

Peter And John Visit Jesus' Tomb

John 20:1-10

## **MEMORY VERSE**

MARK 9:31

For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

## **WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

A stop watch or timer and as small prizes (stickers, pencils, erasers, etc.) as the number of children in your class.

An object for hiding.

## **ATTENTION GRABBER!**

### **The Crab Crawl**

Select some student volunteers to participate in a "crab-crawl" race, a race on all fours with their front-sides facing up. Create a course with masking tape and time the participants to see who is first, who has the best time, etc. Allow several students the chance to see who has the fastest time.

Explain that in today's lesson there will be two disciples that raced to reach the empty tomb first.

Allow the child with the fastest time to pass out the small prizes.

## **LESSON TIME!**

Many religions today try to tell us that Jesus was just a good man, a teacher, or just a prophet. But Jesus is much more than that. He is the Messiah, the only Son of God. He is God come in the flesh. Today we will learn that Jesus not only has power over life but also over death. Even the grave could not hold Him.

Our lesson today begins on the third day after Jesus was crucified on the cross. He was wrapped in strips of cloth, with costly spices and a burial cloth put over His head. He was placed inside a hillside tomb with a large, heavy rock covering the opening. He was dead for three days.

His disciples had thought that He was the Messiah, but since the High Priest and Jewish leaders had killed Him, they were feeling disappointed and disillusioned. What were they going to do now?

Jesus had tried to tell them several times that He would die and rise again, but they never understood what He meant. They thought He had come to establish His earthly kingdom, and you cannot have an earthly kingdom without a king. But what they did not realize was Jesus had come to establish a heavenly kingdom by preparing a way for everyone to go to heaven. He did this by dying for our sins and rising again. **Jesus conquered death.** Let's see what happens.

### JOHN 20:1

**On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. Mary went to the tomb to complete the process of preparing Jesus' body as the initial preparation had been cut short due to the coming Sabbath. It was unlawful to work during the Sabbath, so Mary was coming to complete the burial process. When she arrived, she saw that the grave was open. **Jesus conquered death.**

What do you think was going through Mary's mind? She loved Jesus very much, but now His body was gone. Do you suppose she may have been fearful?

## JOHN 20:2

Then 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."

She came running to Simon Peter and the disciple John, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" She ran to Peter and John to tell them that the grave was open and that Jesus' body was gone. She thought that someone had stolen the body.

## JOHN 20:3-4

Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb.

So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.

So Peter and John started for the tomb. Both were running, but John outran Peter and reached the tomb first. Peter and John ran to the tomb, because they wanted to know who had removed the large stone and the body of Jesus. They wanted to find out what was happening and where Jesus' body was. They still didn't understand at this time that Jesus was going to rise again from the dead.

## JOHN 20:5

And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.

John arrived first. He looked inside and saw the strips of linen that had been wrapped around Jesus' body. He didn't go inside, perhaps because Jewish law said that to go into a burial tomb made a person ceremonially unclean and prevented them from worshipping in the temple.

## JOHN 20:6-7

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,

and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

Simon Peter, who was behind John, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.

When Peter arrived, he was so excited that he couldn't stay outside. He ran right into the tomb. The body was really gone. Was Jesus' body stolen or could it really be possible that Jesus did rise again, like He said He would? **Jesus conquered death.**

The burial clothes were lying right where the body had been, just like Jesus had come right through them.

## Now You See It, Now You Don't!

Have all of the children in your class hide their eyes while a volunteer hides an object in the room. Before the children open their eyes, distract the volunteer while your aide removes the object from the hidden place. Have your class begin to look for the hidden object. When the item is not found in the original hiding place, the volunteer will be surprised.

Explain to your class what has happened. Ask the volunteer to tell how it felt to find the object was no longer hidden. Compare this feeling to how the disciples must have felt to discover that Jesus was no longer in the tomb.

## JOHN 20:8

Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.

Finally, John, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. John couldn't stay outside. Imagine the excitement He must have felt as He saw the tomb empty where Jesus had been laid. He saw and believed. Jesus wasn't there; He had risen! **Jesus conquered death.**

**JOHN 20:9**

**For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.**

Now, finally, Jesus' words began to make sense. Jesus was going to rise again from the dead! What a wonderful realization it must have been for Peter and John to now understand that their Lord and Savior had risen from the dead!

What an important fact for us to know and understand. **Jesus conquered death** and because He did we can have eternal life with Him. He took care of our sins and He has also taken care of death and its effects upon us.

Not only did they misunderstand what Jesus said about His resurrection, they also did not understand from the Scriptures that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Until then, the disciples hadn't realized that the scriptures in the Old Testament had prophesied that He would come to life again. As believers in Jesus we don't just believe in stories that someone made up, these are very real facts that can be proven through time to be true.

