



Jesus Lives!

Scripture: John 21:1-13

Bible Memory: John 20:31

“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.” (ICB)

“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Special Unit: Jesus’ Resurrection

Use this lesson on
Easter Sunday.











Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Good news and bad news. The birth of a child; the death of a loved one. These extremes are a part of our lives. And nothing was more heartrending than the roller coaster of emotions that Jesus’ disciples went through during the last weeks of His life: the death of Lazarus and his healing; the crowds of the triumphal entry who turned against Jesus; Jesus’ death and His resurrection. It is that last, precious good news that we share with our children today: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Bible Background for the Teacher

After His resurrection, Jesus told His apostles to go to Galilee to wait for Him. While they were waiting, some of the followers went on a night’s fishing expedition at Lake Galilee. It is not known where the fire and the fish and bread that Jesus prepared came from, but the one who miraculously fed more than 5,000 on one occasion and 4,000 on another was quite able to provide. In fact, He created the fish, the shore, and the waters!

Jesus’ Resurrection Lesson at a Glance

		HeartShaper Materials	Other Materials
1 GETTING STARTED Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore what makes people happy and sad.</i>	 Quick Step Good News and Bad News  Happy and Sad Music  Happy and Sad Hide-and-Seek	• none • <i>Resources</i> CD • none	• none • CD player • colored paper, marker, scissors
2 BIBLE DISCOVERY Use all these activities to help children <i>tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.</i>	 Sing and Pray  Bible Time Jesus Lives!  Bible Review  Bible Memory	• <i>Resources</i> CD, <i>Resources</i> CD “Jesus Lives!” and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files, <i>Resources</i> sheet 1 fish, <i>Teaching Picture</i> Jesus’ Resurrection	• CD player, Bibles, materials for a boat (see activity), 2 bedsheets, bread
3 GROW AND GO Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.</i>	 Quick Step Get Hooked on Jesus Mobile  Good News Stone  Good News! Game Closing the Hour	• <i>Make-n-Share</i> Jesus’ Resurrection lesson • <i>Resources</i> CD • none • <i>Heart Tugs</i> Jesus’ Resurrection issue	• hole punch, yarn, washable markers, blunt-tip scissors, yarn • CD player, flat rocks, Jesus stickers • none • none

Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore what makes people happy and sad.**

Welcome

- Use a Scout puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their offering money.

Quick Step Good News and Bad News

SAY: Jesus died on a cross. That’s sad news. But ♥ Jesus is alive! That’s happy news. Let’s think about being happy and sad.

Have children rub their eyes as though they are crying and say “I’m sorry” when you name things that make them sad. Have them smile, jump up, and say “That’s great!” when you name things that make them happy. (Suggested statements: I hurt my toe. I’m going to a friend’s house. I lost a ring. I have a new book. My friend is sick. My team won! I am at church.)

**ASK: When are some times that you are sad?
When are some times that you are happy?**

Happy and Sad Music

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about a time when people were sad and then they were happy. The people were happy because ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s listen to happy and sad music. We can act out feeling happy and sad.

Play “Happy or Sad.” Guide the children to respond in movement to the music. When the music sounds happy, have the children skip, laugh, hug. When the music sounds sad, have the children pretend to cry, sit down, and put their faces in their hands.

**ASK: What makes you sad? What makes you happy?
How do you move when you are sad? How do you move when you are happy?**

Especially for 4s!

Give 4s suggestions about how to move to the music. Choose one or two movements and practice before playing the CD.

Happy and Sad Hide-and-Seek

Before class, cut several 3" circles from the paper. Draw happy faces on half of the circles and sad faces on the rest. Hide the faces around the room.

SAY: Today we are talking about being happy and sad. We are sad that Jesus died. We are happy because ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s play a happy and sad hide-and-seek game.

Guide the children to find the happy and sad faces. Then ask the children to name things that make them happy or sad, based on the faces they found.

