

Bible Point ▶

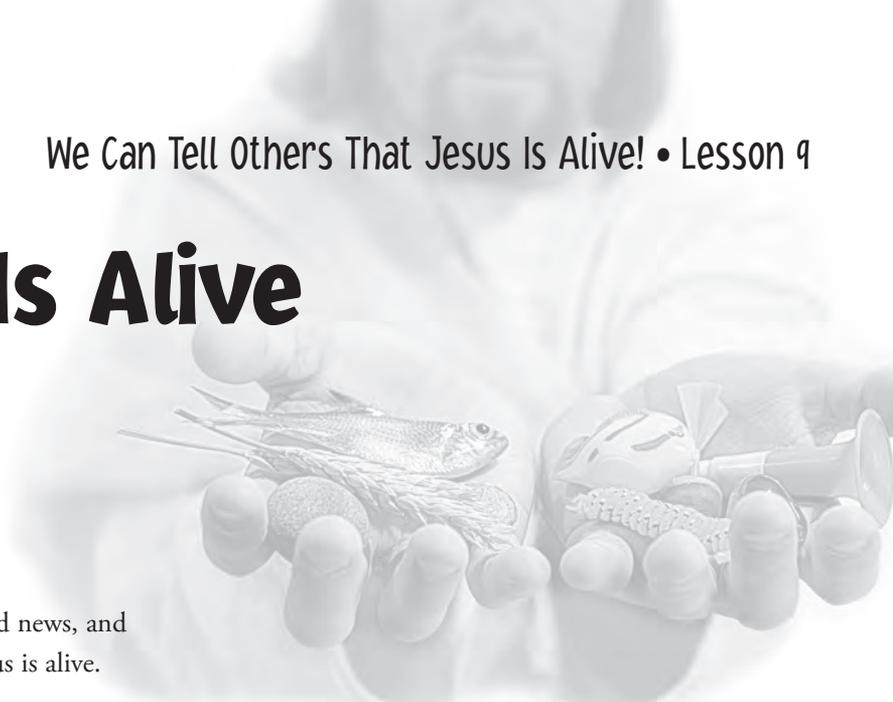
Jesus Is Alive

Bible Verse

Jesus is alive (adapted from Mark 16:6b).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- know that Jesus is alive,
 - learn different ways to share good news, and
 - celebrate the good news that Jesus is alive.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

■ We can tell others that Jesus is alive!

**Matthew
28:1-10, 16-20**



As we begin looking at this passage, it's interesting to note that even after spending three years with Jesus and seeing him alive after witnessing his death on the cross, some of his disciples had doubts. But we should be careful not to be too hard on them. How skeptical would you be if you heard of someone being dead for three days and then coming back to life? Wouldn't you be suspicious that some kind of trick was being played?

The disciples' doubts didn't stop Jesus from trusting them. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus placed the future of all he had done on earth into their hands. And he commissioned them with a task that has yet to be completely fulfilled: "Make disciples of all the nations." As Christians we have inherited that commission to reach our world for Christ today. But Jesus didn't just give a task; he promised support. He told them, and us, that he would be with his people always, even to the end of the age.

Prayer

- Read Romans 10:9.
- Who have you told about Jesus recently?
- Pray: Lord, thank you for giving us Jesus and for raising him from the dead. Help me to always be ready to share my faith in him. Help me to share my faith with my students by...

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player	
	Option 1: The Living Tree —Have fun working together to create a handprint tree.	Brown and green tempera paint, dishes, paintbrushes, newspaper, construction paper, paint shirts, cleanup supplies, crayons	
	Option 2: Tell-All Technology —Explore different ways to communicate.	Toy telephones, walkie-talkies, recording device with speakers, paper and crayons	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	Jesus Is Alive —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the Easter story from Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20 and learn that Jesus is alive.		
	Jesus Is Alive Today —Sing a lively song and learn that Jesus is alive.	CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Review the Bible Point with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Flag patterns (p. 119), colorful paper, scissors, drinking straws, tape, small flag or piece of fabric, pin	
	Sing It Out —Sing a lively song and learn that Jesus is alive.	Bible, CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make walkie-talkies to share the good news.	Empty juice boxes, white paper, tape, scissors, crayons, and drinking straws	
	Bible Game —Pop bubbles and practice telling others the Bible Point.		
Closing 	Mouth to Mouth —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Rice cakes, frosting, paper plates, plastic knives, people- or animal-shaped cookies	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player



- Play “Jesus Is Alive Today” (adapted from Mark 16:6b) (track 8) from the CD as children are arriving.
- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child’s clothing.
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► Jesus is alive.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won’t be distracted by him during the next activity.



It’s important to say the Bible Point just as it’s written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.



