

EASTER



March 29th – April 1st

OVERVIEW CARD

HAPPY
EASTER

Key Question:

Who is the best?

Bottom Line:

Jesus is the best!

Memory Verse:

"God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son."
John 3:16, GNT

Bible Story Focus:

God sent Jesus to be my friend forever.
Easter
Matthew 26:20-30; 27:45-50; 28:1-7

Coloring Page:

Jesus rises from the dead.

Music:

Praise the Lord Everyday
God is Big and He Loves Me
Great Big God

Bible Lesson:

The Beginner's Bible
The Last Supper; Jesus is Arrested and Crucified;
Jesus is Risen
Pages 442 to 458

Story:

The Easter Story
by Autumn Ward

Memory Verse –

"God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son."

John 3:16, GNT

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ACTIVITY 1 – 2's/3's only HAPPY EASTER

Easter Basket

Big Idea:

Children will collect the Easter eggs and place them inside the basket.

What You Need: A laundry basket, stress Easter eggs, and a timer (you can use your smart phone if easier)

What You Do:

- Gather the children around the basket.
- Toss the eggs all around the room.
- Start the timer on your phone.
- Have the children pick up as many eggs as they can before the timer runs out.
- Repeat this activity 3 times.
- Collect all the Easter eggs and Bring it Back to Jesus*.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Do you see all these eggs? They need to get back into the basket. Can you help me? *(Pause.)* I’ll set a timer for each round and I want to see how many eggs you can get into the basket. Let’s get started!”

After the Activity: “Great job, everyone! That was so much fun! You worked together and gathered all the eggs! How many times did we play our game? *(Pause)* That’s right we collected all the eggs 3 times. One, two, three! What does the number three have to do with our lesson today? *(Pause.)* That’s right, ***Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He’s ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He’s the best. Who is the best? Jesus is the best.**”

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 2 – 2's/3's only

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He's Alive Freeze Dance

Big Idea:

Children will play a fun game of freeze dance with colorful scarves.

What You Need: Colorful Scarves, "Reach Up High" CD with song # 12: "Jesus is Alive" and CD player

What You Do:

- Place the colorful scarves in an open area of the room.
- Have the children gather around in an open area and give each child a scarf.
- Play the song "Jesus is Alive"
- Have the child wave their scarves and dance as long as you are playing the music.
- Each time you stop the music the children should immediately stop and freeze.
- Count to three and have the children shout, 'Jesus is Alive' to restart the music.
- Repeat as long as children are having fun.
- Collect all the scarves and Bring it Back to Jesus*.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I love to sing and dance! I have a wonderful song that we can all dance to. This song reminds us that Jesus DID come back. Yes! Jesus kept His promise and He DID come back. Jesus came back. He's ALIVE! Once I start the music, I want everyone to wave your scarves and dance. Once the music stops, you must freeze in place and wait for me to count to three and then we will all shout together, 'Jesus is Alive'. We can't start the music again until we shout what? (Pause.) 'Jesus is Alive.' You got it! Are you ready to have some fun? Here we go..."

After the Activity: "That was SO fun! You did a GREAT job waving your scarves and dancing to 'Jesus is Alive'! What did we shout? 'Jesus is Alive!' And what does the number three have to do with our lesson today? (Pause.) That's right, *Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He's ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He's the best. **Who is the best? Jesus is the best.**"

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 3 - All

HAPPY
EASTER

Jelly Bean Toss:

Big Idea:

Children will toss bean bags onto jelly bean cutouts while practicing their memory verse.

What You Need: Jelly Bean Cutouts, mini bean bags and floor tape

What You Do:

- Place a strip of floor tape in an open area of the room.
- Set the colored Jelly Bean cutouts on the floor in a line vertically in front of the floor tape.
- Have the children line up horizontally behind the floor tape.
- Have each child toss the bean bags onto the jelly bean cutouts.
- Have ALL the children say the memory verse while doing different movements based on where the bean bag lands.
- Collect all the bean bags and Bring it Back to Jesus*

Orange – run in place and say your memory verse like a cheetah super fast...

Yellow – hop on one foot and say your memory verse like a chicken with a cheap...

Purple – hop on two feet and say your memory verse like a bunny really quietly...

Red – swing your arms and say your memory verse like an elephant really loud...

Blue – walk really slow and say your memory verse like a turtle really slowly...

What to Say:

During the Activity: “Let’s say our memory verse together. *God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son*, John 3:16. Great job! When I call your name, I want you to come up and toss one of our bean bags onto a jelly bean. *(Pick a child to toss a bean bag.)* Great job tossing! Your bean bag landed on the orange jelly bean. Let’s all pretend to be cheetahs and say our memory verse together really fast while we run in place. *(Pick another child to toss a bean bag.)* Great job! Your bean bag landed on the purple bean bag. Let’s all pretend to be a bunny and say our memory verse together really quietly while we hop on two feet. Great Job! *(Continue with the activity until everyone has had a turn.)*”

After the Activity: “Way to go! You all did a great job saying your memory verse. *Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He’s ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He’s the best. **Who is the best? Jesus is the best.**”

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 4 – 4's/5's only

HAPPY
EASTER

HE LIVES Fun:

Big Idea:

Children will play a fun game with the parachute and stress ball Easter eggs.