**ASK: When was a time you were happy?
When is the last time you were sad?**

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

none



Some children may have difficulty knowing the difference between “happy news” and “sad news.” Make a sign to give hints. Draw a smiling face on one side of a paper plate and a frowning face on the other.

Materials

Resources CD track 10, CD player



Use the same visual cue from Good News and Bad News to help children know when to move in happy ways or in sad ways.

Materials

colored paper, marker, scissors



Cleanup

Guide children to happily clean up the area. Then have them make sad faces when there is no more work to be done.



Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.**

Materials

Resources CD tracks 1 and 4, Resources sheet 1 fish, CD player, Bible



Materials

materials for boat, 2 bedsheets, Resources sheet 1 fish, Teaching Picture Jesus' Resurrection, bread



Before Class

Prepare a boat large enough for the children to sit in. The boat could be a masking-tape shape on the floor, chairs arranged in a boat shape, or cardboard boxes cut and taped together to form a boat shape.

Teaching Tips

If needed, print and cut out additional fish from the Resources CD.

Also included on the CD is a printable file of the Bible story. Print the story and place it in your Bible. Open your Bible as you tell the story.

Materials

Resources CD track 7 and "Jesus Lives!" printable file, CD player



Materials

Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bibles



Sing and Pray

Sing "He Is Alive" and "Jesus Is the Christ."

PRAY: **Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to earth. He died for us. We are very happy that ♥ Jesus is alive!**

Hold up a fish. ASK: **Have you ever been fishing?** Allow responses.

Today's story is about 153 fish! That's a lot of fish. The New Testament Bible book called John, chapter 21, tells us about those fish. Show John 21.

Bible Time

Gather children outside the boat area. Guide them to act out the story.

Jesus did many wonderful things, and the people loved Him. Review last week's story. **But this happy day was followed by a sad day. Some men who did not love Jesus put Him on a cross to die. They did not believe Jesus was God's Son. Jesus' followers were sad when He died.** Have children make sad faces. **After He died, His body was placed in a tomb, and a big stone covered the opening. A tomb is like a small cave. Jesus' body was in the tomb for three days. But on Sunday, the day we call Easter, God sent an angel to roll that stone away and God brought Jesus back to life! What a happy day! Jesus' followers were happy He was alive.** Children show happy faces. **We are happy ♥ Jesus is alive too.**

Later some of Jesus' followers were waiting for Him in Galilee. While they were waiting, they fished. Children get into the boat and pretend to fish, using sheets as nets. **Jesus' followers fished all night, but they did not catch any.** Have children pretend to fish and then show frustration.

When morning came, the men saw a man on the beach. The man told them to fish on the right side of the boat. When they did, the fishermen caught 153 fish—so many fish that they couldn't get them into the boat! Have children throw the sheets into the "water." Throw the fish onto the sheets. Have children pull nets into the boat.

John, one of the fishermen, realized that the man was Jesus. Peter, another fisherman, jumped into the water and swam to Jesus. Show picture.

When all the fishermen got to the shore, Jesus served them fish and some bread. Give each child a slice of bread. **The people were very happy that ♥ Jesus is alive!**

Bible Review

Before class, print "Jesus Lives!" from the CD and practice the motions. Play the Bible story activity and lead children in the motions.

ASK: **What did the men who didn't love Jesus do to Him?**

Who brought Jesus back to life?

Why were Jesus' followers happy? (Jesus is alive.)

Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

SAY: **After Jesus died and came back to life, He showed us that He is God's Son. Our Bible Memory talks about Jesus.** As a child holds the Bible, read the verse together; then do the motions.

Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Quick Step Get Hooked on Jesus Mobile

SAY: ♥ Jesus is alive! That is good news. We need to tell people that ♥ Jesus is alive! Let's make mobiles to give away so we can tell the good news that Jesus is alive.

As you assist children in making their mobiles, talk about the 153 fish and ways to tell someone the good news that Jesus is alive. Encourage children to give away their mobiles and to tell the good news.

