

WEEK 3 ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

DID YOU
KNOW?

THE BIG IDEA

Did you know Jesus is alive?

THE BIBLE

Jesus Comes Back to Life: Luke 24:1-12;
Romans 6:8-11

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *You can lead the kids in worship with any songs you like, but here are a few songs that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)*
 - "Did You Know" (Hillsong Kids)
 - "Risen" (Covenant Worship)
 - "This is Amazing Grace" (Bethel Music Kids)
 - "God is Over the Moon" (Lifeway)

ACTIVITY | Just a Heads Up!

- Welcome to another day on the *Did You Know? Game Show!*
- Just a heads up – today is a very important day with some very important news. But speaking of which, let's start with a game called . . . "Heads Up!"
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write out a bunch of actions on index cards (e.g., running, scuba diving, drying hair, throwing a frisbee, reading, sleeping, picking your nose, etc.). Have each team select one team member to come to the front a draw out an index card and put it to their forehead so their team members can see. Have the entire team act out the word and give their teammate thirty seconds to guess. 10 points for each correct answer!*

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Play using the [Hedbanz board game](#) or download the [Heads Up app](#).

- Today's Bible story is about a truly amazing event that Jesus did give his friends a heads up about many times . . . but they forgot. That's why everyone was happily surprised when it happened!

ACTIVITY | Easter Egg-tionary

- Okay contestants, let's try another game. This time, you will answer in teams but the person giving the clue can come from any team!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, fill plastic Easter eggs with slips of paper containing words related to Easter and Resurrection Sunday (e.g., Jesus, cross, tomb, donkey, palm branch, king, egg, bunny, chick, Spring, chocolate, etc.). Have one volunteer come up to the front (regardless of team affiliation), pick an egg, and draw whatever word is inside. The first team to correctly guess the word gets 10 points.

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Split preteens into two teams. Using two sets of different colored eggs, that come apart in half, write trivia questions on the top of the eggs and the correct answer on the bottoms of the eggs. Hide the tops and bottoms around your space. Teams must not only find all the halves of the eggs but then must race to put the correct answers on the questions.

- **What did all of these words have in common?** That's right, Easter! Wow, you all really get the picture!
- We celebrate Easter every year and sometimes we forget why we do. Today's Bible story is going to remind us once and for all the reason for Easter, and why it's so wonderful.

QUESTION | What are your favorite Easter traditions?

- We all celebrate Easter differently and some of us have long-standing traditions around Easter time with our families.
- **Who wants to share their favorite things to do for Easter?**

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

BIBLE STORY | Jesus Comes Back to Life

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As you tell the story from Luke 24:1-12, give each team a [buzzer](#) for this week's (and next week's) Bible story. Let teams "buzz" in to answer each of the questions during the Bible story. To be fair, after one team answers correctly, say that they are not allowed to answer the next question until the other teams have had a chance. Distribute 50 points for each correct answer.
- Before we can get to the main event, we have to back it up a little and review the events that led up to today's Bible story. Help me out by buzzing in if you know the answer!
- Last time, we found out Jesus made a triumphant entry into a city.
 - **Who remembers the name of the city?** [Jerusalem.]
 - **What was Jesus riding when he entered Jerusalem?** [A donkey.]
 - **What were the people waving to greet Jesus?** [Palm branches.]
 - Excellent work, teams. Now, let's see if you can help me fill in the details of what happened afterward. We haven't talked about this yet so give it your best shot!

