

City SG - March 24-25, 2018 (Easter Lesson)

Bible Story: Mapped Out (Easter Story) • *The Bible*

Bottom Line: Jesus is alive!

Memory Verse: "Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD!" *Psalm 27:14, NIV*

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Prepared eggs containing "Easter Eggspression" slips, basket (1 per bin)

What You Do:

- **Sit** together as a group then place the egg basket within reach of everyone.
- **Invite** students to take turns choosing an egg from the basket and reading the question inside.
- As time allows, you can **invite** all the students to answer the same question or have students answer their own individual questions.
- **Continue** until everyone has taken at least one egg from the basket.

Wrap Up and Say:

"Since today is Easter, it's eggspecially (especially) important to think about the way God eggspressed (expressed) His uneggspainable (unexplainable) and eggstaordinary (extraordinary) love for us by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise from the dead. That's eggactly (exactly) what we want to do today, so let's get started."

2. God's Plan

What You Need: "God's Plan" game board and "Game Board Cards" (1 for every 3-4 kids) Tokens (10 per bin)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to get into groups of three or four. Give each group a game board, tokens, and a set of cards.
- Lead kids to place their tokens on START.
- The youngest player goes first. He draws a card and moves to that color on the board.
- Whenever a player lands on a "God's Plan" space, he tells what's happening in the picture.
- The game ends when every child reaches the finish.

What You Say:

"Even from the very beginning when Adam and Eve first broke the rules, God had a plan to rescue us from sin. Abraham was part of His plan, and so was Jesus.

"God knew that He would send Jesus, His perfect Son, to live on earth, to heal the sick, and to show us how to love God and love others. He knew that Jesus would die on the cross for our sins. And He knew that three days later He would bring Jesus back to life. Best of all, God knew that if we choose to believe in Jesus, He'll forgive our sins and we'll live forever with Him!

[Make It Personal] (Briefly tell the kids how you came to believe in Jesus. Also tell how He has made a difference in your life.)

"So never forget how much God loves you, and never forget that **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!**"

3. Patience Puzzle

What You Need: Bibles, “Patience Puzzle” (1 for every 2-3 kids)

What You Do:

- Direct each child to find a partner. If you have an odd number of kids, either form a group of three or pair yourself with a child.
- Give each group a puzzle.
- At your signal of “green light,” the teams work together to assemble their puzzles.
- As they work, randomly call out:
 - “Red light” (the kids must freeze)
 - “Yellow light” (the kids must move in slow motion)
 - “Green light” (the kids may work at normal speed)
- When every team finishes, guide kids to point to the words as you read the verse together.
- Next, help teams look up the memory verse using the navigation tips below.
- Unpack the words “Lord” and “wait.”
- You might ask:
 - “Who is the Lord? (God)
 - What does it mean to wait for God? (*to wait for God’s best, to wait for God to help us, to wait for God to show us what to do, to trust and expect that God will do what He promises*)

What You Say:

“Patience is waiting until later for what you want now. Psalm 27:14 tells us that God wants us to wait for Him and His best for us. But God knows that waiting isn’t always easy. That’s why He encourages us to be strong and not lose our hope in Him. To not lose your hope in God means that you trust Him no matter what! And God proved that you can trust Him when He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for your sins! God proved that you can trust Him when He brought Jesus back to life! **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!**

“So remember: *Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the LORD!*” (Psalm 27:14 NIV).

EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY:

4. Easter Egg Scramble

What You Need: Large Bag Multi-Colored Plastic Easter Eggs (Halved) (1 per bin)

What You Do:

- Dump out all the Easter Eggs halves into a pile in the center of your group.
- Instruct kids that they must work together to put the eggs together according to color (red with red, yellow with yellow, blue with blue, etc)
- Time them to see how fast they can complete the task, while working together.
- Play multiple rounds as time allows.

Note: You’ll have to take these apart for the next service

5. Pray and Dismiss

Remind the kids that they will be in the service with their families next weekend for Easter Services, and to invite their friends. Tell them you will see them again on April 7-8 weekend.

“Dear Jesus, thank You for loving each of us enough to come and be our Savior. We know that You are alive and that You’re stronger than anything – even death. We love you and pray in Your name, Amen.”