ASK: **What is our good news?** Guide the children to say the Bible Memory.
Who will you give your mobile to?

Especially for 4s!

Before class, cut out and hole-punch the pieces. Then 4s can assemble the mobiles and talk about whom they will give them to.

Good News Stone



Sing “He Is Alive.” SAY: **In today's story, we learned that a big stone was put in front of the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. After God sent an angel to roll away the stone, who was inside the tomb? . . . No one! Because ♥ Jesus is alive! He did not stay dead. Jesus' followers told everyone the good news that Jesus is alive.**

Give each child a rock and a sticker. **We can tell everyone the good news too. Here is a stone to remind us that the tomb was empty. Let's put a sticker of Jesus on our stones.** Do so. Sing “He Is Alive” again. Then encourage children to give their rocks to someone they will tell the good news to. Take time to pray for the people who will receive their stones.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus' followers find out about Him?** (Jesus is alive!)

Who are you going to share your stone with?

Good News! Game

SAY: **When Jesus came back to life, His followers were very happy to see Him. They had an important message to share—♥ Jesus is alive. That is our good news too. Let's share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Play a game like Duck, Duck, Goose. Have children sit in a circle. Select one child to go around the circle, tapping heads and saying “Good news!” and then stop behind a child and say “Jesus is alive!” This child jumps up and names a way to share the good news that Jesus is alive. The two children then trade places, and the second child proceeds around the circle tapping heads and saying “Good news!” Continue until all have had a turn.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus' followers have to share?**
What good news about Jesus do you want to share?

Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and a copy of *Heart Tugs*. Mention to the parents the A-L-I-V-E Cheer they can do at home with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Materials

Make-n-Share Jesus' Resurrection lesson, hole punch, washable markers (or crayons), blunt-tip scissors, yarn



Materials

Resources CD track 1, CD player, flat rocks, Jesus stickers



Materials

none



Teaching Tip

If you have a smaller class, set up a simple maze. Have one child walk through the maze. When he returns, he can say to the next child in line, “Good news—Jesus is alive!” Then the second child can proceed through the maze. Let the children go through the maze in different ways—hopping, skipping, etc.



Jesus Lives!

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Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Special Unit: Jesus’ Resurrection Extra Hour

Use this lesson on
Easter Sunday.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Good news and bad news. The birth of a child; the death of a loved one. These extremes are a part of our lives. And nothing was more heartrending than the roller coaster of emotions that Jesus’ disciples went through during the last weeks of His life: the death of Lazarus and his healing; the crowds of the triumphal entry who turned against Jesus; Jesus’ death and His resurrection. It is that last, precious good news that we share with our children today: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Bible Background for the Teacher

After His resurrection, Jesus told His apostles to go to Galilee to wait for Him. While they were waiting, some of the followers went on a night’s fishing expedition at Lake Galilee. It is not known where the fire and the fish and bread that Jesus prepared came from, but the one who miraculously fed more than 5,000 on one occasion and 4,000 on another was quite able to provide. In fact, He created the fish, the shore, and the waters!

Jesus’ Resurrection Lesson at a Glance—Extra Hour


1 MORE! GETTING STARTED
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore what makes people happy and sad.*

-  **Quick Step**
Happy News Waterpaint
-  Happy and Sad Food
-  Happy and Sad Movements

- HeartShaper Materials**
- *Make-n-Share WATERPAINT™* page for Jesus’ Resurrection
 - none
 - *Resources* CD

- Other Materials**
- cups of water, paintbrushes, paper towels
 - crackers, squeezable cheese, paper plates, napkins
 - CD player, scarves



2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY
Use all these activities to help children *tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.*

-  **More! Sing and Pray**
-  **Bible Time—Another Way!**
Jesus Lives!
-  **More! Bible Review**
-  **More! Bible Memory**

