

WEsources:



A Resource FOR ALL OF US

WRITTEN BY THE Discipleship Ministry Team OF THE Cumberland Presbyterian Church

GOSPEL OF
Mark

children

JESUS CALLS PEOPLE

Lesson 1

RESOURCES

- Bible
- Children's Story Bible with illustrations of the stories in the lesson.
- Computer or tablet to watch videos
- Colorful paper strips to make a paper chain
- Tape or glue stick
- Calendar pages for March and April
- Markers or pencils
- Paper cut out in the shape of a footprint

GATHERING

As the children are all gathered ask them what they know about the season of Lent.

The season of Lent is the six week period before Easter. It lasts 40 days, not including Sundays. Sunday's are sometimes referred to as mini Easters.

The 40 days are to remind us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness before he started his ministry.

Many people focus on prayer, giving, and fasting during the season of Lent.

As the leader, you might want to freshen up your knowledge of the season of Lent by watching this short video. If you are leading older children, you might consider letting them watch the videos as well. Search youtube for "Lent in 3 Minutes (NEW!)" by Busted Halo.

ACTIVITIES ABOUT LENT

To help count down the days until Easter, provide materials for the children to make one of the projects below.

Calendar Countdown

Have copies of the months of March and April for each child to have a copy. First, ask them to find Easter Sunday on the calendar. Ask them to draw a star or some other picture on that date. Starting with Saturday (the day before Easter), ask the children to write a number on each day, counting backwards up until the current day you are doing this activity. When finished, they will know how many days until Easter. Each day after this, they can put a big X through the day counting down the days until Easter.

Paper Chain Countdown

Cut out forty paper strips that could be used to make a paper chain. Demonstrate to the children how to tape or glue the paper strips so that they interlock and make a chain. The

children can take off a link every day until Easter Sunday. *(No link is removed on Sundays during Lent.)*

QUESTIONS

If you have enough Bibles for each child, let them hold their own Bible while you go through the following questions.

There are many smaller sections in the Bible. Examples are Genesis, Exodus, Matthew and Mark. What do we call them? (Books)

The book we will be reading from during Lent is the book of Mark.

All the books in the Bible are in one of two large collections called Testaments.

What are the two testaments called? (Old & New)

Can you look and see which Testament the book of Mark is located using the Table of Contents?

See if you can find the book of Mark.

SCRIPTURE

The book of Mark begins with the story of Jesus being baptized. This is one of the first stories we have about Jesus as an adult. Very quickly after Jesus is baptized he begins his work. The very first thing Jesus does is call people to follow him.

In advance search youtube for a video called, "Wild stories about Jesus - Mark 1:16-20" by Cartoon Bible. Keep the first video ready, then search youtube for "Wild stories about Jesus - Mark 2:13-17" by Cartoon Bible.

After watching the first video read Mark 1:16-20 after second video read Mark 2: 13 - 17.

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the two stories using the questions below. Give them time to think and answer. The questions do not have a Yes or No answer, so allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening

in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

In these stories what was Jesus doing?

Who did Jesus talk to along the way?

What did he ask Simon, Andrew, James, John, and Levi to do?

Why do you think they did what Jesus asked?

What questions do you think they had of Jesus?

How do you think their life was different after they started following Jesus?

Think of a time when you are playing a game, reading a book, or doing something you really love to do. Now imagine someone coming along as asking you to stop that activity and go with them.

How do you feel about that? What do you think you would do?

Jesus was calling these folks to follow him.

How do you feel Jesus calls you to follow him?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Follow the Leader - Play a game of follow the leader, giving each child a chance to be the leader. After everyone has had a chance to lead, talk about the game and how it is similar or different from the Bible stories.

Make Footprints

Have footprints cut out for each child to have one or two. Ask them to draw a picture or write words on the footprint of ways they feel Jesus could be calling them.

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God, we thank you for the stories about Jesus that we read today. Help us to follow Jesus just like

Simon, Andrew, James, John, and Levi did. Amen.