Option 1: The Living Tree

SUPPLIES: brown and green tempera paint, dishes, paintbrushes, newspaper, construction paper, paint shirts, cleanup supplies, crayons

Cover a table with newspaper. Set out large sheets of construction paper, dishes of brown paint and green paint, and paintbrushes.

Help children roll up the sleeves on their clothing. Have an adult help each child paint his or her palm and inner fingers and wrist brown. Help children create tree-shaped prints by pressing their painted hands and arms to their sheets of construction paper. Encourage children to talk about things that are alive as you wash hands and allow the paint to dry.

Show children how to paint leaves on the branches of their tree prints. They may also want to paint grass at the base of their trees. Talk about how the green trees are alive just as Jesus is alive. Let children draw pictures of friends or family members playing under the trees. Encourage children to draw pictures of people they can tell that ► Jesus is alive.



Option 2: Tell-All Technology

SUPPLIES: toy telephones, walkie-talkies, recording device with speakers, paper and crayons

Set out a variety of items used to communicate, such as toy phones, walkie-talkies, and paper and crayons. Let children explore and play with them.

Reinforce the Bible Point by allowing each child to take a turn shouting, “Jesus is alive!” into the microphone of a tape recorder or digital recorder. Then play the recording back for children to hear their voices. Explain to children that we can use items such as a telephone or a picture to tell someone good news. Remind them that no matter how we do it, it’s so important for each of us to tell others that ► Jesus is alive!



■ Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let’s Pick Up All Our Things” (track 2). Use the CD and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”



Let’s pick up all our things.
Let’s pick up all our things.
Let’s pick up all our things
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Let’s put it all away.

Let’s pick up all our things.
Let’s pick up all our things.
Let’s pick up all our things.
It’s time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Say: **Who is alive? ► *Jesus is alive.* How do we know that? The Bible tells us.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God’s special book. The Bible tells us about God and Jesus. Let’s sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD, lead children in singing “God’s Special Book” (track 3) to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”



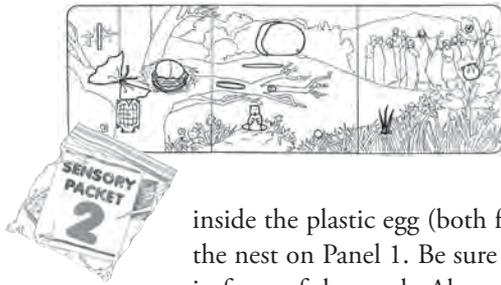
This is God’s special book.
Yes, it’s God’s book you see!
I learn about all God has done
And his love for me!

(Repeat.)

Bible!

■ Bible Story: Jesus Is Alive

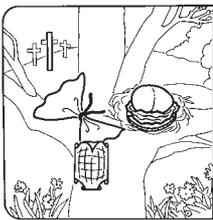
SUPPLIES: none



Before class begins, please check to make sure the sensory items are still attached securely so the children can touch them without danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Before this activity, place the baby duck inside the plastic egg (both from Sensory Packet 2), and place the egg in the nest on Panel 1. Be sure the StoryBoard stone on Panel 2 is rolled in front of the tomb. Also make sure that the pullout items on all three panels are tucked inside the appropriate places on the StoryBoard.

Panel 1



Fold back the StoryBoard so that children see only Panel 1. Say: **Today we're learning that ► Jesus is alive. That's great news! Let's all clap our hands and shout "hooray!"** Allow children to respond.

Ask: • **How do you tell others about something happy?** (Our mouths; telephones; sing about it.)

• **Who can find the nest and egg?** Let children touch the nest and open the plastic egg. Hold the toy baby duck.

Say: **Baby birds can't talk very well, can they? But a baby bird can show that it's happy!**

Ask: • **How can a baby bird tell everyone it's happy that ► Jesus is alive?** (It can sing; by flapping its wings.)

Say: **Birds can sing about how happy they are that Jesus is alive. So can we!** Lead children in singing a simple little song, such as "Jesus Loves Me."

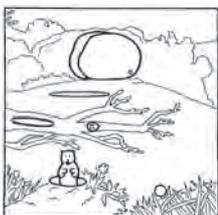
All of these things in this picture are alive: the butterfly, the flower, the grass (let children find and touch those items)—**and each of these things can tell the world that Jesus is alive, by flapping wings, smelling so beautiful, or stretching so tall to reach up to the skies. We can do some of those things, too, but God gave us each our own special ways to tell others that ► Jesus is alive.** Put the baby duck and butterfly safely aside.

A long time ago, some very mean people didn't like Jesus. They put Jesus on the cross, and he died.

Ask: • **Can you find the cross?** Have children find and touch the rough cross.

