

# 4 year olds, Kindergarten, and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Bible Lesson 4-12-20

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## Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection - EASTER

Matthew 26-28; 1 Corinthians 15

**Story Point:** Jesus gives us life with God forever.

**Memory Verse:** "He must become greater; I must become less." John 3:30

**Gospel Gems:** God sent Jesus to rescue us from sin.  
Jesus died on the cross and came back to life.

### **PARENTS ONLY: Bible Study Guide**

Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are essential to the Christian faith. If we teach Jesus as a respected teacher and miracle-worker who claimed to be the Messiah and who was crucified on the cross—but who was not resurrected—then we are teaching the Jesus of Judaism. If we teach Jesus as a wise teacher and prophet who ascended into heaven—but who was not crucified—then we are teaching the Jesus of Islam.

Jesus' purpose for coming to earth was to save us from our sins. (Matt. 1:21) Jesus came to die to show God's love to us (Rom. 5:7-8) so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) Jesus came to die so that we would be forgiven. (Eph. 1:7) Jesus came to die to bring us to God. (1 Pet. 3:18)

Jesus died on the cross to satisfy the wrath of God toward sin. His resurrection proved that God was satisfied with Jesus' sacrifice. If Jesus had died but not been raised up, He would have been like military leaders who died without a throne. (Acts 5:33-37) But Jesus conquered death, just as He said He would. (John 2:19-21) If there was no resurrection, Paul says, our faith would be worthless. We would be dead in our sins. (1 Cor. 15:17)

But Jesus' resurrection gives us hope for our resurrection. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will raise our bodies to life. (Rom. 8:11)

Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are not the end of the story, but the center of it. As you teach preschoolers this Bible story, emphasize the gospel: the good news of who Jesus is and what He has done. We do not worship a dead Savior. Jesus is alive! There is hope for sinners. Jesus' resurrection gives believers the promise of new life. "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22).

### **Bible Review:**

"This Sunday is a special Sunday. Can you tell me why? That's right - It's Easter. What makes Easter special? (you might discuss different traditions your family does) Easter is a wonderful time for people who believe in Jesus. It is the time we celebrate when Jesus died on the cross and came back to life." Let's read our Bible story today."

## **Bible Story: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection – Matthew 26-28; 1 Corinthians 15**

### **PARENTS:**

The lessons you have been receiving for the past several weeks have come straight from the Bible. This lesson, however, will be paraphrased and scripture references are listed above if you choose to read directly from the scriptures. We encourage you to open your Bible as you tell the Easter story, (whatever way you choose) so your child/children will understand the lesson is from the Bible.

An angry crowd took Jesus away to the religious leaders. They wanted to find a reason to kill Jesus, but Jesus had done nothing wrong. They took him to Pilate, the governor. Pilate's soldiers made a crown of thorns and put it on Jesus' head. They put a purple robe around Him and pretended to bow down to Him. Then they led Jesus away.

Jesus was nailed to a cross. They put a sign above Jesus' head that said: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Two criminals were put on crosses next to Jesus.

Darkness covered the land. Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Jesus died and was buried in a tomb. A large stone was rolled in front of the tomb, and Pilate's soldiers guarded the tomb so that no one would steal Jesus' body.

On the third day, two of Jesus' friends, both named Mary, went to the tomb. They were very sad. Suddenly there was a big earthquake as an angel came down from heaven. The angel rolled away the stone and sat on it. The guards fainted.

The angel spoke to the women, "Do not be afraid! Jesus is not here! He has risen from the dead, just as He said He would."

The women were so happy! Jesus was alive! They left the tomb to tell Jesus' disciples the good news. Just then, Jesus greeted them. The women worshiped Him. Jesus said, "Do not be afraid. Tell My brothers to go to Galilee. They will see Me there."

Jesus appeared to Peter and then to His other disciples. Then Jesus appeared to more than 500 people who followed Him. Many people saw with their own eyes that Jesus is alive!

### **Review Questions:**

- Did Jesus do anything wrong? (*no*)
- What did the soldiers put on Jesus' head? (*a crown of thorns*)
- Was Jesus nailed on a cross? (*yes*)
- What was rolled in front of the tomb where Jesus was buried? (*a large stone*)
- What happened on the third day after Jesus had died? (*there was a big earthquake and an angel came down from heaven, the angel rolled the stone away*)
- What made the women happy at the tomb? (*Jesus had risen! He was alive!*)
- Who did the women run and tell that Jesus was alive? (*the disciples*)

**Christ Connection** – (all stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus)

“Jesus is God’s Son. The most important thing that ever happened is that Jesus died and was raised from the dead. We can believe that Jesus is alive! When we turn from sin and trust in Jesus, we have hope and new life. Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever.”

### **Bible Activities pages:**

- Access: **4 years – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Activity pages 4-12-20** online.
- The first two pages are coloring sheets.
- Following the color sheets are the activity sheets.
- Choose one or both pages to work on.
- Follow the directions on the Activity page.

### **Activity Resource pages:** (supplemental)

- Access: **4 years – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Activity Resources 4-12-20** online.
- These are supplemental activities you can do with your child/children.

### **Craft:**

- Access the craft page: **4 years – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Craft 4-12-20** online.
- Follow the directions on the craft page.

### **Missions Moment:**

“Jesus is the reason missionaries go all over the world. They want to obey God and take the good news about Jesus to all people, even those who are very hard to reach. Missionaries do hard things so others can hear about Jesus and have life with God forever. Let’s watch a video about the gospel.”

- Access the **4 years – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Missions video** online.

### **Prayer**

“God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. Thank You that even though Jesus died, He came back to life just like You promised He would. Help us to share the good news of Jesus’ sacrifice with others. We love You! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”