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JESUS SPEAKS

Lesson 2

RESOURCES

- Bible
- Children's Story Bible with illustrations of the stories in the lesson.
- Computer or tablet to watch videos
- Copies of the Bible Bookmark
- For Bread & Fish Craft: brown paper, blue paper, scissors, glue/glue stick
- Thank you notes

GATHERING

Follow up on the discussion about the season of Lent from session 1 with

What do we call the season of the church year that we are now in? (*Lent*)

How many days or weeks does this season last? (*Approximately 40 days/6 weeks*)

Did you notice anything different in the church or church sanctuary? (*colors or other Lenten décor that may have been added*)

If you started one of the countdown activities last week, take time to check in with the children about the progress they have made in counting down the days until Easter.

Did anyone mark the days on their calendar/
Did anyone take the links off their chain?

Talk about reading the Bible stories:

If you have enough Bibles for each child, let them hold their own Bible while you go through the following discussion starter questions.

Last week we discovered that the book of Mark is in the New Testament.

Do you know where it comes in the New Testament? (*Second book of the New Testament*)

Please find the book of Mark in your Bible.

Each book in the Bible is broken down into smaller sections called chapters.

How many chapters does Mark have? (*16*)

Please find chapter 3 in the book of Mark.

Each chapter is broken down into smaller sections called verses.

How many verses does Mark chapter three have? (*35*)

SCRIPTURE

In the first session, we read two stories from the book of Mark that told of Jesus calling people to follow him. Today, we are going to read more scriptures from the book of Mark that have some things in common.

Read:

- Mark 3: 7 - 10
- Mark 6: 33 - 44
- Mark 8: 1 - 10

In advance search youtube for these videos, "Jesus Feeds 5000 - Bible For Kids" by Kids Play and Learn, it's three mins. For the second video search youtube for "Storytellers: Jesus Feeds 5000" by Crossroad Kids' Club, this video is 5 mins long. For the third video search youtube for, "Twos: Jesus Feeds 5000 (Story)" by Crossroad Kids' Club that is less than 2 mins.

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the three stories using the questions below. Give them time to think and answer. The questions do not have a Yes or No answer, so allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

What things did all of the scriptures have in common?

What differences did you notice in the three scriptures?

In these stories what was Jesus doing?

What were the disciples doing in the stories?

Close your eyes and imagine you were in a big crowd of people waiting to hear Jesus teach. Imagine that your stomach started to growl. What would you be thinking as the day was getting late? When the food was distributed, what were you thinking then?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Make a Bible Bookmark - Included with this lesson is a sample of a Bible Bookmark that each child could color and personalize. On the top blank they can write their name. On the bottom blank under "Book:" they could write "Mark." This will help them remember studying the book of Mark during the season of Lent.

Make Bread and Fish Story Reminder

As a visual reminder of the Bible stories, provide supplies for the children to make two fish, five loaves of bread, and a basket. The fish could be cut out of blue paper, and bread and basket out of brown paper. The children could glue their fish and bread to the basket. Encourage them to retell the story using their basket with bread and fish to their family or friends.

Thank You Note

The crowds that followed Jesus around wanted to hear him teach about God. Ask the children to tell you about teachers in their life. Invite them to write a note of thanks to the teacher. They can use words or pictures or both to express their thanks.

In addition to the above activities, you may want to check out these additional activities that can be purchased through Oriental Trading Co.

Craft Kit to Purchase:

Search OrientalTrading.com for, "Feeding the 5000 Sign Craft Kit- Makes 12"

Coloring book to Purchase:

Search OrientalTrading.com for, "Miracles of Jesus Coloring Books - 12 Pc."

CLOSING PRAYER

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God, thank you for way Jesus taught so many people. Thank you for the people who teach us. Amen.

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Where is it located in the New Testament?
(Second book)

Find Mark Chapter 4 and mark your place with your Bible bookmark.

JESUS TEACHES WITH STORIES

Lesson 3

RESOURCES

- Bible
- Children's Story Bible with illustrations of the stories in the lesson.
- Computer or tablet to watch videos
- For Seed Show and Tell: Three or four types of seed packets - one being a mustard seed.
- For the Seed Collage Craft: glue, heavy paper or cardboard shape for each child, several types of colorful seeds.

