

April 3, 2013

Jesus is Risen

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-20

**LESSON FOCUS**

*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* Romans 6:23

*“Jesus said: “Because I live, you will live also!”* John 14:19

**Jesus is Risen - Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-11**

On the cross Jesus said, “It is finished!” The payment for our sin was completed by His death. But Jesus not only died for sin, but He was victorious over death. The ransom for our souls was paid by Jesus through His suffering and death. As He promised, on the third day He arose from death. He was victorious over sin and death. Jesus lives, the victory’s won! And because He lives, we also have life; life now, and life forever with Him in His heavenly Home.

- The Sabbath (no-work day) was over.
- At the “first light” of Sunday morning the women, who followed and ministered to Jesus with their material things, went to the tomb with “sweet spices” to embalm Jesus’ body for burial.
- Mary of Magdala (Mary Magdalene) may have gone to the tomb before sunrise, for she found the tomb empty and hastened with her cry of sorrow to Peter and John, assuming that the body of Jesus had been stolen.
- During her absence from the tomb, the other women arrived and even entered into it.
- There they saw the two angels (Matthew and Mark refer to only one angel, the one who was the spokesman).
- The angel’s message was: “He is not here, for He is risen.. .go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead.. .He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him!”
- Meanwhile Peter and John were hurrying to the tomb, followed by Mary.
- John arrived first and paused for a time outside the tomb, but when Peter arrived he went directly into it.
- John joined him to observe that the body of Jesus had not been stolen, for the tomb did not appear to have been burglarized.
- They silently pondered the discovery as they returned again to the city.
- Mary arrived at the tomb after Peter and John had left.
- She lingered there, weeping over what she believed to be her losses: first, the living Jesus; now, even His dead body.
- Once more, two angels appeared and addressed Mary: “Woman, why are you weeping?”
- Mary replied: “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”
- She turned away as if to find the body of Jesus in another place and, suddenly, Jesus stood before her in His living presence.
- Tearful and sorely grieved, Mary did not recognize Jesus.

- She thought it was the gardener, so she begged information concerning the whereabouts of Jesus' body so she could take Him away.
- She again turned toward the tomb and now Jesus spoke to her: "Mary!"
- She immediately recognized His voice and with great relief uttered the comforting word: "My Lord!" (Rabboni, Aramaic; Rabbi, Hebrew.)
- We recall that Jesus had taught: "My sheep hear My voice...and they know me."
- Mary was the first to whom the risen and living Jesus revealed Himself.
- After that He met the other women who were returning to Jerusalem pondering the wondrous message of the angels.
- Jesus instructed them: "Rejoice! Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."
- We are told that while Mary's report caused Peter and John to run to the tomb, the other disciples considered the report from the other women to be astonishing, but utter nonsense.
- They did not even go to the tomb out of curiosity.
- The disciples isolated themselves in their room to agonize in their grief over the loss of their Master, Jesus.
- They forgot that He had told them that He would rise again on the third day and go before them into Galilee.

***Dear Lord Jesus, may the love that You demonstrated for me on the cross fill my heart with love and appreciation. Truly You have rescued my soul from hell through Your innocent sufferings and death. I desire now to show my love to You by teaching the truths of Your crucifixion to my students. As Your Holy Spirit has already worked faith in my heart, so also I pray that He might now work through me to strengthen the faith of these students. Give success to my humble effort for Your name's sake. Amen.***

## UPPER ELEMENTARY BIBLE STORY

### Jesus is Risen

**Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-20**

*Be sensitive to those students who are unusually attentive or who have lots of questions. If possible, pull them aside for questions and prayer. Pray with the larger group, thanking God for sending His One and Only Son to take our punishment.*

***"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*** Romans 6:23

***"Jesus said: "Because I live, you will live also!"*** John 14:19

### Jesus is Risen - Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-11

#### Opening Questions:

Have you ever made a promise that was hard to keep?

Perhaps someone depended on you keeping your promise.

What if ten people depended on the kept promise?

What if 100 people needed you to keep your promise?

Jesus had the entire human race depending on His promise to rise from the dead. Because He DID keep His promise, we believers can be assured that we, in glorified bodies, will be with Him in heaven.

