t expect?” Set out paper and coloring utensils.



As kids arrive ...

Greet kids with a big smile and silly handshakes. Show kids the Welcome Question and encourage them to share their answers with three friends. Share your answer with kids too. Assist younger kids by reading the question to them or have an older kid help them read the question.

At your start time ...

Gather kids together and, to get their attention, do a series of clap patterns that kids can mimic. Ask several kids to share their answers to the Welcome Question: **When has something happened to you that you didn’t expect?** Continue doing more difficult claps after each answer and have kids mimic the pattern.

In God’s big story today, we’ll talk about something that happened after Jesus died that those around Him didn’t expect. But first, it’s time to be curious.

Curiosity Questions

Ask the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious ...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one.

I’m curious ...

- **When something really good happens, who is the first person you tell?**
- **How would you react if you watched something that had died come back to life?**

Leader Tip: Be sensitive to children who have experienced trauma, such as the death of someone close to them as this conversation could trigger some difficult feelings. As much as possible, try to keep the tone of this discussion light by focusing on the idea of something non-human (like trees or insects) coming back to life. If the discussion triggers big feelings for a child, simply be present with them.

Elementary Multisensory Activity: Alive or Not Alive?

SUPPLIES: table, black tablecloth, live insect (in a clear container with air holes), worm(s) (in a clear container), plastic insect, rock, book, spoon, houseplant, flower, magnifying glasses (several, if possible), writing utensils (1 per kid), disinfecting wet wipes (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet (1 per kid), Alive or Not Alive? Slide, Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide

Before kids arrive, gather supplies and display them on a table. Cover the table and supplies with a black tablecloth until it's time to start the activity. Print a copy of the Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet for each kid.

When dealing with living creatures, be attuned to modeling responsible handling and storage. Be sure the live (non-stinging) insect is stored safely and humanely in a clear container with air holes. After the lesson, return the insect to the outdoors. Depending on your setting and group dynamics, you can keep the worm(s) in a clear container throughout the activity, or you can allow kids to gently touch the worm(s). If you allow kids to touch the worm(s), give each kid a disinfecting wet wipe afterward.



OBJECT	ALIVE	NOT ALIVE
plastic insect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
book	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
spoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
insect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
houseplant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
worm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
flower	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Wonder Ink LESSON 4 ALIVE OR NOT ALIVE? CHECKLIST ELEMENTARY

Leader Tip: Consider putting on a lab coat and safety goggles as you introduce this activity. Help make the activity come to life by playing the part of a scientist doing an experiment.

Display the Alive or Not Alive? Slide and gather the kids. Give each kid an Alive or Not Alive? Checklist Sheet and a writing utensil. **For our next activity, each of you is a scientist!**

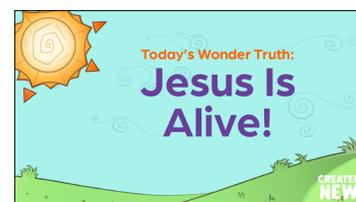
Remove the tablecloth to reveal the items on the table. **Your job is to carefully observe the items on the table to determine if each one is alive or not alive. You can use your eyes, nose, and hands and can even use the magnifying glasses if you want to look more closely! Once you've observed an item and decided if it's alive or not alive, you can mark your answer on your checklist.**



Allow time for kids to make their selections and return to their seats. If you have a large group of kids, consider having them come to the table in groups. When they've all finished marking their checklists, talk to the entire group about each item and the choices they made. Let kids explain their choices.

Leader Tip: For Younger Kids. Have leaders (or older kids) available to help pre-readers read and mark their checklists.

What makes something alive? Allow kids to respond. **Do you think any of the objects that are not alive could come to life right now?** Allow kids to respond. **If that happened, how would you respond?** Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. **Today we're going to hear about something that happened to Jesus that took everyone by surprise!**



Jesus died on a cross and three days later, He came back to life, and that changed everything!
Today's Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS ALIVE!**

Make It Inclusive: This is a fantastic activity to do with kids who may have learning differences or physical disabilities. They will love to touch and smell the objects!

Preteen Interactive Game: Guess Who's Alive!

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), basket or bowl, timer, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Guess Who's Alive! Cards, Guess Who's Alive! Slide, Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide

Ahead of time, print the Guess Who's Alive! Cards and cut them apart. Fold the cards and place them in a basket or bowl.