GATHERING

If you have enough Bibles for each child, let them hold their own Bible while you go through the following discussion starter questions. If the children made a Bible book mark last week, they can use it now to mark their place.

Let's review what we know about the book of Mark.

SCRIPTURE

Today, we are going to read more scriptures from the book of Mark. The stories we will read today are called "parables." A parable is a short story that teaches an important lesson. Jesus often used parables to teach about God.

Read:

Read the story and show the corresponding videos.

Mark 4: 1 - 9, Parable of the Sower

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZEO_Ls2ERs
(Time: 3 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9IOhGPrRvY> (Time: 3 min)

Mark 4: 30 - 32, Parable of the Mustard Seed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9IOhGPrRvY> (Time: 3 min)

What testament is Mark located? (New)

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the scriptures.

What things did the two stories have in common?

In these stories what was Jesus doing?

Now, focusing mainly on Mark 4: 30 - 32, ask:

Why do you think Jesus chose a very small seed like the mustard seed to tell his story?

What do you think Jesus was trying to teach by telling this parable?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Seed Show and Tell

Bring two or three types of seeds with you to this session. Before the children arrive pour a few from each packet in separate bowls so that you know what the seeds are, but the children cannot see what they are. Ask them to look at the seeds individually and make a guess as to what they think might grow from that seed. After they have guessed, reveal the identity of each seed. Remind them about the parable of the mustard seed.

What did Jesus say would happen to the small seed?

Make Seed Pictures

As a way for the children to remember the parables about seeds, help them make a seed mosaic or collage. Have several types of colorful seeds and a cut out shapes on heavy paper or cardboard. The shapes may be crosses, hearts, or some other shape you think appropriate for the season. Instruct them to pour a small portion of glue in a section of the shape and place seeds on the glue. Add glue and seeds to the entire shape. Allow time for the glue to dry. While waiting for

the glue to dry talk with the children about how these little seeds can grow into plants and do amazing things to create food for us or to bring beauty to the earth. Help them to think about how this works in their life.

What things do you sometimes feel too small to do? If you listen to Jesus' parable, what things can you do to help others? What things can you do to help our community? What things can you do to help our church?

Mustard Seed Project

Decide on a project that the children can do to help the church. They could help decorate a bulletin board at church, make cards to send or deliver to the shut in members, collect food for a food pantry. Select a project that is appropriate for your congregation. Remind them throughout all stages of the project that small actions can grow into big results, like what you read about in Jesus' parables.

In addition to the above activities, you may want to check out this activity book that can be purchased through OrientalTrading.com and search for "Parables of Jesus Activity Book - 24 Pc."

You may want to consider purchasing a Story Bible to use with the children. Growing in God's Love is an excellent choice for this lesson, because it has a section on parables. To order in the CP Book store go to cpcmc.org/store-2/ and search for, "Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible" by Elizabeth F. Caldwell & Carol A. Wehrheim.

Closing Prayer

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God, thank you that you can use all the small things we do to do great things in the world. Amen.

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JESUS HEALS AND CARES FOR PEOPLE

Lesson 4

RESOURCES

- Bible
- Children's Story Bible with illustrations of the stories in the lesson.
- Computer or tablet to watch videos
- Helper items for "Gathering"
- Paper Doll supplies listed in "Seeking Understanding"
- Card making or goody bag supplies if you choose to do this activity under "Seeking Understanding"
- Make a deck of cards for the Game in "Seeking Understanding"

GATHERING

Who is the helper?

Bring several items to class that a helper would use to help others. Here are some suggestions: stethoscope for a doctor or nurse; school books for a teacher; order pad for a waiter; baby blanket for a parent; dog bowl for a pet owner or vet. Put all the items in a big box or basket.

When the children have arrived, ask them to take the items out of the box one at a time. Ask, what is this item? Who uses this? How do they help someone? After they have identified all the items, tell them that today the Bible stories will be about times when Jesus healed and/or cared for people.