- Not long after this glorious occasion, things started to go very badly for Jesus. People started to figure out that Jesus wasn't going to be the kind of king who would take over the current government by force – which is what the people wanted. So slowly, more and more people turned on Jesus.
 - One of Jesus' disciples (closest friends) agreed to turn Jesus over to the authorities. **Was it a) Peter, b) Judas, or c) John?** [B.]
 - Jesus knew that meant he would have to die. He knew this all along but as the day drew closer, he felt the weight of what was about to happen, so he went to pray. **Was that place called the Mount of a) Apples, b) Figs, or c) Olives?** [C.]
 - Then the guards came to arrest Jesus. At first, Jesus' friends tried to defend him. **The Bible tells us that one of them even cut off a guard's what – a) finger, b) ear, or c) hair?** [B.]
 - Don't worry, Jesus put it back right away. But then all of Jesus' followers got scared and scattered. Then Jesus was brought before an official who had the power to let Jesus go. **Was this man's name was a) Pilate, b) Paul, or c) Patrick?** [A.]
 - Pilate didn't think Jesus broke any laws. He didn't think Jesus deserved to be punished. So he gave the people a choice. **He could either a) Let Jesus go, or b) Let another prisoner named Barabbas go. Which one did the people pick?** [B.]
 - So Pilate did what the people wanted. He let Barabbas go and he gave the order for Jesus to be put to death on a cross. [Collect the buzzers]
- But you know what? That is not the end of the story. Today's story is just starting!
- When Jesus died, Jesus was put inside of a tomb – I always picture a cave – with a heavy, giant stone rolled in front of it so that no one could get in.
- On the third day of Jesus' death, a few women went to the tomb where Jesus was. They prepared spices to place on Jesus' body but – what? The giant stone was rolled away from the tomb. They peered inside the tomb but Jesus' body was not there.
- Then, ah! Two men in glowing clothes appeared and told them that Jesus wasn't here because he was alive again, just like he said he would be!
- The women ran to tell everyone else what had just happened.
- Jesus coming back to life three days later means something super important for us. Because Jesus was willing to give up his own life for us, we get to experience God's love, have a relationship with God, and freely worship God wherever we are. Just like we do here!
- And that's why we celebrate Easter!

BIG IDEA | Did you know Jesus is alive?

- It's time to reveal the Big Idea for today's *Did You Know? Game Show!*
- **Who would like to pick a door this week?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up doors with butcher paper like in previous weeks. Choose one volunteer from each team to choose a number and rip down the door. If they are not successful, choose another volunteer. If they don't find it either, rip the last door down and no one gets points (or give points to volunteers for trying). The volunteer who finds the Big Idea wins 100 points for their team!
- Whoo hoo! You found the Big Idea: **Did you know Jesus is alive?**

VIDEO | Did You Know?, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).

ACTIVITY | Bible Jeopardy

- Let's see how much you remember about today's Bible story, and maybe even some stories we learned before, with our next game on the *Did You Know? Game Show . . . Bible Jeopardy!*
- The stakes are very high . . . I will pick a random person from the team with the lowest points, and they are going to get a pie in the face! So, no pressure!

INSTRUCTIONS: Set up the Jeopardy board using the printables provided. The kids can choose a category and point value for each answer just like in the game, "Jeopardy." Whoever presses the buzzer first gets to try to answer. If they answer correctly, they earn the points. Remember, they must respond in the form of a question.

- ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have preteens nominate competitors to go up to the front and compete from a podium (or sitting at a long table is fine). Incorporate concepts like the "Daily Double" (where you pick a question at random to be worth double the points) and "Final Jeopardy" where everyone has to wager their points before answering the last question.
- ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Create a tic-tac-toe board in a different area of your space. Split kids into teams and before they can play their "x" or their "o" on the board, they have to answer a question. They can answer as a team.

- One last answer for you: **This is today's Big Idea.**
- **What is . . . Did you know Jesus is alive?**

OBJECT LESSON | The Pie-est Price

- **Did you know Jesus is alive?** Of course you did! But do you know what that means for us? Here, let me show you.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill a paper plate or pie tin high with whipped cream. Call up to the front one of the contestants from the team with the least amount of points from the last game to sit in a chair. Say, "Since your team lost the last game, you have to get a pie in the face!" Drape them in a garbage bag and go through all the motions. But at the last second, have another leader quickly jump in and say, "I'll take the pie for them!" Go ahead and "pie" the leader!
- Did you see how [name of leader] stepped in and saved you from getting a pie to the face? Aren't you glad they did? It totally saved you from getting all that whipped cream in your face.
- Well, Jesus saved us from something far worse. Before Jesus, we humans did not have a way to God. Our sin – you know the things that we do that are in disobedience to God – kept getting in the way.
- But because Jesus paid the highest price by dying on the cross, our sins can be forgiven and we can have a way to know God directly now!