Display the Guess Who's Alive! Slide and gather the kids. Help them form two teams. If time allows, invite teams to come up with a team name. Consider writing team names on the whiteboard and keeping track of the score on the board. **Today let's play a version of charades called Guess Who's Alive!** Hold up the basket or bowl filled with cards. **In this container are cards with various objects, people, and animals on them. Each team will take turns sending a representative to the front to pull a card and act out whatever is on the card. They are not allowed to talk or make any noises. Their teammates will have 30 seconds to guess two things: 1. What is on the card. 2. Whether that thing is alive or not alive. If their teammates guess both correctly, their team earns two points. If their teammates only guess one correctly, their team earns one point. Be sure only to shout out guesses when it's your team's turn!**

Invite a member of the first team to the front to pick a card. Set the timer for 30 seconds and begin. Alternate between teams, with a different representative acting each time, until all the cards are gone or as time allows. (Just be sure both teams receive an equal number of turns.) When finished, congratulate everyone on a great game!

apple tree (alive)	basketball player (alive)	thunderstorm (not alive)	the sun (not alive)	house (not alive)
dog (alive)	frog (alive)	robot (not alive)	car (not alive)	fish (alive)
vacuum cleaner (not alive)	dancer (alive)	cat (alive)	airplane (not alive)	horse (alive)
baby (alive)	clock (not alive)	bird (alive)	rock (not alive)	doctor (alive)

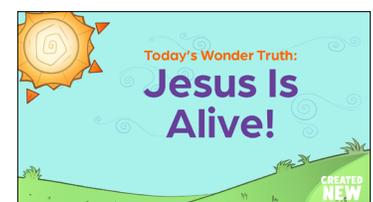
Wonder Ink



Make It Inclusive: Timed activities can prompt anxiousness in some kids. Consider simply removing the timer and giving teams as much time as they need to guess correctly.

Excellent job acting and guessing and knowing what's alive and what's not. What makes something alive? Allow kids to respond. **Do you think any of the objects in our game that are not alive could come to life right now?** Allow kids to respond. **If that happened, how would you respond?**

Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. **Today we're going to hear about something that happened to Jesus that took everyone by surprise! Jesus died on a cross and three days later, He came back to life, and that changed everything! Today's Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS ALIVE!****



Declaring God's Wonder

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Resurrection Declaration Slide

Display the Resurrection Declaration Slide. Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

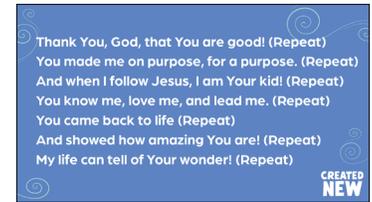
And when I follow Jesus, I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

You came back to life (Kids repeat.)

And showed how amazing You are! (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)



LESSON 4 ELEMENTARY & PRETEEN

Large Group

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Prayer of Invitation

Lead kids in a prayer of invitation before entering into worship and God's big story: **God, we're in awe of You! We can't wait to hear Your Word today and celebrate Your resurrection! We invite Your Holy Spirit to be with us. Help us to know Your love even more today. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Let's praise God together because Jesus is alive! Play songs from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!

This lesson includes three opportunities for your kids to enter the story—each one reinforces the others! **HEAR** it read directly from the Bible. **WATCH** it in a video. **EXPERIENCE** it through the live script.



SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Resurrection Title Slide, [The Resurrection God's Big Story Video](#)

Display the Resurrection Title Slide. Tell kids that today's story is from the Bible and is found in Luke, the third book of the New Testament. Have kids open their Bible to Luke 24:1. Tell kids the chapter is the big, bold number and the verse is the small number.

Let's start by reading part of God's big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we'll watch and experience more of the story!

After kids have found the passage, read Luke 24:1–12 aloud. Next, invite kids to retell the story to a friend. Then do one or both of the following:

- Use the following The Resurrection Experience It! Script
- View [The Resurrection God's Big Story Video](#)

LESSON 4 THE RESURRECTION

EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: cardboard for a cross, tomb, and stone; scissors (prep only); long white cloth; strips of white fabric or linen; prop box; colorful scarves (5); white scarves (2); brown scarf; robe; fake beard (2, optional)

Ahead of time, cut a large cross from cardboard and secure it on stage. Drape a white cloth on the sides of the cross. Create a tomb from cardboard and place it on the opposite side of stage. (The tomb can be a large cardboard box—such as an appliance box—laid on its side to form a tiny room.) Place the strips of white fabric or linen inside the tomb. Also cut a large stone out of cardboard. It should be large enough to cover (or nearly cover) the opening of the cardboard tomb. Set it to the side of the tomb. Place the costume pieces in the prop box and set the box at the edge of the stage area.