If you have enough Bibles for each child, let them hold their own Bible and find the scriptures that you will be studying during this lesson. If you made the Bible bookmark in session two, ask the children to find Mark chapter 10 and mark their place using the bookmark. If you do not have the bookmark, give the children small pieces of paper to mark their place. Then they can turn to Mark chapter 6 and find verse 53.

SCRIPTURE

In this scripture, let's read and listen for what Jesus is doing to help people.

Read Mark 6: 53 - 56

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the scriptures. Give them time to think and answer. The questions do not have a "yes" or "no" answer, so allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

What is happening in the scripture? (People are recognizing Jesus and bringing sick people to him to be healed, Jesus is healing people)

Where is this happening? (In villages, cities, and farms...everywhere Jesus is going.)

In the video what did Jesus do?

If you had been in the crowd, what would you have thought?

Read Mark 10: 13 - 16

You may want to watch a video of the scripture, search youtube for, "Jesus and the Children: New Testament Unit -- Holy Moly Sunday School" by Wearesparkhouse

QUESTIONS

Why do you think people were bringing small children to see Jesus?

What did the disciples do when the children were brought to Jesus?

(Asked them to go away; spoke sternly to them)

Why do you think the disciples didn't want them to see Jesus?

How did Jesus treat the children?
(Welcomed them, blesses them)

If you were one of the children who spent time with Jesus, what would you ask?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Paper Doll with Jesus Loves Me stickers

Have supplies for each child to make a paper doll. Ask the children to decorate one to look like themselves. If you purchase the "Jesus Loves Me" stickers, they can use these to decorate their paper doll's shirt. Or, they can write the words "Jesus Loves Me" on the shirt. Invite them to take their personalized paper doll home as a reminder of the Bible story today. Go to OrientalTrading.com and search for, "Jesus Loves Me Sticker Roll - 100 Pc"

Spend time with a baby or toddler

If you have babies or toddlers in the church, make arrangements for your group to spend

some time with them. Visit the nursery or have a baby or toddler visit the class. Encourage the children to interact with the smaller children by reading a book or playing with them. Ask them: If Jesus was with you, what might he do with the babies and toddlers?

Game: Jesus Says "Come to Me"

Prior to the session, make a deck of cards to use for this game. Cut out 10 cards from paper or cardstock to be about the size of a business card. On six cards write the word: Jesus. On the other four write the word: disciple. Shuffle up the cards. When you are ready to play, line all the children up in a horizontal line. Ask one child to be Jesus and one child to be a disciple. The child playing Jesus and the child playing the disciple will stand together about 10 or 20 feet away from the rest of the children. Ask the children in the line to draw a card from the deck. If they draw a disciple card, the child playing the disciple will say: "No, you cannot come to Jesus!" If they draw the Jesus card, the child playing Jesus, will say: "Yes, let the children come to me!" And, that child can then take five steps forward. (Or, however many steps you think they need to take based on your space.) Let each child take turns drawing a card. The goal of the game is to get all the children to Jesus.

Cards or Goody Bags

Contact a local hospital or nursing home in your area to see what they could use in the way of cards and/or goody bags for their waiting room area or patients/residents. The children could make cards of encouragement and/or put together goody bags. As you are working on this project ask the children to think about this person who might be receiving it. Ask them if they know of other ways they can show care for people.

Closing Prayer

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God, we thank you for all the many ways that Jesus cared and healed people. Help us to find ways to help people. Amen.

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THE FIRST COMMANDMENT AND OTHER IMPORTANT TEACHINGS

Lesson 5

- Bibles
- Children's Story Bible with illustrations of the stories in the lesson.
- Computer or tablet to watch video
- For Heart Craft: Heart patterns - See Below, Colorful paper, Scissors, Glue or glue sticks, Markers, pencils

GATHERING

If you have enough Bibles for each child to have their own, ask them to hold it as you ask a few questions:

We have been studying stories from the Book of Mark. What testament is Mark in? *New*

Do you know what testament the book of Deuteronomy is in? *Old*

Find the book of Deuteronomy in your Bible. You can look for it in the Table on Contents.