- *Resources* CD, *Teaching Picture* Jesus’ Resurrection, *Resources* CD “Jesus Lives!” Bible story music activity and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files

- CD player, Bible, paper lunch bag, toy boat, plastic fish, stick, bread

3 MORE! GROW AND GO
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.*

-  **Quick Step**
Scout Puppet Story
-  A-L-I-V-E Cheer
- Saying Good-bye**

- *Resources* CD Fish printable file
- *Heart Tugs* Jesus’ Resurrection issue
- *Heart Tugs* Jesus’ Resurrection issue

- Scout puppet
- pencils
- none

More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of the activities on this page to help children explore what makes people happy and sad.

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Gather children together to sing “He Is Alive!”, using instruments.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step Happy News Waterpaint

SAY: There are lots of reasons we feel happy and lots of reasons we feel sad. Today we are going to talk about one reason we feel happy—♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s paint some pictures with water and talk about being happy and sad.

Guide the children to brush the water onto their pictures. Talk about being happy and sad as the children work.

ASK: What makes you feel happy? sad?

When was the last time you were happy? sad?

Who do you tell when you are happy?

Who comforts you when you are sad?

Happy and Sad Food

SAY: Our Bible story today is about hearing good news after hearing sad news. The good news is ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s talk about being happy and sad as we prepare a snack.

Give each child two crackers on a paper plate. Help children create happy and sad faces on their crackers, using the squeezable cheese. Talk about what makes the children happy and sad.

ASK: When have you been happy? When have you been sad?

What do you do when you are happy?

What do you do when you are sad?

Happy and Sad Movements

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about hearing something sad and hearing something happy. ♥ Jesus is alive! That’s the happy news. Let’s listen to some happy and sad music while we play with our scarves.

Give each child a scarf. Play the recorded segments of music that are cheerful and solemn sounding. Guide children to wave the scarves over their heads when they hear happy music and lay the scarves over their heads when they hear sad music.

ASK: When do you feel happy?

When do you feel sad?

Especially for 4s!



Demonstrate various ways to wave the scarves before beginning the song. Have the children follow you the first time. Then pick a child leader for the children to follow the second time.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Make-n-Share

WATERPAINT™ page for Jesus’ Resurrection lesson, cups of water, paintbrushes (or cotton swabs), paper towels



Materials

crackers, squeezable cheese (or cookies and squeezable icing), paper plates, napkins



Teaching Tip

Check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative one available.

Materials

Resources CD track 10, CD player, scarves (optional: CD with happy and sad songs)



Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.**

Materials

Resources CD track 1,
CD player, *Teaching*

Picture Jesus' Resurrection, Bible



Materials

Resources CD track 7
and "Jesus Lives!"
printable file, CD player



Something More!

After the children have acted out the story, SAY: **I'm going to serve you breakfast too.**

Then serve the children some pancakes.

Materials

paper lunch bag, toy
boat, plastic fish, stick,
bread



Materials

Resources CD track 4
and Special Unit Bible
Memory Motions printable file,
CD player, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing "He Is Alive."

PRAY: **Thank You, God, for many wonderful things, especially for Jesus, who is alive.**

Ask questions about the picture. (Examples: Why do you think this man is in the water? Who is the man on the beach?) SAY: **Let's open the Bible, God's special book, to the New Testament book called John, chapter 21, and find out what happened.** Show the New Testament part of the Bible; then show John 21 as you begin Bible Time.

Bible Time—Another Way!

Before class, print a copy of "Jesus Lives!" from the CD. Listen to the activity and be ready to lead in the motions.

