

CITY LG – March 23-24, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Alive (Easter) • *Luke 24:1-12, 36-49*

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus is alive.

Monthly Memory Verse: *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. John 3:16 (NIV)*

LG Supplies needed – plastic easter eggs (one per every two kids)

WORSHIP

Movin Me
Dance

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Group

SLIDE: Theme

Hello, my friends! I'm so glad we're all here to celebrate the most amazing, most spectacular, most exciting, most incredible day of the year . . . Easter! It's only one week away!

SLIDE: Virtue (Easter)

At Easter, we're **celebrating that Jesus is alive.**

Easter is amazing, spectacular, exciting, and incredible because of what Jesus did for us. He died on the cross for our sins, then came back to life. That's the biggest and best news EVER!

SLIDE: Theme

We'll get into the whole story in just a minute. But first, it's time for some Easter fun! Today, I want to teach you a game called 'Head, Shoulders, Knees, Egg.' Everyone go ahead and choose a partner, and I'll give each pair an egg. If you need an egg, raise your hand.

Pause for the kids to partner up. Adult leaders should look for any kids who don't have a partner and play with them.

Pass out the plastic eggs, with one for each pair of kids.

Okay—you can face your partner and put the egg on the floor in between the two of you. If I call out 'head,' 'shoulders,' or 'knees,' you'll put both of your hands on your own head, shoulders, or knees. (*Demonstrate.*) But if I call out 'EGG,' then whoever grabs the egg first gets a point!

Let's play a few practice rounds to make sure we've all got the hang of it.

AUDIO: Fun instrumental music

Play four or five practice rounds where no one is eliminated. For each round, randomly call out “head,” “shoulders,” or “knees” . . . and then surprise everyone when you yell “EGG.”

Make sure everyone knows before you start playing rounds that count—the person who doesn’t get the egg is out.

(After the first round that counts) Okay, if you’re holding the egg, you’re still in. Hold your egg up high and look for someone else with an egg for this next round. Everyone else can move to the side of the room to watch.

Walk around and make sure the kids with eggs have found a new partner. As you do, take one of the two eggs from them so each pair only has one egg.

Play the game for several more rounds, ideally getting down to five to 10 kids who you can celebrate as the winners.

Collect all of the eggs before you continue.

That was so fun! You all did a great job playing and cheering for each other.

I’m so excited that I get to share the story of Easter with you. Today we’ll be looking in the book of Luke in the Bible. *(Hold up the Bible and flip to Luke.)* Luke is one of the four gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—where we can read about the life of Jesus.

But first, we need to go back to the very beginning.

In the beginning, God created everything! But when people turned away from God, the world was broken. Still, God had a plan to make things right. God chose one family, the Israelites, and promised to bless the whole world through them. When the time was right, God sent Jesus to be our Savior.

Let’s check out the Story Lab...

VIDEO: Bible Story

SLIDE: Theme Background

Wow—just wow! The Easter story is absolutely incredible. We have so much to celebrate, because **Jesus is alive!**

When Jesus’ friends first heard that the tomb was empty and that Jesus wasn’t there, it was hard for them to believe. It must have seemed too good to be true that Jesus could have come back to life. But then Jesus PROVED He was alive by actually appearing right there in front of them! Jesus had conquered death, once and for all.

Let's check out our bottom line...

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Jesus is alive.

Say that with me!

Jesus is alive.

Yes—He really is! And now, we can decide to put our trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can believe that God sent Jesus for us . . . and that Jesus died on the cross for our sins . . . so that we can have the promise of life that will last forever.

That's what we read in John 3:16:

SLIDE: Memory Verse (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. (John 3:16, NIV)

Whatever we face in life, we can put our trust in God. We can trust God no matter what. We can believe that, in the end, God will make everything right because of Jesus. And because of that, we can find peace that nothing in this world can take away. Let's pray.

God, thank You for being a promise keeper. You promised to send a Savior. And then You sent Your Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin and conquer death forever. Thank You for loving us. Thank You for making a way for us to have a relationship with You that will last forever. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Happy Easter, friends! If you have offering for Morningstar Mission you can bring it up now. Have fun celebrating Easter in Small Group!

SLIDE: Theme