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Lesson Overview

There are a lot of fun holidays to celebrate throughout the year. Maybe your favorite is Christmas or Thanksgiving. Well, did you know that Easter is the most important holiday of them all? It's true and here's why. Easter is the holiday where we celebrate the day Jesus rose from the dead. The fancy word for this is resurrection. Let's do a quick review so we all understand why Jesus had to die in the first place. Jesus is God who came to live among us so he could die for us to pay for our sin problem. Sin is going our own way instead of God's way. Our sin broke our relationship with God. So, Jesus died on the cross to fix this sin problem. But, he didn't stay dead. Three days after dying on the cross he rose again! He did this to prove his power that even death can't defeat him. And, his resurrection means we get to have new life. Because of Jesus, we have the power to say, "No" to sin and "Yes" to living to honor God. All we have to do to have this new life is to put our trust or faith in Jesus. When we do that, our sins are forgiven and our relationship with God is fixed! That's pretty cool and that's why Easter is so important!

Big Idea

Jesus gives us new life.

Key Question

How do we put our trust in Jesus?

Memory Verse

John 10:10 "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
 2. (5 min) **WARM UP: How does your family celebrate Easter? (Easter baskets, Egg hunt, dinner)** (Tip: Easter usually means Easter baskets full of candy. But, Easter is about so much more than candy!)
 3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
 4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
 5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
 6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **We tell him we're sorry and invite him into our hearts.** (It's pretty simple. Jesus did all the hard work for us. He's the one that suffered and died on a cross for us but he did it because he loves us. All we have to do is tell him we're sorry for our sinful ways and invite him into our hearts. That means, instead of living for ourselves, we'll live our lives to honor Jesus.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What is sin? What did Jesus do to save us? **4-5th** Why do you think Jesus went through all that he did for you and me?
 7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read 2 Corinthians 5:15. What do you think it means to only live for yourselves? What does it mean to live for Christ?** (Answer: Living for ourselves means we're selfish and want to do things our way and don't care about God's opinion. Living for Jesus means we do things his way and bring honor to him by how we live.)
 8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: CROSS CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a half sheet of white paper and some painters tape. Have kids rip one long piece of tape and have them put it length wise in the middle of the white paper. Then have them rip a smaller piece and have them put it across the longer piece to make a cross.
- Then, have the kids get creative with coloring their paper covering the whole thing. Then, have them peel the tape off to reveal a white cross.
- Then, give the kids a Cross template (page 5) and have them glue it on their paper.
- As they work, read the story of the resurrection from Luke 24:1-7 and remind the kids that Jesus came to die to pay for their sins and then rose again to give them new life.

Supplies needed: White paper (1/2 sheets, 1 per kid), Painters tape, Crayons/Coloring pencils/Markers, Glue, Cross template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 per kid)

OPTION 2: EASTER EGG HUNT HIDDEN MESSAGE

Instructions:

- Before you start the game, make sure that each egg is filled with a word (page 6). Then have all the kids put their heads down and close their eyes. Then hide the eggs around the classroom.
- When you say, "Go!" have kids look for the hidden eggs. Once all the eggs are found, have kids open the eggs to find a word inside.
- As a class, work together to get each word in the correct order to reveal the hidden message. The message is, "Jesus was raised to give us new life"
- If you have time, read the story of the resurrection from Luke 24:1-7 and remind the kids that Jesus came to die to pay for their sins and then rose again to give them new life.

Supplies needed: Plastic Easter eggs (8 per class), Egg template (pg. 6, precut, 1 set per class, place a word in each egg)

Q3

EASTER

The Resurrection

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The story of the resurrection shows us that Jesus came to save us and give us a new kind of life!