Find Deuteronomy chapter 6, verse 4-5. Put your bookmark to mark Deuteronomy 6:4

Now find Mark 12.

SCRIPTURE

We talked last week about Jesus healing people. Jesus also spent a lot of time teaching. Today we are going to read about one of Jesus' most important lessons.

Read Mark 12: 28-31

You may want to watch one or more of these videos, search youtube for:

"The Greatest Commandment" by The Church of Jesus Christ (2 min)

"The Most Important Commandment" by CFMU Pres (4 min)

"Kids and the Greatest Commandment" by Salvo Studios (4 min)

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the scriptures and the videos. Give them time to think and answer. Allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

In the scripture today, what is Jesus doing?
Teaching; talking with a crowd

Who asked Jesus the question? *Scribe*

What is a Scribe?

What was Jesus' answer to the Scribe? *Love God with your heart, soul, mind, strength, and neighbor as yourself.*

Why did Jesus begin with "Hear, O Israel"?

Ask the children to turn to Deuteronomy and read 6:4-5.

What do you notice about this scripture in Deuteronomy and what Jesus said in the book of Mark? *The same*

Why do you think Jesus used this as an answer? *It was an important teaching that the crowd would have been familiar with.*

What part did Jesus add to Mark—that was not in Deuteronomy? *Love your neighbor as yourself.*

Why do you think Jesus added that part?

Who is your neighbor? *All people—people close by and people far away—people you know well and those you do not know.*

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Heart Craft & Memory Activity: Prepare patterns of hearts in five graduating sizes ahead of time. (Pattern at the end of this lesson.) Each child will need to use the pattern to draw on paper and cut out five hearts - one in each size. If you have a variety of paper, it would be great for them to cut each heart in a different color or pattern. Invite them to glue the hearts one on top of the other according to size. After they have glued the hearts ask them to write the following words on the hearts starting with the smallest:

- Heart
- Soul
- Mind
- Strength
- Love your neighbor as yourself – Mark 12: 30 - 31

After everyone has completed their hearts, use the words on the hearts to help the group repeat Mark 12: 30 - 31. Ask for volunteers to repeat the scripture using only the heart they made and the key words on each heart.

Kindness to Neighbor Activity

Talk with the group about showing kindness to their neighbor. Remind them that a neighbor can be someone that lives close by, but could also be someone we see at the grocery store that we don't know. Ask them to think of ways they could show kindness to a neighbor this week in their community, school, or church. In the list below are suggestions for you to share. The last few are ideas that you could do at church during this lesson. Please remind them to talk this project over with their parents and enlist their help, especially if what they want to do involves visiting a neighbor's home to leave a note, etc.

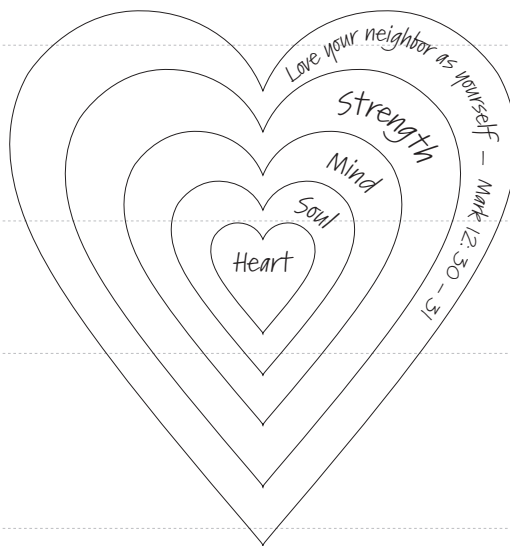
- Leave a note on neighbor's door
- Pick up trash without being asked
- Leave a couple of quarters taped to a vending machine
- Play with someone new at school
- Leave a thank you note
- Give a flower
- Let a sibling go first
- Color a picture for someone
- Hold a door open for someone
- Take a plate of cookies to a nurses' station
- Pick out a few toys to donate
- Leave a thank you note for your teacher
- Decorate the pastor's door
- Leave the church secretary a special treat

Closing Prayer

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God we thank you for the words and the stories in the Old and New Testaments that teach us about you. Help us to remember to love you with our heart, soul, mind, strength, and to love our neighbor. Amen.

