



## 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:** Jesus makes us new. —from 2 Corinthians 5:17

### CURIOSITY 15–20 minutes

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

- Play Stations:
  - Easter Egg Sensory Bin
  - Music Praise
  - The Resurrection Coloring Sheet
- Curiosity Activity: Dead or Alive?
- Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions
- Declaring God's Wonder



### BELIEF 20 minutes

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: The Resurrection
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Word of Wonder: From 2 Corinthians 5:17

### FAITH 15–20 minutes

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

- Circle Time: Questions in Eggs
- Craft: Creating Crosses
- Game: Jesus Is Alive Circle Chase

### IDENTITY 15–20 minutes

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

- Responding in Worship: Worship Dancing
- Prayer and Blessing
- Closing Game: Empty Eggs

## 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:** From 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)!



## LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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:** From 2 Corinthians 5:17

## Play Stations

**SUPPLIES:** bin, dry beans, small paper (or plastic) hearts, plastic Easter eggs, toy musical instruments, coloring utensils, pots and pans (optional), wooden spoons (optional), plastic Easter eggs with dry beans inside (optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** The Resurrection Coloring Sheet (1 per kid)

Greet the kids warmly and briefly explain the play stations to them. Invite them to play at any of the stations.

**Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help you get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas about what we'll be learning today?**

### Play Station: Easter Egg Sensory Bin

**Set up:** Fill a bin with dry beans and mix in some paper (or plastic) hearts. Set out empty plastic Easter eggs.

**Play:** Let the kids fill the plastic eggs with beans, shake them, and then empty them. See if they can hide a heart inside one of the eggs. Ask what they hear when they shake a filled egg and an empty egg.

### Play Station: Music Praise

**Set up:** Set out toy musical instruments (or make your own using pots and pans and wooden spoons or plastic Easter eggs filled with dry beans).

**Play:** Let the kids play with the instruments and make their own music as a way to celebrate Jesus and praise God for Jesus.

### Play Station: The Resurrection Coloring Sheet

**Set up:** Ahead of time, print one copy per kid of the coloring sheet and set out coloring utensils.

**Play:** Let the kids color. The kids could also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of a cross or anything that reminds them of Easter and Jesus.

## Curiosity Activity: Dead or Alive?

**SUPPLIES:** plastic bug, plastic Easter egg, real flower, wilted (dead) flower, rock, magnifying glasses (optional), black tablecloth (optional), safety goggles (optional), lab coats (optional)

Before kids arrive, gather supplies and display them on a table. Place magnifying glasses on the table, if using. You can also cover the table with a black tablecloth.

**In this activity, you can all pretend you're scientists. I have items for you to observe—that means look at closely. I'll hold one up at a time. We'll decide whether each item is dead or alive. You can use your eyes, nose, and hands to observe.** If using magnifying glasses, let the kids use them observe. You can also allow the kids to wear safety goggles and lab coats, if available.

**When something is alive, it means that it's a growing thing that will continue to be able to live.** Hold up one object at a time and invite the kids to decide as a group whether it's alive or not.

**Do you think any of the dead objects can come to life right now?** Allow kids to respond. **If that happened, what would you say or do?** Allow the kids to respond. **A rock wouldn't come alive! That would be impossible.**

**Today we're going to hear about something Jesus did that took everyone by surprise. Jesus came back to life, and everything changed! Today's Wonder Truth is: JESUS IS ALIVE!**

## Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions

**SUPPLIES:** dead or wilted plant or flower (optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Tac the Cat Picture or puppet

For this section, you can use the cat picture provided, a stuffed animal cat, or a cat hand puppet.

**Leader:** You may remember our friend Tac, the curious cat. Are you ready to talk with him?

**Tac the Cat:** Hi, kids! Today I'm curious today about my flower. It was beautiful and standing tall. Then I forgot to water it for a long time, and something bad happened ...

*(If you have a wilted or dead flower or plant, hold it up to show the kids.)*

**Leader:** What happened, Tac? Did it die?

**Tac the Cat:** Yes, I think so! It's all droopy now. It's turning brown. The petals are falling off the flower. Why did that happen?

**Leader:** That's too bad. Flowers need water in order to grow and stay alive. You might be able to give it some water and see if it comes back to life!

**Tac the Cat:** Oh, I didn't know that. So the flower might come back to life?

**Leader:** It's possible, if it's not all the way dead.

**Tac the Cat:** I can give it some water! I hope it blooms again. It was my favorite flower.

**Leader:** You know what it reminds me of? Our story for today! It's a true story about Jesus.

**Tac the Cat:** Is it a story about Jesus watering a flower?

**Leader:** No, Tac. It's about when Jesus died. It was so sad. But He didn't stay dead. He came back to life!

**Tac the Cat:** That sounds like an amazing story. How did that happen?



**Leader:** It's the greatest story! We'll hear all about it today.

**Tac the Cat:** That sounds great! Well, I'm going to go water my flower plant now and see if it does come back to life.