What You Need:

Stress Easter eggs and parachute.

What You Do:

- Have the children to stand around the parachute.
- Encourage each of the children to take hold of the parachute.
- Place the Easter eggs onto the center of the parachute.
- Instruct the children to move their arms up and down and shake off all the Easter eggs.
- Count to 3 and shout 'Jesus is Alive'.
- Repeat if children are having fun.
- Collect all the Easter eggs and Bring it Back to Jesus*.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "There was a tomb in our lesson today and a stone too!! Do you remember what happened to the stone? (*Pause.*) It was rolled away. Let's pretend this parachute is the tomb and these Easter eggs are the stones. The stone in our lesson was rolled away, so our job is to keep the stones off of the tomb (*parachute*) just like what happened in our lesson today. Every time we shake off all of the stones, let's shout on the count of three, 'Jesus is Alive!' Are you ready? Let's try it together!"

After the Activity: "Way to go! You all did a great job of rolling the stones away from the tomb. In our lesson today, we learned that *Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He's ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He's the best. Who is the best? Jesus is the best."

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 5 – 4's/5's only

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Easter Basket

Big Idea:

Children will collect the Easter eggs and place them inside the basket.

What You Need: A laundry basket, stress Easter eggs, and a timer (you can use your smart phone if easier)

What You Do:

- Gather the children around the basket.
- Toss the eggs all around the room.
- Start the timer on your phone.
- Have the children pick up as many eggs as they can before the timer runs out.
- Repeat this activity 3 times.
- Collect all the Easter eggs and Bring it Back to Jesus*.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Do you see all these eggs? They need to get back into the basket. Can you help me? *(Pause.)* I’ll set a timer for each round and I want to see how many eggs you can get into the basket. Let’s get started!”

After the Activity: “Great job, everyone! That was so much fun! You worked together and gathered all the eggs! How many times did we play our game? *(Pause)* That’s right we collected all the eggs 3 times. One, two, three! What does the number three have to do with our lesson today? *(Pause.)* That’s right, *Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He’s ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He’s the best. **Who is the best? Jesus is the best.**”

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CRAFT

HAPPY EASTER



He Lives Crosses

What You Need:

Crosses, "He Lives" stickers, tissue paper and magnets

What You Do:

- Give each child a cross and remove the sticky back.
- Place tissue paper in the center of the table.
- Demonstrate how to place the tissue paper onto the sticky side of the cross, encouraging them to cover the entire cross.
- Attach a "HE LIVES" sticker to the center of the cross and a magnet to the back.
- Write the child's name and year on the back of the cross and place inside white bag.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I LOVE Jesus! And Jesus loves you and me, too! Our lesson today told us that Jesus wants to be our friend forever and He wants us to follow Him. Let's make a cool project that reminds us of just how much Jesus loves us."

During the Activity: "Your crosses look so BEAUTIFUL!! You did an amazing job! We learned today that ***Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He's ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I love Jesus. He's the best. Who is the best? Jesus is the best.**"

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PLAYDOH / PRAYER TIME HAPPY EASTER

PLAYDOH / PRAYER TIME

What you Need: Parent Take Home Card, Playdoh, Heart Cookie Cutters, Rolling Pins, and Sticker Roll

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Prayer and Playdoh time! Since today is Easter, let’s jump and shout, ‘Jesus is Alive’ as we walk over to the tables. (*Jump and shout.*) That was fun! Now let’s sit down so we can talk about our lesson today. One, two, three, sit down with me!

SGL: Today is a very, very special day. Do you know why today is a very, very special day? (*Pause.*) Yes! It’s Easter! Easter is when we celebrate that Jesus is alive! Our good friend Jesus did what He said He would do. ***Jesus promised He would come back. And after THREE days, Jesus DID come back. Jesus kept His promise. He’s ALIVE! God sent Jesus to be my friend and YOUR friend forever! I think today is the perfect day to tell God thank You for loving us and giving us Jesus. I’ll say everyone’s name. When I say your name I want you to say, ‘Thank You, God!’ Now I’ll pray.”**

SGL: “Ok, it’s time to review our lesson. I am going to ask you some questions and you will get a sticker for answering them. I have some really cool stickers today. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Great!

- Go from child to child and have them repeat the memory verse for a sticker.
- Ask the children the Bottom Line question for a sticker.
- Using the Parent Take Home card, ask each child individually the questions pertaining to this week’s lesson and give out a sticker.

Memory Verse –

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John 3:16, GNT