

The BIBLE STORY

Bible Storytelling Tips

Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

Matthew 26:36–28:10; John 18:1–20:18

• **Sketch the story:** As you tell the story, sketch pictures to accompany key words. Examples include sleeping friends, a crowd of angry people, a crown of thorns, a cross, a tomb, and a stone.

• **Vary your tone:** Use a concerned, somber tone of voice when telling about Jesus' crucifixion. Use a controlled yet energetic tone when telling of His resurrection.

Jesus came with His disciples to Gethsemane (geth SEM uh nih). He **prayed to God**, “**Father! If it is possible, take this suffering away from Me. But only if it is part of Your plan.**” While Jesus prayed, the disciples fell asleep. Jesus said, “Get up. It is almost time.”

Suddenly Judas arrived with a large crowd. Judas kissed Jesus so the crowd would know who Jesus was. **The crowd grabbed Jesus and arrested Him.** Peter tried to stop the men, but Jesus told Peter not to. Jesus' followers ran away, but Peter stayed nearby. Three times, people asked Peter if he was a follower of Jesus. “No! I'm not!” Peter said.

Jesus was led to the high priest. The religious leaders were trying to find a reason to kill Jesus, but they could not. **The high priest asked, “Are You the Messiah, the Son of God?” Jesus replied, “Yes, that's right.”**

The high priest said, “Ah ha! He has spoken against God. He deserves to die!” The religious leaders did not want to believe Jesus was God's Son.

When morning came, the religious leaders led Jesus to Pilate, the governor. “Are You the King of the Jews?” Pilate asked. “Yes, that's right,” Jesus replied.

“What should I do with Jesus?” Pilate asked the crowd. “Crucify Him!” they answered. Pilate did not think Jesus had done anything wrong, but he handed Jesus over and said, “Do whatever you want.” **The governor's soldiers put a scarlet robe on Jesus. They made a crown of thorns and put it on His head. Then they mocked Him, “Here is the King of the Jews!” Then they beat Him and led Him away to be killed.**

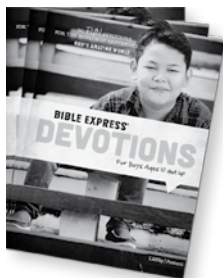
The soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They put a sign above His head that said THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. **Two criminals were crucified next to Him.** Darkness covered the land. Then **Jesus cried out, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”** Jesus shouted again with a loud voice and then He **died.** Suddenly, the curtain in the temple sanctuary split in two, from top to bottom, and there was an earthquake. One of the men guarding Jesus’ body said, “This man really was God’s Son!”

Jesus was buried in a tomb. A stone was sealed in front of the tomb so that no one could steal Jesus’ body.

On the third day, Mary Magdalene (MAG duh leen) and the other Mary went to the tomb. Suddenly there was an earthquake. An angel of the Lord rolled back the stone and sat on it. The guards were so afraid that they fainted. **The angel spoke to the women, “Don’t be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus, but He is not here. He has been resurrected, just like He said He would.”**

The women left the tomb quickly. They ran to tell the disciples the good news. Just then Jesus met them. “Good morning!” He said. The women worshiped Him. **“Don’t be afraid,” Jesus told them. “Go tell My disciples to meet Me in Galilee. They will see Me there.”**

Christ Connection: The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is the center of the gospel. We deserve to die because of our sin, but Jesus died in our place. He was the blood sacrifice made once and for all for the forgiveness of sin. God was pleased with Jesus’ sacrifice and raised Jesus from the dead to reign as King over all creation. We are forgiven only through Jesus. (Acts 4:12)



**WANT TO
DISCOVER
GOD’S WORD?
GET
BIBLE EXPRESS!**

Invite kids to check out this week’s devotionals to discover that the women who went to the tomb thought Jesus’ story was over, but they were wrong. The angel confirmed: Jesus is not dead; He is alive! (Matt. 28:6)

Order in bulk, subscribe quarterly, or purchase individually. For more information, check out www.lifeway.com/devotionals.