**Have you ever been curious about something? Let's take a moment and think: What do you think Jesus did that is so special?** Allow the kids to respond. **What are you curious about that has to do with Jesus?** Allow the kids to respond. **The part of God's big story that we'll hear about today will help you understand more about how amazing Jesus is and why we can celebrate.**

Today's Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS ALIVE**. Today we'll celebrate that Jesus is alive!

## Declaring God's Wonder

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Early Childhood Declaration [Video](#) or Slide (optional)

Show the Early Childhood Declaration [Video](#) or Slide and encourage the kids to say the statements and do the motions with you.

**Thank You, God, that You made me!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Make prayer hands, then point up and then to yourself.

**And I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands on your hips.

**Jesus loves me so much.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

**His love for me is big.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

**The Holy Spirit leads me,** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Bring your arms down from above, making a path in front of you.

**And I can follow You.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

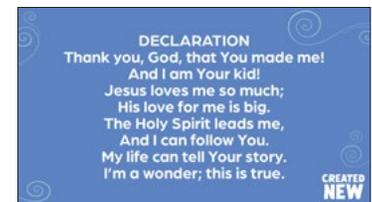
March in place like you're following the leader.

**My life can tell Your story.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

**I'm a wonder; this is true.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands up, shake your fingers, and celebrate ("praise hands").





Curiosity

**Belief**

Faith

Identity

## LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

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:** From 2 Corinthians 5:17

### Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, You are amazing! We can't wait to hear Your Word today and celebrate Jesus' resurrection! We invite Your Holy Spirit to be with us. Help us know Your love even more. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

### Worship

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

**Today we'll learn about how much Jesus loves us and how He overcame death. Jesus is the best! Let's sing and thank Him!**

Play songs from the [Created New Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

### God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Bible Story Picture (optional)

#### Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

**I open my Bible, and what do I see?** *(Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)*

**God's big story, waiting for me!** *(Point to yourself.)*

**Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Luke in the Bible, which is in the New Testament.**

Hold up a Bible and show the kids. Open a Bible and show them where the story is found in the book of Luke.

Read the God's big story script provided or read Luke 24:1–12 from the Bible. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to give the kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

# GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

**SUPPLIES:** scissors (prep only), posterboard, painter's tape, magnetic whiteboard (optional), small magnets (optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Storytelling Sheets, [The Resurrection God's Big Story Video](#)

**Leader Tip:** This information about Jesus' death and resurrection may be hard for preschoolers to understand. Explain it the best you can, but don't worry about the kids grasping all the concepts right away. The most important thing for kids to know is that Jesus is alive, and He loves them.



Ahead of time, print the Storytelling Sheets and cut apart the pictures. Before the activity, set up the posterboard (or tape it to the wall). Set out the pictures and tape. You could also use a magnetic whiteboard (test it—not all whiteboards are magnetic!) and tape small magnets to the backs of the pictures so you can easily move them around.

**You can help with putting pictures on the poster while we tell the story. In the Created New series, we've been learning about when God made everything. We learned that Adam and Eve were the first people God made. They did the one thing God told them not to do. Disobeying God is called sin. Sin messed a lot of things up. But God had a plan to fix His relationship with His people. God sent Jesus to save His people. The Bible tells the story of Jesus.**

**Jesus died on the cross even though He did not deserve it.** Tape the cross picture onto the poster or invite a kid to tape it up. Then tape the Jesus pictures onto the cross. **He died to beat sin once and for all. After Jesus died, people put His body into a tomb.** Tape the tomb onto the poster (or invite a kid to tape it up). Then move the Jesus picture and tape it onto the tomb picture. **The tomb was like a cave. A big stone was rolled in front of the entrance.** Invite a kid to tape the stone picture on top of the tomb picture.

**Back then, people put spices on bodies after people died. The spices helped bodies not smell so bad. So three days after He died, some of Jesus' friends came to put spices on His body.** Invite a kid to tape the two women pictures onto the poster next to the tomb.

**When the women got to Jesus' tomb, they found a surprise! The tomb was open.** Invite a kid to move the stone off the tomb. Then remove the Jesus picture and put it out of sight. **The large stone was rolled away from the entrance. The women looked inside the tomb. Jesus' body wasn't there. The women were very confused: What happened to Jesus?**

**Then two of God's special messengers—angels—suddenly showed up.** Invite a kid to tape the two angel pictures next to the women and the tomb. **The women were scared. The angels said, "Jesus isn't here; He has come back to life!" The women ran to tell Jesus' other followers what the angels said.** Move the women pictures as if they are running off. Move them out of sight.