While telling the story, you'll invite kid volunteers on stage to act out these parts: five women who went to the tomb (they will wrap colorful scarves around their hair), two angels (they will wear white scarves around their necks), Peter (he will wear a brown scarf on his neck and an optional fake beard), and Jesus (He will wear a robe). Have your Jesus volunteer put on a robe and an optional fake beard. Ask him to stand quietly at the back of the room until the indicated time in the story.

If your group is small, consider having fewer kid volunteers on stage. For example, invite 1–2 girls to represent the women, one kid to represent the two angels, etc.

Leader Tip: The role of Jesus might be played best by a leader rather than a kid. This will help keep kids calm and show the importance of the moment when the resurrected Christ revealed himself to His disciples.

Since the very first people on earth disobeyed God and sin entered the world, God had a plan to rescue His people and fix their relationship with Him. The Gospel of Luke tells the story of God's Son Jesus—the Rescuer—who lived, died, and rose again.

After Jesus had been sentenced to die by the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, He was taken away and crucified. The Romans and the religious leaders at the time thought they had defeated Jesus and proved He wasn't the Son of God like He said He was. But Jesus had allowed Himself to be killed. Jesus knew that by dying, He made the way for all people to be forgiven of their sins—the wrong things we say and do. Even though it might have looked like weakness to the Romans and religious leaders, Jesus' death on the cross showed His love and strength. Jesus' death healed our relationship with God.

And the story isn't over. I need a few volunteers to help tell the next part of the story. If you're interested in helping, I'll ask you to quietly raise your hand at the parts when I need your help!

After Jesus took His last breath on the cross, one of His followers named Joseph of Arimathea [a-ri-ma-THEE-uh] went to the Roman governor and asked to take Jesus' body down and bury it. The governor agreed, and Joseph took Jesus' body down (gently take the white cloth off the cross), wrapped it in linen cloth, and placed it in a large, cave-like tomb (slowly and calmly lay the cloth in the tomb). Then soldiers rolled a huge stone in front of the tomb (roll the stone in front of the tomb).

Because decaying bodies start to smell, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and a few other women who were friends with Jesus prepared spices and perfumes to take with them to cover His body.

Can I have five volunteers to be the women? Select five girls to come on stage and wrap their hair in the scarves. (If your group is small, you can choose 1–2 girls instead of five.)

On the third day after Jesus had died, the women went to the tomb, carrying their spices and perfumes with them. Encourage the volunteers to pantomime carrying spices to the tomb. **But when they arrived, they found something completely unexpected: The large stone that covered the tomb’s doorway had been moved to the side, and Jesus’ body was not there.** Roll the stone away from the tomb’s entrance. **The women were very confused: What had happened to Jesus?**

Suddenly, two of God’s special messengers—angels—appeared to the women. Can I get two volunteers to be the angels? Select two kids to be the angels, draping the white scarves around their shoulders and directing them to stand in front of the open tomb, facing the women and the rest of the audience.

The women were frightened (encourage the girls to cower), **but the angels said** (have the angels repeat after you), **“Jesus isn’t here; He has come back to life! Why do you think a living person would be hanging out among dead bodies?”** Thank the angels, collect their white scarves, and direct them to return to their seats.

The women ran to Jesus’ other disciples and told them what the angels had said. Direct the girls to repeat after you: **“Jesus is alive! Jesus is alive!”**

People don’t usually come back to life after dying, so it was hard for the disciples to believe that something so amazing had actually happened. To the kids in the audience: **Pretend to be the disciples and cross your arms like you’re not quite sure what to think about this news. Could it really be that their best friend, Jesus, was alive again?**

The disciples struggled to believe what Mary Magdalene and the other women were telling them. But there was one person who had to find out. Can I get a volunteer to be Peter? Drape the brown scarf around Peter’s shoulders. If using fake beards, give one to Peter to put on. Thank the girls and invite them to be seated in the audience with their head scarves on for the remainder of the story.

Peter could not contain his excitement. He sprinted to the tomb and went inside to check it out for himself. Encourage Peter to run to the tomb and look or go inside and pick up the strips of linen as though examining them. **All he found were the strips of linen cloth that had covered Jesus’ body. Peter still wasn’t sure what had happened, but he would soon find out.** Invite Peter to come out of the tomb and return to the audience, still wearing the scarf and playing the part of Peter.

A short time later, Jesus appeared to him and the other disciples in person. Invite the Jesus volunteer, who has been at the back of the room in a robe this entire time, to slowly make his way through the audience up to the stage. He can face the audience with his arms out invitingly and a smile on his face.