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



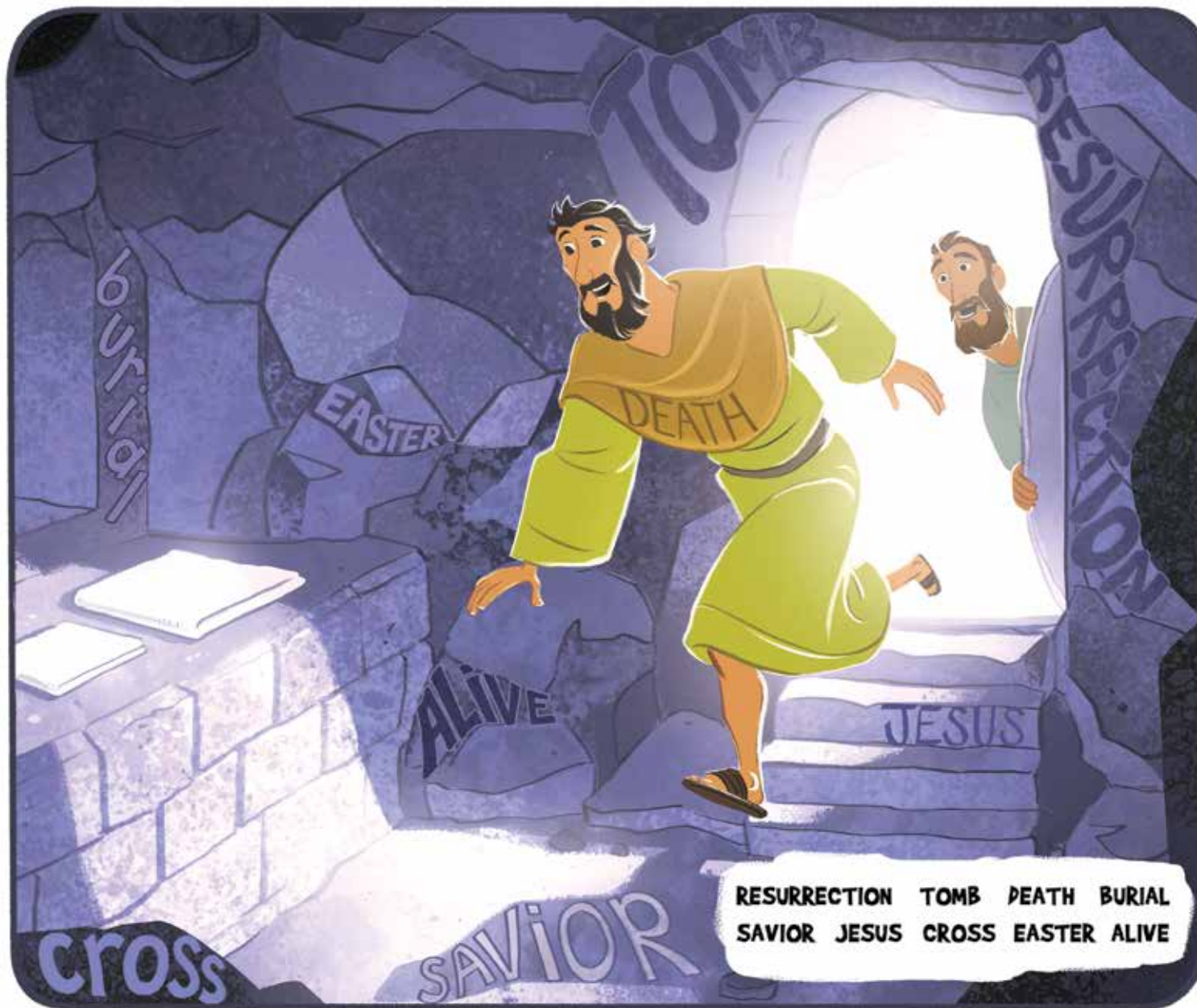
We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus. Provide *I'm a Christian Now* for new Christians to take home and complete with their families.

Resurrection Inspection

DOWNLOAD THE
TGP FAMILY APP

INSTRUCTIONS: Find and circle all nine key words in the Bible story picture.



KEY PASSAGE: Romans 10:9

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Who saves us from our sin?
Only Jesus saves us from our sin.

BIBLE STORY:

**JESUS' CRUCIFIXION AND
RESURRECTION**

- Jesus was arrested and accused of blasphemy.
- Jesus was beaten and mocked before being killed on the cross.
- On the third day, God raised Jesus from the dead!
- Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin, and He is alive.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why did the people want to kill Jesus?
- How do you think Jesus' disciples felt when Jesus was arrested and killed?
- How do you think they felt when they saw Jesus was alive?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Find an "Empty Tomb Cookie" recipe on the Internet. Prepare it with your family and explain the symbolism of ingredients.

Younger Kids Activity Pages
Unit 20, Session 2

Death and Resurrection Scramble

Unscramble the words to discover the main point of today's Bible story.

ESSUJ DEID NO TEH

CORSS OT SVAE PLEEOP

FOMR ISN. DAN

EH SI VALIE YODAT

The Gospel: God's Plan for Us

Match each part of the gospel plan to its description.

We respond.
God rules.

God provided.
We sinned.

Jesus gives.



God created everything. He is in charge of everything.
Read Revelation 4:11.



Everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



Everyone has a choice to make. Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10.