Say: **Jesus' friends were very sad. His body was laid in a tomb** (cup your left hand and hold it sideways), **and a big stone was rolled in front of the tomb** (place your right fist in front of your cupped palm). **The whole wide world was sad. But then came the good news!**

Panel 2



Open the StoryBoard to Panel 2. Point to the tomb and say: **Here is the tomb where the people put Jesus' body.** Demonstrate how to roll away the stone, and then replace it. **You can roll away the stone, too, and peek inside the tomb.**

Let children take turns rolling the stone away from the picture




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of the tomb. Once each child has had a turn, say: **Jesus' friends went to visit the tomb. But guess what they found when they got there!** Roll the stone away and then slide the angel figure up through the slot. **Jesus' friends saw an angel! The angel said, "Jesus is not here. Jesus is alive! Go and tell all your friends the good news!" Let's all whisper, ►"Jesus is alive."** Have children repeat the Bible Point in a whisper. **Now let's all shout, "Jesus is alive!"** Have children repeat the Bible Point by shouting.

Ask: • **Who can find the fuzzy inchworm?** Have the chenille worm move out of its hole and wiggle about on the grass for children to find and tickle.

Say: **Inchworms can't talk very well, can they? But an inchworm can show that it's happy!**

Ask: • **How can an inchworm tell everyone it's happy that ►Jesus is alive?** (It can wiggle; it can crawl.)

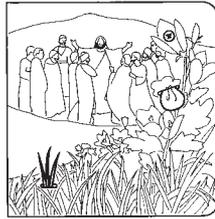
Say: **Inchworms can wiggle around to show how happy they are that Jesus is alive. So can we!** Lead the children in standing and wiggling their arms and legs.

Point to the bird in the egg on Panel 1 and say: **Baby birds can sing and quack to show they're happy that Jesus is alive.** Point to the inchworm. **The inchworm can wiggle for joy that Jesus is alive.** Point to the picture of the angel in the tomb. **The angel told all of Jesus' friends to go tell others that Jesus is alive. We are all Jesus' friends, too, so we need to do that same thing.**



Important: After the Bible Story, put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.


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Panel 3


Reveal Panel 3. Say: **Put your hand on your heart if you see Jesus in this picture.** When children have found the picture of Jesus, let them touch Jesus' beard and say, "I love you, Jesus."

Jesus' friends were so happy when they found out that ►Jesus is alive. Jesus prayed for all his friends, like you. Then Jesus told them that he was going to live in heaven. He told his friends to tell others that Jesus is alive! I'll count to 3, and then we'll say, "Jesus is alive!" Ready? One, two, three...Jesus is alive!

Let's see what else is alive. Have children find and touch the following items:

- the butterfly,
- the blossom (gently pull the blossom into a "flower"),
- the grass (gently pull the grass to make it "grow").

Say: **Spring is a wonderful time of new life, and we're so glad that ►Jesus is alive. Let's sing a song to show how happy we are for new life in Jesus.**


BIBLE POINT ►

■ Jesus Is Alive Today

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD, lead the children in singing "Jesus Is Alive Today" (adapted from Mark 16:6b) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)
Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)
Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)
Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)

Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)
Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)
Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)
Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)

Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)
Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)
Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)
Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)

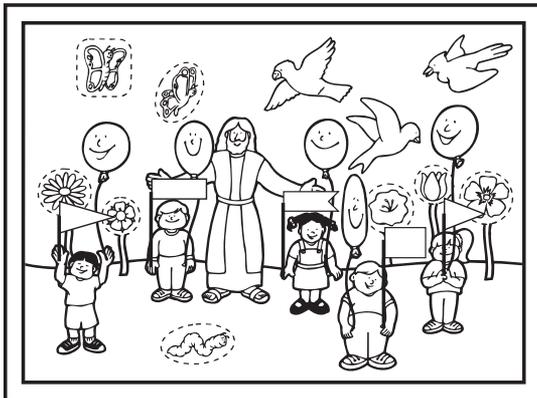
Say: Singing about Jesus is one way to tell people that **Jesus is alive.** We can also talk, draw pictures, and use many other ways to tell others about Jesus. Let's add flags to our bulletin board to show others that Jesus is alive.



Bible Activities

Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: flag patterns (p. 119), colorful paper, scissors, drinking straws, tape, small flag or piece of fabric, pin



Before class, photocopy the flag patterns onto colorful paper. Cut out a pattern for each child. Tape half a plastic drinking straw to each flag as a small handle. Pin a small piece of colorful fabric to Cuddles' hand.



Bring out Cuddles the Lamb with a small flag or a piece of colorful fabric pinned to his hand. Go through the following puppet script, and then put Cuddles away out of sight.

Cuddles: (Waving the flag) Look everyone! Look at me!

Teacher: Why, Cuddles, you seem very excited and happy! Why are you waving that flag?