Key Points:

- Jesus came to give us _____ . John 10:10
- Our big problem is _____ . John 8:34
- Our only answer is _____ . John 11:25-26
- Our simple response is _____ . Romans 3:22

Memory Verse:

John 10:10 "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Does your family do anything special for Easter? Explain. (special dinner, easter egg hunt, baskets) Do you know what we celebrate on Easter?*
3. *Why is our sin a problem?*
4. *How did Jesus fix our sin?*
5. *Have you put your trust in Jesus? (follow the link to learn more)*
6. *Read **2 Corinthians 5:15**. What does it mean to only live for ourselves? What does it mean to live for Christ?*
7. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Solve the puzzle and color the picture.

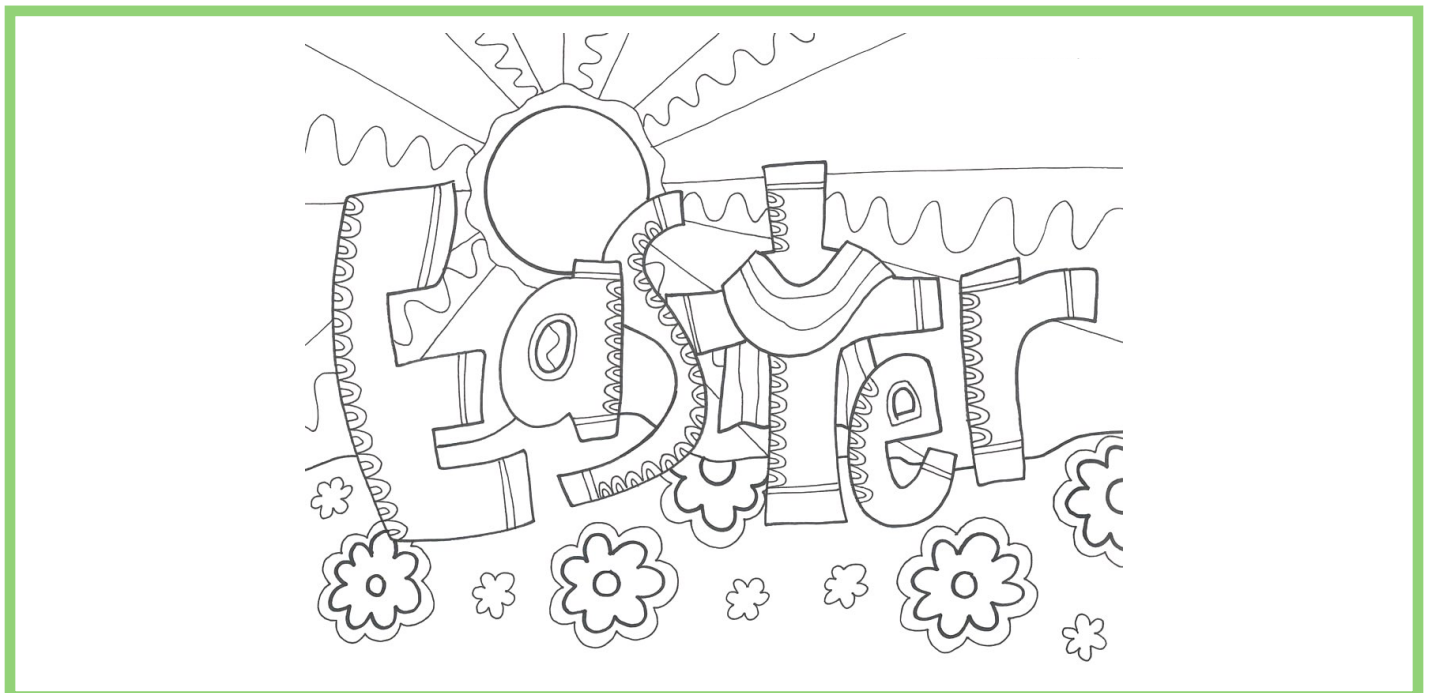
Help the Easter bunny find his way to his egg basket!

Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

John 10:___ "I have _____ that they may have _____, and have it to the _____."





EASTER

The Resurrection

2nd-3rd

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JESUS GIVES US
NEW LIFE

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EASTER

The Resurrection

2nd-
3rd

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