BIBLE | Romans 6:8-11

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up Romans 6:8-11 in your Bible and read it aloud to your group.
- When Jesus died, he paid the price that was due for the sins of the world. But then, Jesus came back to life to show that he is even more powerful than death!

- Sin still exists, sadly. Jesus died for our sins, but we need to ask God to forgive us for our sins. We have to choose to walk away from living in ways that displease God.
- **So, take a moment and think about a way you might have disobeyed God this week.**
- Maybe we've made unwise choices, like treat others in an unkind way, but we can ask God to forgive all those things.
- When we're forgiven, that means God has taken care of it all, no matter what we've done. And we've been given the promise of one day living together in perfect happiness in heaven!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Just between Jesus and Me

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide paper, an envelope, and a pen for each kid. Play soft, calm music while they write their letters to Jesus. Let kids put the letter with their personal belongings (do not collect them).
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Create a writing template to have kids fill in the blank. An example might be, "Jesus, you are _____. I am sorry I _____. Thank you for _____." You also can create a word bank to help with ideas and spelling.
- Because of what Jesus did for us, we can live our best lives. Jesus gave up everything because Jesus loves us so much!
- Write a letter to Jesus thanking Jesus for what Jesus has done. You can even ask Jesus to help you with something you're struggling with now. Only you and Jesus can see what you write.
- When you are finished, fold your letter and put it in the envelope. You can keep it or you can throw it away, the choice is yours. Jesus already knows what you wrote, and you are special to him.
- **Did you know Jesus is alive?** You betcha! And because Jesus is alive, we have a way to forgiveness and a way to knowing God more and more each day.

ACTIVITY | A Grateful Heart

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Post a large heart where the kids can easily reach it. Give the kids sticky notes and a pen.
- Jesus took care of every sin, every hurt, and every sickness. Jesus conquered them all!
- Knowing that, let's list reasons we are grateful for Jesus! Write something you want to thank Jesus for and place it on this heart. If you're not sure, you can just write, "Thank you, Jesus!"
- You see all the wonderful things we can be thankful for? But the greatest thing we should be thankful for always is God's love for us. No one else could ever do what Jesus did!

MEMORY VERSE | Scrambled Easter Eggs

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Take seven easter eggs and separate the tops and bottoms. Write one word of the memory verse on each piece (there are 14 words in the memory verse, excluding the scripture reference). Create three more of these sets. Give one set to each team and have them race to arrange the memory verse in the correct order by lining up the egg halves.

- Let's say it all together: **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." II Peter 3:18a (NIV)**

PRAYER

- Dear God, I'm so glad Jesus came back to life for me. We are so grateful for everything you've done for us and for the promise that we get to live in heaven one day with you. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What did the women expect to see at Jesus' tomb?
- What did they see instead?
- What did the women do when they heard the news?
- Read Romans 6:8-11. What does it mean to live with Jesus?
- Why is Jesus being alive good news?
- What are some things we need forgiveness for?
- If you were to tell someone today's Bible story in one minute (or one sentence), what would you say?

ACTIVITY | Clothespin Tomb

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give kids a piece of grey construction or colored paper. Have them draw their own tomb and a stone that covers the mouth of the tomb. Have them cut out both pieces. On stone, have them write, "Did you know?" and on the mouth of the tomb, have them write "Jesus is alive!" Laying a clothespin flat with the teeth pointed to the side, have them glue the tomb to the top piece of the clothespin such that the bottom of the tomb lines up with it. Then have them glue the middle of the stone to the bottom part of the clothespin. Once they pinch the clothespin, the stone should reveal the mouth of the tomb. The final product should look something [like this](#).
✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** You could do a similar activity using paper plates, [like this](#).
- The tomb is empty because Jesus rose again! Keep this craft somewhere safe so that you can always remember that you have a Savior that not only came back to life all those years ago but is still alive today and loves you very much!

MEMORY VERSE | II Peter 3:18a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) available in your Programming folder or at growcurriculum.org/IIPeter3-18.
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
- **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."**