**This was a big surprise. It was hard for the disciples to believe what the women told them. Was Jesus really alive again after He died? Peter was one of the disciples. He was so excited. He wanted to see for himself. Peter ran to the tomb.** Invite a kid to tape the Peter picture next to the empty tomb. **He didn't see Jesus in the tomb. Peter saw strips of cloth that were on Jesus' body when He died. That's it.**

**A short time later, Jesus appeared!** Invite a kid to tape the Jesus standing picture next to the Peter picture. **Peter and the other disciples saw Him. It was true! Jesus was not dead anymore. He came back to life. Now Jesus can never die again. He lives forever and ever. And since Jesus died for us and fixed our relationship with God, someday we can live with God forever too. Jesus is alive!**

### VIEW THE GOD'S BIG STORY VIDEO



## Connecting the Wonder Truth

Ask the following question to help kids connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

**Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS ALIVE! Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen 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. He beat sin and death. Jesus is still alive, and one day, everyone in heaven and on earth will know that He is Lord (Philippians 2:9–11)!**

## Word of Wonder

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Word of Wonder Sheets, Created New Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#) (optional)

### WORD OF WONDER

Jesus makes us new.

—from 2 Corinthians 5:17

Ahead of time, print the Word of Wonder Sheets. Display the Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#), if using.

**Our Word of Wonder for the Created New series is from 2 Corinthians 5:17. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.**

**Our Word of Wonder is from 2 Corinthians 5:17. We've learned Jesus died on the cross so our sins—all the wrong things we think, say and do—can be forgiven.**

**When we're forgiven, we get a new way to live. Jesus makes us new! He makes us new because He loves us.**

Hold up the Word of Wonder Sheets. **Look at the picture on the first page: It has a person on it. That's like us. What are we like before we follow Jesus?** Allow the kids to respond. **Without Jesus, we live for ourselves. We sin and we are far from God. We aren't whole. We were made to be in relationship with God. But when we trust in Jesus, He makes us new. The next page shows a person**



**surrounded by hearts. What do you think the hearts are for?** Allow the kids to respond. **Jesus loves us! He forgives us and makes our hearts new. Let's say the Word of Wonder together again a few more times. Each time we say, "new," I'll choose someone to hold up the second page with the person surrounded by hearts.** Say the verse several times together and choose a person to hold up the second page when you say "new."

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **JESUS**—Point fingers from left hand into right palm, then right hand into left palm (sign language for "Jesus").
- **MAKES US**—Both hands over your heart.
- **NEW.**—Bring both arms out in front of you and down to your sides.
- **FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**—Hold your hands together as if opening a book.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **What does Jesus do in us?** (Jesus makes us new.)
- **How does it feel to know Jesus died for you because He loves you so much?**



LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

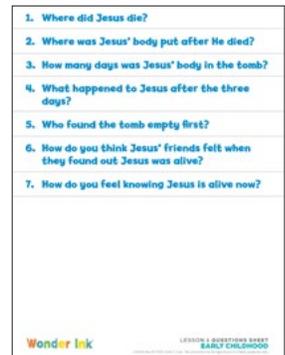
WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Alive!
SCRIPTURE: Luke 24
WORD OF WONDER: From 2 Corinthians 5:17

Circle Time: Questions in Eggs

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), plastic eggs (7), permanent marker, basket
Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Questions Sheet

Ahead of time, print the Questions Sheet and cut the questions apart. Place one question inside each plastic egg. Use a permanent marker to number the eggs 1–7, corresponding to the number of each question.

Put the eggs in a basket and gather the kids to sit in a circle. In our story, we learned that Jesus died, but He didn’t stay dead. He came back to life. And He’s alive now! He died for us because He loves us. We’re going to answer some questions using the eggs. Choose one kid to select any egg and open it, then hand you the paper so you can read the question. Give the kids an opportunity to answer the question. Choose a different kid to select each egg from the basket.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Where did Jesus die? (on a cross)
2. Where was Jesus’ body put after He died? (a tomb)
3. How many days was Jesus’ body in the tomb? (three days)
4. What happened to Jesus after the three days? (He came back to life.)
5. Who found the tomb empty first? (the women)
6. How do you think Jesus’ friends felt when they found out Jesus was alive?
7. How do you feel knowing Jesus is alive now?

We used eggs to find our questions. The questions were inside the eggs, but nothing was inside the tomb where Jesus’ friends put His body. He is alive! Jesus is so powerful that He even has power over death. Let’s talk to God now in prayer!