Cuddles: I want to tell you some good news! And since I'm so little, I need a flag to get your attention. (Looks at the children.) You're little, too!

Teacher: That's right, Cuddles. All our friends are little right now, but they're getting bigger every day. Children, stand up on your tiptoes and show Cuddles how big you're getting.

Cuddles: Wow! I'm getting bigger, too. But until I'm really big, I'm using this flag to get the attention of bigger people so I can tell them something important.

Teacher: What's the important news you want to share?

Cuddles: I want everyone to know that ► Jesus is alive!

Teacher: That *is* very important news, Cuddles. I think we'll put some flags like yours on our bulletin board.

Have Cuddles hand each child a flag. Help children tape the flags in place on the bulletin board. Each time a child places a flag, lead him or her in saying the Bible Point.

Teacher: Our bulletin board shows how happy we are that ► Jesus is alive. Now let's sing a song to show how happy we are!

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■ Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player

BIBLE VERSE ►



Open your Bible to **Mark 16:6b**, and say: **The Bible tells us that ► Jesus is alive!** Have children repeat the Bible verse with you. Then lead children in the Bible verse song.

Using the CD, lead the children in singing "Jesus Is Alive Today" (adapted from Mark 16:6b) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."



Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)

Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)

Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)

Jesus cares for me. (Cover your heart; then hop.)

Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)

Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)

Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)

Jesus is with me. (Point to yourself; then hop.)

Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)

Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)

Jesus is alive today. (Wave your hands in the air.)

Jesus loves me so. (Hug yourself; then hop.)



BIBLE POINT ►

Say: **Now that we know that ► Jesus is alive, we need to go tell others! Let's make a walkie-talkie to talk to our friends and tell them about Jesus!**

■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: empty juice boxes, white paper, tape, scissors, crayons, and drinking straws

Before class, wrap empty juice boxes in white paper. Set out one wrapped box for each child, as well as crayons, tape, and drinking straws. Explain that each child will make a walkie-talkie to use in telling others about Jesus. Let the children decorate their boxes using the crayons. Then help each child tape a straw to the side of his or her box as the antenna for the walkie-talkie. As children are working, say: ► ***Jesus is alive!*** **Let's tell all our friends!**

When the children have finished, let them talk into their walkie-talkies. Remind them to practice echoing the Bible Point back and forth to one another through their walkie-talkies.



■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: none



Before class, remove the *ice cream cone bubbles* from the Learning Lab and set it out of the children's reach until this activity.

Say: **We've been learning that ► *Jesus is alive.* That's exciting news! When we know something exciting, we're just popping to tell other people, aren't we? It's fun to tell our friends about Jesus! Let's practice telling others about Jesus before we pop!** Invite children to follow you in marching around the room.

While we're marching, I'll blow some bubbles and you can pop them. Every time you pop a bubble, shout ► *Jesus is alive!* Blow lots of bubbles, and encourage children to chase them or pop them while repeating the Bible Point.

It's fun to pop bubbles, and it's fun to tell people that Jesus is alive. Now let's pop on over to the snack table.



Closing

■ Mouth to Mouth

SUPPLIES: rice cakes, frosting, paper plates, plastic knives, people- or animal-shaped cookies

Help children wash their hands, and gather everyone at the snack table.



Say: **We've been learning to tell others that ► *Jesus is alive.* Let's tell Jesus we're happy that he's alive and how much we love him. Fold your hands.** Pray: **Dear Jesus, we love you sooo much! We're happy that you are alive and that you are our forever friend! Help us to tell other people about you so you can be their forever friend, too. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen.**




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Let's make a snack to remind us to tell others that ► *Jesus is alive!* Hand each child a rice cake on a paper plate. Help children use a plastic knife or spoon to spread frosting on their rice cakes. Then give each child a handful of animal- or people-shaped cookies. Show the children how to move the friendly cookies around on top of their rice cakes, “talking” to one another. Encourage them to have their “friends” share the Bible Point with one another. Then let children eat their treats.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ Hug Sharing

Play a song from the *CD*. As the music plays, encourage the children to actively move around the room. You may even want to blow some bubbles for extra fun. After allowing the music to play for several seconds, turn it off suddenly. Each time you stop the music, tell the children to find someone to hug. Explain that hugs are one way we can show how happy we are that ► *Jesus is alive.*

■ It's Alive!

Gather toy people, animals, or other replicas of living things, or cut out pictures from magazines. Then gather images or objects that are not alive, such as rocks or crayons. Put all the items together in a container or basket. Let children each take a turn picking out a picture or object and holding it up for the rest of the children to see. Help the children shout out if the image is “not alive” or “alive.” Have the children separate the objects into two piles, placing them in the “alive” or “not alive” pile as each is chosen.

Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.