**JOHN 20:10**

**Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.**

They went home to tell the other disciples what they had seen. They were marveling over what they were hearing and seeing with their own eyes. They saw and believed that Jesus had risen and was truly the Messiah. Jesus had proven beyond any doubt that He is both human and divine, the very Son of God! Even death could not hold Him! **Jesus conquered death.**

## **Just a Man?**

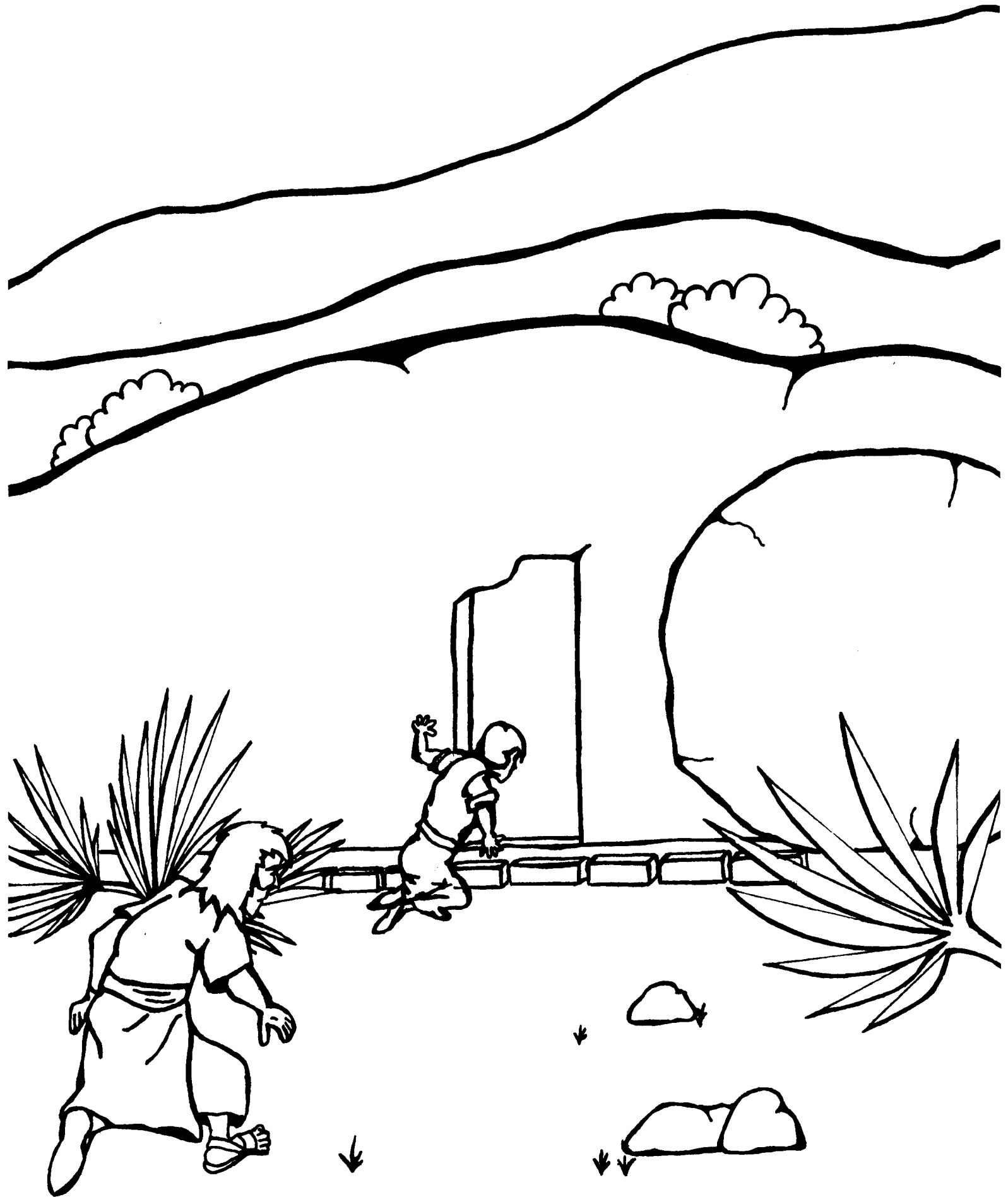
Tell your class that you are going to describe different characteristics. Instruct them to stand if they are characteristics of God or to sit if they are characteristics of a man.

After several moments of up and down, explain to your class that all of these characteristics are the characteristics of Jesus, who was so much more than a man.