ASK: **How many of you love Jesus? Let's smile.** Have children do so. **Jesus' followers loved Jesus too. And they were happy because Jesus was alive. But the Bible tells us about a very sad time. Did you know that there were some people who did not like Jesus?**

One Friday Jesus' followers were sad because the people who did not like Jesus had put Jesus on a cross to die. Show me a sad face. Have children do so. **I think that is how Jesus' followers must have looked when Jesus died. After Jesus died, His body was put in a tomb. A tomb is like a cave. And a huge stone covered the opening of the tomb. But something amazing was about to happen!**

Early Sunday morning God sent an angel to roll that huge stone away. When Jesus' followers came to the tomb, they looked inside, but Jesus was not there! The angel told them that Jesus had risen from the dead! Jesus was alive again! How do you think Jesus' followers looked then? Encourage the children to show happy faces.

Let's act out our Bible story to see what happened on a day after Jesus came back to life. Play the activity, guiding children with the motions.

More! Bible Review

Place all items in bag. SAY: **Today's Bible story is about a happy time for Jesus' followers. Let's remember the story by looking at what is in this bag.** One by one, pull an item out of the bag and have children guess how the item relates to the story. They could retell that portion of the story.

ASK: **Why were Jesus' followers glad to see Him?** (Jesus was alive!)
What did Jesus do for His followers? (helped them catch fish, made breakfast for them)

More! Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Have a child hold the Bible opened to John 20:31. SAY: **Today's Bible Memory tells us about Jesus. Jesus is important because He is the Son of God. Let's read our Bible Memory from the book of John in the New Testament.** Play "Jesus Is the Christ" as you read the verse and do the motions together. Then sing the song and do the motions together.

More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Quick Step “Scout’s Happy News”

Before class, print and cut out fish from the CD. Prepare enough fish for each child to take one home.

Scout comes out hopping. SAY: **Look! Scout’s smiling. What could make him so happy?** Scout whispers to you. **Scout says he had a lot of good things happen to him today. He rolled in the grass. He ran with his friends who gave him a bone.** Scout whispers to you. **What? You had one unusual thing happen too?** Scout disappears and then returns, holding a fish. **Scout, where did you get that fish?** Scout whispers to you.

While Scout was doing his happy things, he noticed something unusual. The children were giving these paper fish to people and telling them good news—Jesus is alive! Scout saw a little girl give a fish to her neighbor and say “Jesus is alive!” He saw a boy give a fish to his friend and say “I’m happy that Jesus is alive.” Then one of the children handed Scout a fish. The children laughed and shouted together, “Jesus is alive!” Scout was happy that he could play and hop and run. But Scout knew that the really good news is about Jesus. ♥ Jesus is alive! Scout gives a happy bark.

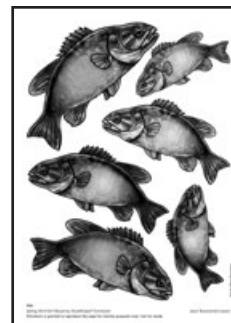
Have Scout give each child a fish to share with someone this week. Talk about whom they will give the fish to and what they will say.

ASK: **What is our good news?** (♥ Jesus is alive!)

Who can you tell?

Materials

Scout puppet, *Resources*
CD Fish printable file



Materials

Heart Tugs Jesus’
Resurrection issue,
pencils (or crayons)



A-L-I-V-E Cheer

SAY: **Jesus is alive! Jesus’ followers were very happy to see Jesus alive again. That’s good news for us too. Let’s cheer about our good news.**

Practice the cheer included in today’s *Heart Tugs*. Talk about what it means to be alive. **Jesus was dead, but then He was alive again.** Have the children trace the letters to the word *alive*. Discuss who the children can tell that ♥ Jesus is alive.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus’ followers find out about Him?** (He was alive.)

What are some ways we can share this good news?

Especially for 4s!



Younger children may be more successful at tracing the letters with their finger rather than a pencil or crayon. Point to the letters one by one and name them. Then perform the cheer together.

Saying Good-bye

- Play the Good News! Game from first hour until parents arrive.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to practice the A-L-I-V-E Cheer at home with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Cleanup

As the children help to clean up, encourage them to high-five one another and say “Jesus is alive! That’s good news!”