Jesus obeyed God, His Father, by dying for the sins of the whole world. But that wasn’t the end of the story! God showed that Jesus really is His Son by raising Him from death to life. Now Jesus can never die again; He lives forever and ever. And since Jesus died for us and healed our broken relationship with God, God will one day raise us so that we can live with Him forever. Jesus is alive!

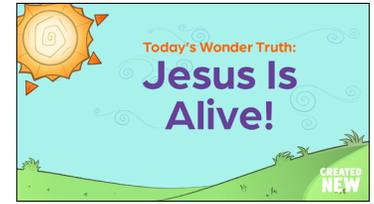
Thank the volunteers and collect the remaining costumes.

Connecting the Wonder Truth

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide

Display the Resurrection Wonder Truth Slide. **Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS ALIVE. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story?** Allow kids to answer freely.

Jesus fulfilled God's promises by dying for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that He is God. Jesus is now exalted to the highest place, and one day, everyone in heaven and on earth will acknowledge that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!



In Awe of God's Wonder

Spend a few moments allowing kids to think about the wonder of God's story.

What amazed you about today's story? Allow kids to answer freely. Be willing to share your answer.

If you were the women at the empty tomb, what would you wonder about? Allow kids to respond.

LESSON 4 ELEMENTARY & PRETEEN

Small Group

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Word of Wonder Activity

WORD OF WONDER

When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here!

—2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

—2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Word of Wonder Slide, [Elementary Word of Wonder Video](#) (optional)

Our Word of Wonder for the Created New series talks about being made new! Let's say the verse together. Open your Bible to 2 Corinthians 5:17. Display the Word of Wonder Slide. If possible, watch the [Elementary Word of Wonder Video](#). Practice saying the verse several times together.

Encourage each small group to come up with an original song, rap, or cheer for the Word of Wonder—complete with dance moves or motions. For groups with mostly preteens, let the kids create it themselves; only step in to help if needed. For groups with mostly younger kids, create a simple call-and-response cheer in which you say a line of the verse while doing a motion, like clapping or jumping, and the kids repeat after you. If time allows, invite all the small groups to perform their original numbers for the whole group.

Elementary Questions

- **How long was Jesus in the tomb?** (*three days*)
- **Who found the tomb empty?** (*Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who were visited Jesus' tomb to put spices and perfumes on His body*)
- **Who appeared to the women and told them Jesus had come back to life?** (*two angels*)
- **Do you think the women were surprised by what the angels told them? Why or why not?**
- **The women ran to tell Jesus' other disciples what the angels said. If you were the one to deliver this news to the disciples, what would you say?**
- **Jesus didn't stay dead. He is alive! What does this mean to you? What does it mean for your friends? Your family?**

God raised Jesus from the dead, showing just how powerful He is! Jesus has power even over death. Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Preteen Questions

- **What happened three days after Jesus died and was buried in a tomb?** *(He rose from the dead!)*
- **Do you think Jesus' rising from the dead was a miracle? Why or why not?** *(If needed, remind kids that a miracle is an amazing sign that God is at work.)*
- **What did the angels tell the women when they found the tomb empty?** *(See Luke 24:5–6.)*
- **What's the first thing the women did after they heard this news?** *(They ran to tell Jesus' other disciples what the angels had said.)*
- **Imagine you had watched as Jesus was buried. What would you think when angels appeared three days later and told you He had come back to life?**
- **Jesus didn't stay dead. He is alive! What does this mean to you? What does it mean for your friends? Your family?**

What an incredible moment it was for Jesus' friends and followers when He rose again. They thought they would never see their best friend again—imagine the joy they must have felt when they realized Jesus was alive! His resurrection shows just how powerful He is! Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Small Group Prayer Time

Invite kids to sit with two friends and share their thanks to God for bringing Jesus back to life and for showing how powerful He is. Kids can pray together in small groups and offer thanks and prayer requests to God.

LESSON 4 ELEMENTARY & PRETEEN

Large Group or Small Group

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Elementary Responding in Worship: Posters and Praise Parties!

SUPPLIES: posterboard or butcher paper, permanent marker (prep only), coloring utensils, masking or painter's tape, ribbon wands, handheld instruments

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Posters and Praise Parties! Slide, "He Is Alive" from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Leader Tip: Don't have ribbon wands? Consider making a set that kids can use whenever they worship. All you need are wooden dowels, ribbons (in multiple colors), hot glue/glue gun (used only by adults), and scissors. Tie several ribbons to the end of each wand and secure them with hot glue.

Ahead of time, make a praise poster by using a permanent marker to write the Wonder Truth—Jesus Is Alive!—across the top of a posterboard or large sheet of butcher paper. At the start of the activity, set out the praise poster along with coloring utensils.

