

Jesus Rises from the Dead

July 5th, 2020

Ask your children to tell you what holiday they think of when you say the following words:

Santa Clause (Christmas)

Turkey & Pumpkin Pie (Thanksgiving)

Eggs & Bunny (Easter)

Fireworks (4th of July)

Say: That was pretty easy, wasn't it? Now let's make it a little bit more difficult. I'm going to tell you what we are celebrating and I want you to tell me what holiday it is. Ready?

America becoming its own country (4th of July)

The things you are thankful for (Thanksgiving)

The birth of Jesus (Christmas)

Jesus rising from the dead (Easter)

Read Mark 16:1-4

Explain that, after Jesus was killed, He was put inside a tomb. You can think of these tombs as little caves on the side of a hill or mountain. In front of the doorway of the tomb, there was a HUGE stone used as a door to cover the entrance. The stone was very hard to move because it was so big. It was so hard to move that, even if your whole family worked together, they would still struggle to roll it.

Ask your children what the most surprising thing they ever experienced was. Did they get a new puppy or find out they were having a little sibling? Maybe they found a dollar bill on the ground or got the perfect present for their birthday.

How did that surprise make them feel? Was it a good surprise or a bad surprise?

SUNDAY STUDIES
for Kids

Explain to your children that the women who went to see Jesus' tomb were very surprised to find that the stone covering the entrance to the tomb had been rolled away. The only thing was, they didn't know if this was a good surprise or a bad surprise. Did some bad people come along and steal Jesus' body? That would be bad news!

Read Mark 16:5-8

Explain that the young man sitting dressed in a white robe was an angel. He told the women who went to check on Jesus that Jesus had risen from the dead. Isn't that crazy? People don't rise up from the dead, but Jesus did, because He was so powerful that even death could not stop Him.

Read the following and have your children act surprised each time you say that Jesus appeared:

"One very sad day, Jesus died. He was buried, but He rose from the dead on the third day. Jesus was alive! He appeared to Mary. (Pause for children to gasp.) He appeared (pause) to Peter. He appeared (pause) to James and all the apostles. Later, He appeared (pause) to Paul."

Explain that Jesus appeared to people so they would know He was alive. He loved them very much and wanted them to believe in Him. Jesus loves you just as much. He wants you to believe in Him, too.

Explain that Jesus rising from the dead isn't just good news or great news...it's the best news ever! Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have hope in Him.

Activity: The Light Has Overcome the Darkness

Materials Needed: Candle and Lighter/Match

Take the candle and light it. Use the flame to represent Jesus.

Explain that Jesus was the light of the world, but when He died on the cross it seemed for those three days like death and darkness may have defeated Jesus. Was Jesus really who He said He was if He was defeated by death? As we know, Jesus was the ultimate victor and now we have victory in Jesus!

After you finish explaining, blow the candle out. Watch as the smoke rises and pretend like the smoke is the passing of time. Count to 3 and say that each second is one day. (Count fast!)

Then, **light the smoke** with the lighter and watch as the candle wick lights back up. Just as the candle light was brought back to life by the power of the lighter, Jesus was brought back to life by the awesome power of God.