

PARENTS' PAGE LESSON 27: The Resurrection

Timeless Truth: Jesus fulfilled the prophecies by rising from the dead.

Bible Basis: Matthew 28:2-8; Luke 24:36-49; John 21:1-6; Matthew 28:16-20

Key Verse: "He is not here! He has risen, just as he said he would" (Matthew 28:6).

Resource: *The Story for Kids*: Chapter 27

Parent Tips:

Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table during the week. The Living Faith activity shows your family how to bake some special rolls. The Extra Mile has your family watch a couple of videos set to Carman's classic song "The Champion."

Get the Point:

Preschool: God raised Jesus from the dead. God gives me new life, too.

Elementary: God raised Jesus from the dead. God gives me new life, too.

Middle/High School: Jesus was raised from the dead to give us everlasting life. Jesus ascended to heaven and leaves his followers to continue his work in the world.

Table Talk

Preschool/Elementary

- Imagine showing up to Jesus' tomb and finding it empty with an angel sitting on top of the stone. What would you have done? Would you have been scared like the soldiers?
- The angel reminded the women that Jesus said he'd rise from the dead – and he did. Jesus always does what he says. What are some of Jesus' other promises?
- Have you ever gone from being really sad to super happy? That's what happened to the women who found the empty tomb. Tell your story.
- When the women told the disciples Jesus had risen, two of them – John and Peter – ran to it. Why do you think the rest of them didn't go too?
- Why is the empty tomb such great news to Jesus' followers back then and today?

Note: Young readers will enjoy "God's Wonderful Surprise" on pages 310-317 in *the Jesus Storybook Bible*.

Middle/High School

- Jesus appeared to several different people after rising from the dead. Each incident was very different. Talk about each one:

- Mary Magdalene was doubled-over crying at the tomb when Jesus showed up and she didn't recognize him. Why do you think she didn't recognize him? Why did Jesus not want her to hold onto him?

- Cleopas and a friend were walking to Emmaus when Jesus started talking to them about recent events. Jesus explained what all the Scriptures said about him. When Cleopas and his friend recognized Jesus, he disappeared. How surprised do you think they were? What did they learn from Jesus?

- When Jesus appeared to the disciples, he asked for something to eat. Why did he do that? Talk about what it would've been like for the disciples to see their beloved Jesus again.

- Thomas missed Jesus' first appearance to the disciples and said he wouldn't believe unless he touched the holes in Jesus' hands. When Jesus appeared, Thomas believed *without* touching the holes. Why?

- Jesus said people are more blessed who believe without seeing. How does that make you feel about your relationship with Christ?

- Do you think you'll be able to appear in different places when you're in heaven?

Living Faith

When the stone rolled away, the tomb was empty. Jesus had risen! Make some empty tomb rolls to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. You'll need a tube of prepackaged crescent rolls, jumbo marshmallows, butter, cinnamon and sugar. These rolls make a great breakfast treat or add a sweet taste to dinner.

Get all the ingredients together and gather your family. Have somebody separate the dough into triangles. Overlap two of the triangles and roll them out, so they stick together. Brush a little butter on the dough and sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar. Place a marshmallow inside the dough and pinch all the ends together to cover it. It's important that the dough completely covers the marshmallow, so it's totally enclosed in a "tomb." Follow these same steps with all the dough. Bake the rolls according to the directions on the package. Allow to cool. When you bite into these golden brown "tombs," they're now empty—just like Jesus' tomb on Easter morning! Praise God for raising Jesus from the dead.

Extra Mile

Jesus rising from the dead may be the most history-altering event ever recorded. When Christ defeated death, he also defeated the devil's schemes that started back in the Garden of Eden. By eating the fruit, Adam and Eve created a separation between humans and God. Satan doesn't want us to have a relationship with our heavenly Father. Jesus' perfect life, death and resurrection make it possible for us to know God intimately again.

Watch these videos that re-enact what this epic battle between God and Satan may have looked like. Both are based on Carman's song, "The Champion."

- “Christian Music Video - The Champion” at YouTube shows regular kids at a church: www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1ogO4tW2ck&feature

- “The Champion by Carman” at Tangle uses three songs to show Jesus’ victory: www.tangle.com/view_video.php?viewkey=86400c494db7091e402b

After you’ve watched one or both videos, talk about what it’s like to know God personally. Jesus’ resurrection dealt the ultimate blow to Satan, but the devil still tries to trap us in sin and make us forget Jesus’ sacrifice. Commit as a family to live a victorious life with Jesus.