Heart Craft & Memory Activity



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JESUS TEACHES ABOUT DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Lesson 6

RESOURCES

- Bibles
- Computer or tablet to watch videos
- For the "Tape Resist Cross" activity you will need a piece of heavy white paper per child, crayons or markers, roll of blue painters tape or masking tape.

GATHERING

If you have enough Bibles for each child to have their own, ask them to hold it as you ask a few questions:

We have been studying stories from the Book of Mark.

What have been some of your favorite stories?

What is the story you remember the most?

What type of things did Jesus do in the scriptures we have read so far?

We are going to read three scriptures today. Let's find them in our Bibles.

Ask them to find the following scriptures and mark their place with small sheets of paper.

Mark 8:31-36, Mark 9:30-32, and Mark 10:32-34.

SCRIPTURE

Today we are going to read three separate times when Jesus told the disciples something important. Listen for that message.

Read Mark 8:31-36, Mark 9:30-32, Mark 10:32-34

You may want to watch one or more of these videos by searching youtube for:

"Australian animated Bible stories - Mark 8:31-38" by CartoonBible (1 min)

"Jesus again tells about his death (Mark 10:28-34)" by CartoonBible (1 min)

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the scriptures and the videos. Give them time to think and answer. The questions do not have a "yes" or "no" answer, so allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

In the scripture today, what is Jesus doing?

Who is with Jesus in each scripture?

Where does it say that they are located in the three scriptures?

What is the message that Jesus shares in each scripture with the disciples?

Why do you think Jesus shares this message with the disciples so many times?

What were some of the other things that Jesus said in these scriptures?

Do you think the disciples and others who heard Jesus fully understood what he was trying to teach them?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Tape Resist Cross: You will need a sheet of heavy white paper for each child, crayons or markers, and a roll of blue painter's tape or masking tape for this activity. You may do this first step ahead of time or ask the children to do it—whichever you think best for the age of the children in your group.

Tear or cut off strips of tape and press to the center of the paper in the pattern of a cross. Press the edges of the tape design down securely to prevent the tape from coming up before you are ready.

Invite the children to color over the entire paper, including the cross.

When they have colored the whole page, invite them to gently lift the tape from the paper revealing a cross underneath.

Invite the children to take their cross home and place it where it will remind them of Jesus' teachings when they see it.

You may choose to purchase a craft to use with this lesson. Here are several options from search OrientalTrading.com for:

"Magic Color Scratch Cross Ornaments - 24 Pc."

"Tissue Paper Cross Craft Kit- Makes 12"

Closing Prayer

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

God, we thank you for all the lessons that Jesus taught. Help us to remember to do the things Jesus wanted us to do. Amen.

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THE PASSION OF CHRIST

Lesson 7

The story of the last week of Jesus' earthly life is obviously a very important story. But, it also has many aspects that are hard for children to understand. Some events in the story are sad, and some may be scary to children. This lesson is designed to help children become familiar with the variety of events that were happening the last week of Jesus' earthly life. Ultimately, you want the children to celebrate the resurrection. But, it is important that they are able to explore the events that led up to Sunday as they are age appropriate and ready to do so. It is suggested that the leader of this lesson read the following article in preparation for leading this lesson. This article could also be shared with parents of the children.

RESOURCES

- Bibles
- Children's Story Bible that has illustrations of stories in the lesson
- Computer or tablet to watch video(s)
- Scripture cards
- Optional: Color Sheets at the end of the lesson
- Optional: Supplies for Coffee Filter Butterfly

GATHERING

If you have enough Bibles for each child to have their own, ask them to hold it as you ask a few questions:

What book of the Bible have we been studying for the past six weeks? *Mark*

What testament is Mark in? *New*

Hand out the "Scripture Cards." There are 10 cards. Depending on the size of your group, each child may get more than one card, or a couple children can share a card. Ask each child to find the scripture listed on their card in their Bible. Ask them to use the card to mark their place until time to read the scripture.