Display the Posters and Praise Parties! Slide and gather the kids together around the "Jesus Is Alive!" praise poster. **Today we learned that three days after Jesus died on the cross, He rose from the dead. Jesus is alive!** Invite kids to share their responses to these questions:



- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is alive and will always be alive?
- When we choose to follow Jesus, we become God's kids and get to live with Him forever! What do you want to say to Jesus in response?

Let's take a few minutes to decorate our praise poster. You can draw pictures and designs or write words to say, "Wow!" and "Thank You!" to Jesus for His death and resurrection!

Leader Tip: Some kids might be hearing about Jesus' resurrection for the first time, and others might be understanding Jesus' love for them in a new and personal way. Be ready to talk with kids about their journey with Jesus and invite their families to join you as you talk and pray together. Refer to the Salvation Path resource for ideas.

As kids decorate the praise poster, invite them to share what they're writing and drawing. Play music from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#) and encourage kids to sing along as they work. When the poster is complete, or after several minutes, invite kids to help you tape it to the wall where everyone can see it.

Jesus is alive! The only way Jesus could die and rise again was through the amazing power of God. Jesus would not allow anything to stop His love for us, not even death. When God raised Jesus from the dead, God was making the world right again. Jesus' death and resurrection gives every person the opportunity to walk with Him every day. We can worship a God who beat sin and death because Jesus is alive! Let's have a praise party and worship Him!

Play the song "He Is Alive" from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#). Set out ribbon wands and handheld instruments to use during worship as kids celebrate Jesus' resurrection!

Make It Inclusive: Offer a quieter area of the room or noise-cancelling headphones for kids who are sensitive to loud noises.

Leader Tip: Encourage kids to sing at the top of their lungs as they worship. Giving kids objects to use during worship helps create an atmosphere of joy and excitement and gives kids another way to express their praise to God!

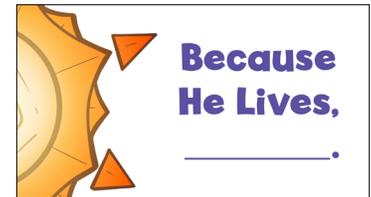
Preteen Responding in Worship: Because He Lives

SUPPLIES: disposable tablecloths; air-dry clay (1 palm-sized amount per kid, about 3–4 ounces); clay carving tool such as wooden skewers, empty ballpoint pens, or dull pencils (1 per kid)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Because He Lives Slide, "Because He Lives" from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, prepare a workspace for kids to create crosses from air dry clay by covering one or more tables with disposable tablecloths.

Display the Because He Lives Slide and gather the kids around the prepared workspace. (Keep the slide on the screen throughout this response time.) Give each kid a palm-sized amount of air-dry clay. Invite them to begin forming a cross from their clay as you talk. When they finish it, they can let it sit and dry.



Today we learned that three days after Jesus died on the cross, He rose from the dead. Jesus is alive! Invite kids to share their responses to these questions:

- **How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is alive and will always be alive?**
- **Jesus is alive! What difference does this truth make in your life today?**

There's a classic song titled "Because He Lives" that describes how as Jesus-followers, we can live our lives differently because our God—Jesus—is alive. Point to the slide on the screen as you ask this question:

- **How would you fill in this blank: "Because He lives, _____"?**

Invite kids to think about their answers before sharing. Consider sharing a couple examples to get them started. For example, “Because He lives, I know God is more powerful than death!” and “Because He lives, I can live with Jesus forever!” Give each kid a clay carving tool (i.e. wooden skewer, empty ballpoint pen, dull pencil). **The cross is recognized around the world as a symbol of Jesus’ death, but we know that Jesus didn’t stay dead! Let’s carve words into our crosses as a reminder that Jesus is alive, and we can live like it!** Invite kids to carve their answer to the question into their cross. How do they fill in the blank, “Because He lives, _____”? If their answers are too long to carve, encourage them to choose just one or two key words to carve. As kids work, play “Because He Lives” from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#).

When all the kids are finished, invite them to share their crosses and how they filled in the blank, “Because He lives, _____!”

Leader Tip: The air-dry crosses may need some extra time to dry completely (usually about 24–72 hours). If it’s feasible, keep the crosses at church and send them home with kids the next time you see them.

Blessing Your Kids

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Resurrection Blessing Slide

Close your time together by blessing the kids in your group. If you bless kids individually, insert each kid’s name into the blessing. Display the Resurrection Blessing Slide.

Blessing: Jesus is alive! May you shout it wherever you are. May you live it out this week. May you remember that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is alive in you! Jesus is alive, and He loves you!