#### Opening Prayer:

Dear Father in Heaven, Bless our study of Your Word with the gift of Your Holy Spirit. May He guide and direct us in the study of His saving truths in this story. We thank you for the assurance that Your word will never return to You void, but always accomplish Your good will. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**The Story - A Harmony of the Gospels** Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. And now, as the first day of the week began to dawn, while it was still dark, they came to see the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door of the tomb and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow; and the guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other women came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door to the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, for it was very large.

When Mary Magdalene saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb, she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

The other women entered the tomb; but when they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments, one young man clothed in a long white robe, sitting on the right side. And the women were alarmed and afraid and bowed their faces to the earth.

And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid or alarmed; for I know that you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. Why do you seek the Living among the dead? He is not here, but He is risen, as He said. Behold, here is the place where they laid Him. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

And they remembered His words.

And he said to them, "But go quickly and tell His disciples and Peter that He is risen from the dead: and indeed, He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. Behold, I have told you."

So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb with fear and great joy, for they trembled and were amazed; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And they ran to report it to His disciples.

Peter therefore arose and went out, and the other disciple, and they ran to the tomb. So they both ran together; and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first; and he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. Stooping down and looking in, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and the handkerchief, that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also, and he saw, and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes, and Peter marveled to himself at what had happened.

Now when Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping; and, as she wept, she stooped down and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

Now when she had said this, she turned around, and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?

She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni," which is to say, Teacher.

Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me; for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept, that she had seen the Lord, and He had spoken these things to her. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.

And as the other women went to tell the disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice." So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."

And they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them.

Now while these women were going, behold, some of the guards came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they had assembled with the elders and counseled together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure."

So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

#### **Closing Prayer:**

**Dear Jesus, You died for me that I may live. You live to lead me Home. Teach me to follow You. Amen.**

### **BIBLE CHALLENGE**

Read this passage from your Bible. Ask students to locate it in a Bible too. Help them learn this verse.

***"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*** Romans 6:23

### **VIDEO SEGMENT**

The events should focus on the resurrection.

#### **Upper Elementary – Jesus Film**

*After the video segment, ask if there are any questions. Take a moment to answer them.*

## GAME

### Impossible? Knot!

*Bible Focus: Psalm 119:11 – “I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”*

#### Materials

3 foot length of rope for every 2 kids

#### Lead the Game

Have kids form pairs, and give each pair a length of rope.

Challenge kids to hold one end of the rope in each hand and tie a knot without letting go of the ends. Let one partner attempt to tie the knot as the other partner cheers him or her on. Then let partners switch roles.

Play for several minutes. If anyone figures out the solution, have that pair sit down until the end of the game. Then they can explain the solution to the rest of the class. If no one comes up with the solution, explain it yourself: The knot can be tied by crossing your arms over your chest, so that one hand is in front of your arms and the other is behind or below them, almost like crossing your arms twice. Then lean over and pick up the ends of the rope with your arms still crossed. When you unfold your arms, a knot is automatically tied in the rope.

#### Discussion Questions

- 1. Did you think it would be possible to tie a knot with the rules I described? Why or why not?**
- 2. Do you think people thought it was possible for Jesus to rise from the dead? Why or why not?**
- 3. How do you explain Jesus rising from the dead?**

**Say: Being able to tie a knot in this game was just a trick. But Jesus rising from the dead was real!**

## **SCIENCE EXPLORATION**

### **Jesus Dies and Is Resurrected, Luke 23:26-24:53**

Celebrate Jesus' death on the Cross and His resurrection three days later so that we may live eternally.

#### **Goldenrod Paper**

The paper starts out a golden color and when you touch ammonia to the paper it turns blood red. When the paper dries the red goes away and it is golden again!

You'll Need:

Goldenrod Paper

Ammonia-based Window Cleaner

What You'll Do:

Write the words: For Me on the goldenrod paper with the window cleaner (Q-tip dipped in the window cleaner).

Talk about the sacrifice Jesus made when He died on the cross.

Wait for the paper to dry, talk about how our sins have been completely removed.

#### **Talk about today's Bible lesson:**

Jesus paid the ultimate price, death on the cross, to pay for our sins. That is amazing. Catching a coin off of your elbow, while amazing, is just an eye/hand coordination skill.

Talk about today's Bible lesson if you have time. Help students understand Jesus' sacrifice.