SCRIPTURE

Depending on the age and reading level of the children—ask the children to read aloud the scripture on their card, or you may want to read it aloud to the group.

Today we are going to read about some of the things that Jesus was doing before his death and resurrection.

Read in order:

1. Mark 11: 7-10 - Jesus enters Jerusalem
2. Mark 14: 1-2 - Plotting to kill Jesus
3. Mark 14: 10-11 - Judas betrays Jesus

4. Mark 14: 12-16 & 14: 22-24 - The Last Supper
5. Mark 14: 32-36 - Jesus prays
6. Mark 14: 43-46 - Jesus is arrested
7. Mark 15: 1-15 - Jesus and Pilate
8. Mark 15: 16-20 & 25-27 - The soldiers mock Jesus & the crucifixion
9. Mark 15: 37-39 & 46 - Death and burial
10. Mark 16: 1-7 - Resurrection

You may want to watch one or more of these videos by searching youtube for:

"The Story of Easter (Jesus' Sacrifice)"
by Saddleback Kids (5:22 min)

"Animated The Easter Story"
by Geoffrey McLean (4:13 min)

"Kids Present The Easter Story"
by Radius Online (5:29 min)

QUESTIONS

Spend some time talking with the children about the scriptures and the videos. Give them time to think and answer. The questions do not have a "yes" or "no" answer, so allow time for the children to wonder about what is happening in the story. Think of this as a conversation, more than a question and answer activity.

Today we have read a lot of different scriptures that tell the story of the days before Jesus' death and resurrection.

Were there any events that we read about that you did not know had happened?

What questions do you have about what we read?

What parts of these stories make you happy?

What parts of these stories make you sad?

If you had been in the crowd in the #1 scripture how do you think you would have felt? How would you have felt if you had been in the crowd in the #7 scripture? And, how would you have felt if you had been one of the people in #10?

What does the word "resurrection" mean?

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING

Illustrate the Scripture Cards

Make copies of the Scripture Cards so that each child has a whole set to take home.

Using the Scripture Cards, invite the children to illustrate each scripture in the empty space below the scripture.

Color Sheets

At the bottom of this lesson are several color sheets to use with this lesson, or to send home with the children.

Make a Coffee Filter Butterfly

Supplies Needed: 2 coffee filters per child, washable markers, water, eye dropper or small measuring spoon, pipe cleaner 12" long, cookie sheet or something to put the project on to keep the work surface from getting messy.

Special Note: You might want to let the children do the coloring and water dripping steps at the beginning of the session to allow time for drying. You can come back to it at the end of the session and do the rest of the steps.

1. Place one coffee filter inside the other so they fit together well. You will want to place the coffee filters on a cookie sheet to keep the table surface from getting messy.
2. Flatten the coffee filters.
3. The children can use markers to color a design on the coffee filters. They will color on the top filter and the color should bleed through.
4. Children will take an eye dropper or small measuring spoon of water and drip water onto the marker designs on the coffee filter just enough to make the filter wet and the colors begin to spread.
5. Pull the filters apart to dry and allow to dry.
6. Once they are dry, fold each layer back and forth, accordion style in 1/2" folds. Put the two folded strips on top of each other.
7. Twist a pipe cleaner around the middle.
8. Finally, pull apart the folds in the coffee filter to open them up and shape your butterfly

You may want to purchase these crafts from Oriental Trading to reinforce the story by searching:

Holy Week Puzzle Blocks

Holy Week Activity Pads - 24 Pc.

Color Your Own Holy Week Story Crosses - 12 Pc.

New Life in Jesus Butterfly Craft Kit - Makes 12

Closing Prayer

Close with this prayer or let a child lead the group in prayer.

Dear God,

Thank you for the things that Jesus did for us. Help us to remember these stories. Amen.