Leader Tip: Jesus’ death on the cross may be a new concept to some kids and may be familiar to others. Be prepared to engage with those children who have deeper questions about the death and resurrection.

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and thank God for Jesus and His life. God hears all our prayers!

## Craft: Creating Crosses

**SUPPLIES:** various colors of construction paper (at least 1 sheet per kid), craft sticks (at least 2 per kid), glue, coloring utensils (optional), Easter-themed stickers (optional)

**Jesus didn't stay dead! He came back to life, and we can celebrate! It was sad when Jesus died on the cross. But we can be thankful for the cross because Jesus died to forgive our sins, and He came back to life! We can say, "Thank You" to God for this wonderful gift! We can celebrate Jesus and His resurrection! The word resurrection means He has come back to life. Let's make our own crosses to take home as a reminder of the wonderful gift Jesus gave us: forgiveness and His life!**

Give each child a sheet of colored construction paper and two craft sticks. Help them glue the craft sticks onto the paper in the shape of a cross. You can also invite the kids to decorate the paper with coloring utensils and Easter-themed stickers. Make an extra cross to show the kids as an example and also to use in the Closing Game.



## Game: Jesus Is Alive Circle Chase

**How do you think the women at the tomb and Peter felt when they saw the empty tomb? Allow the kids to respond. Do you think they were surprised? They saw that Jesus was not dead anymore. He came back to life. Now He lives forever and ever. We can thank God for Jesus!**

Have the kids form a circle and sit down. This game is similar to "Duck, Duck, Goose" except kids will say, "Jesus is alive!" Designate one kid to tap heads as she goes around the circle. Have that kid begin making her way around the circle with this phrase: "Jesus is ... Jesus is .... alive!" When a kid gets tapped on the word "alive," he will get up to chase the tapper around the circle one time before it's his turn to tap others.

**Leader Tip:** You can keep this game easy and cooperative by avoiding any tagging as part of the chase. It may help not to have a spot in the middle of the circle, as kids this age may become confused or upset by playing the game in a more competitive way.

**Make It Inclusive:** For kids who aren't able to run (or choose not to run) or don't want to have their heads tapped, adapt the game and have them sit in their own area and stand up (or raise their arms up) when they hear the phrase "Jesus is alive!"



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

## LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Create space for God to remind kids that 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:** From 2 Corinthians 5:17

### Responding in Worship: Worship Dancing

**SUPPLIES:** ribbon wands or crepe paper streamers, toy instruments (such as plastic Easter eggs filled with dry beans), toy microphones, large plastic hoops

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** upbeat songs from the [Created New Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

In God's big story today, we learned that Jesus didn't just die. He came alive again! He is alive now because of God's power! Let's celebrate right now that Jesus is alive. Let's show Jesus how excited we are that He loves us. You can worship however you feel the most comfortable. You might want to play the instruments to make noise. You might want to dance or wave a ribbon or sing. You might want to pray and thank God for Jesus. Whatever you choose to do, think about how wonderful it is that Jesus loves you and how He is alive. Celebrate Him!

Give kids time to respond in worship by playing upbeat songs from the [Created New Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#). Create a celebration experience that kids will never forget as they celebrate the resurrection! Give the kids ribbon wands or crepe paper streamers, toy instruments, toy microphones, and large plastic hoops to use during worship.

**Make It Inclusive:** Using ribbons and instruments is a fun tactile way for kids to engage in worship; be aware of the noise and chaos kids with sensory issues. They may want to use their ribbons or instruments in another area of the room away from the loud noises.

### Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking Jesus for being alive and for loving us.

**Let's pray and talk to God. Jesus, thank You for showing Your love through Your death on the cross and for coming back to life forever. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**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!

## Closing Game: Empty Eggs

**SUPPLIES:** plastic Easter eggs (1 per kid), cotton balls, basket, disposable spoons (optional)

Ahead of time, prepare a basket of plastic Easter eggs. Fill some of them with cotton balls and leave some empty. Set the eggs on one side of the room and a basket on the other. Have the kids line up near the basket.

**Today we learned from God's big story that Jesus died on the cross and He rose again. What did the people at the tomb find when they came to Jesus' tomb three days after He died?** Allow the kids to respond. **They found an empty tomb! Why was it empty?** Allow the kids to respond. **Jesus wasn't there! He was alive! He is alive today.**

**Let's play a game where we'll see if we can find the empty eggs. You'll line up by the basket and run to the place where the eggs are. You'll each choose one egg and run it back to the basket, then the next person in line will go. We'll go until every kid has gotten an egg, then we'll open them and count to see how many eggs are empty.** You can split the kids into two teams and make it a race. To make it harder, the kids can use a disposable spoon instead of their hands to get the eggs.