

Son of God Is Not Dead (March 19-20)

Bible Story: Son of God Is Not Dead (Resurrection; Easter) • *John 20:1-18*

Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember God loves you.

Memory Verse: “In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.” *John 16:33b, NIV*

Life App: Hope—believing that something good can come out of something bad.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

Host enters with two Easter baskets full of plastic eggs.

Host, make sure there are 2 tape lines for each small group – starting line and bowling line -- at an adequate distance apart, about 6-7 feet apart

Opener

HOST: “Haaaaaaaappy almost Easter, everyone! Next Sunday will be the best day all year because we will celebrate the best thing that ever happened! If you were with us last week, you might remember that things were pretty bad when we left. But when things look dark, that’s when we can have hope!

CG: *Hope Slide*

“Hope is believing that something good can come out of something bad. Easter is all about celebrating Jesus and the ‘something good’ we can focus on anytime we need hope! We’ll talk all about that something good—something REALLY, REALLY good—in just a few minutes! But before we get to that, I’ve got a fun game for us to play. All month long we’ve talked about having hope even when we can’t see what is going to happen—when we’re in the dark. Today we are going to see something good come out of the dark because we are going to play ...

“... glow-in-the-dark relay bowling! That’s right! I’ve got the pins and I’ve got Easter eggs for bowling balls, but I need everyone to participate in this fun version of bowling.

Have small group leaders line up water bottles in a pyramid on the starting line.

For this game, each team will stand in a straight line next to their bowling pins. Each student will receive one Easter egg as their “bowling ball.” One at a time, each team student will push their bowling ball from the starting line to the bowling line WITHOUT using their hands. Once the egg crosses the

bowling line, the student can pick up their egg and roll it towards the pins! Once the first person has rolled their egg, the next person in line can start moving. Pick up your egg and get back in line with your team!

“The first group to get all of their bowling pins knocked over is our winner. But we’re also going to have one minute on the clock, so if we run out of time on the clock, whoever has the most pins knocked over will be the winner. Okay, let’s bring the lights down and do this.

LIGHTS: *Lights out*

“Three ... two ... one ... GO!

CG: *Countdown timer*

SFX: *Upbeat music*

LIGHTS: *Lights up when game is over*

When the pins are knocked down and/or the minute is up, celebrate the winner.

If time allows before worship, play a few rounds. After the last round dismiss the volunteers back to their seats.

Have the small group leaders collect the eggs from the students

“That was EGGcellent fun. I’d say something good came out of the dark, wouldn’t you?!

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “I am hopeful that something good will also come from the dark place where we left our story with Jesus. Let’s watch:

Video: *252 Story_Nightlight_Wk4*

STORYTELLER: “Jesus’ death was sad, but it led to the greatest thing: His death and resurrection means that you and I can live with God forever. We can receive the gift of eternal life if we just believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sins—for the things we’ve done wrong. Talk about something good coming out of something bad, right?!

“Now, let me ask you guys something. WHY did God send Jesus to us? It’s simple. Because He LOVES us. He wants us to be a part of His family forever! God loved ME enough to send Jesus to die for ME. He loved YOU enough to send Jesus to die for YOU.

CG: *Memory Verse Slide*

“‘In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world,’ John 16:33. (NirV)

Let's show our loving God, who gave up his son Jesus, just how much we appreciate all that he has done for us by singing our praise that he has won the battle! Let's welcome up our worship team!

WORSHIP

1. Happy Day
2. Christ Arose
3. Forever

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

Host: The Bible says it this way in John 3:16.

(Read John 3:16.) “‘God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.’ *(NirV)*

“That’s the great news of Easter! Easter gives us HOPE, because we know that death isn’t the end of the story. Jesus came back to life to show the world that He really is God’s Son—the ONLY one who can save us from our sins.

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Dear God, thank You for loving us, in the midst all the ways we mess up every day. We didn’t deserve something good to come out of the bad, but You kept Your promise and sent us a Savior so we could be with You forever. Thank You for sending Jesus and for raising Him to life after He died to pay for our sin. We believe Jesus is alive, and that’s what we are celebrating together today. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Dismiss kids to small group for games