What about each of you? Have you come to the point in your life that you understand, like the disciples did, that Jesus died for your sins and has risen again to show you the way to eternal life? Jesus loves you and wants you to have a relationship with Him. Ask Him to come into your heart; He will make a wonderful difference. **Jesus conquered death.**

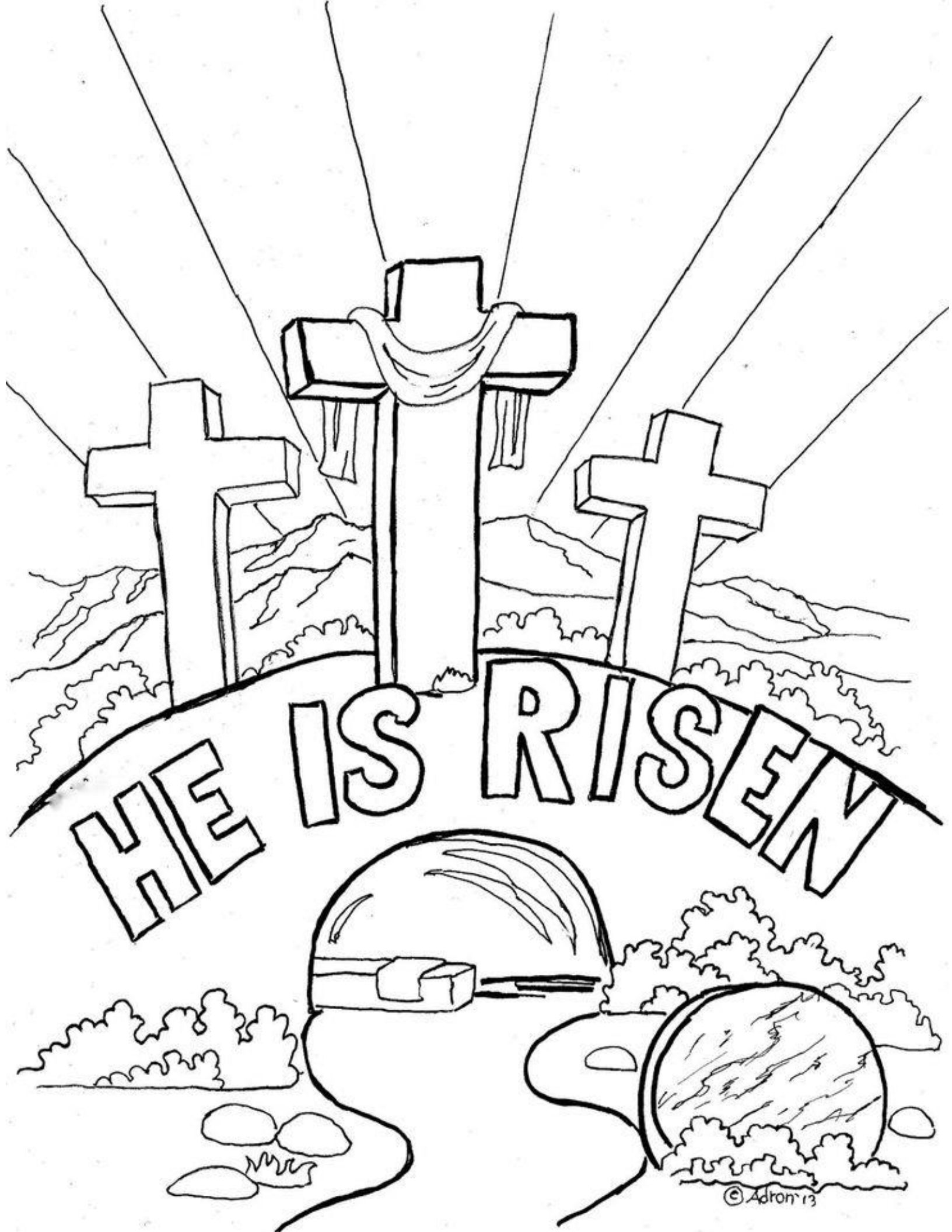
## **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the victory Jesus won over death, hell and the grave. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.



"Peter and John visit Jesus' tomb." *John 20:1 – 10*





HE IS RISEN

# PETER AND JOHN VISIT JESUS' TOMB

## (JOHN 20:1-10)

### MEMORY VERSE:

*"For He taught His disciples and said to them, 'The Son of Man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.' "* MARK 9:31

### TRUE OR FALSE:

1. "On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb." **JOHN 20:1**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**
2. "Then 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.'" **JOHN 20:2**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**
3. Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, but were not going to the tomb. **JOHN 20:3**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**

### CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

4. "So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb (**FIRST, SECOND**)."  
**JOHN 20:4**
5. "And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he (**DID, DID NOT**) go in."  
**JOHN 20:5**
6. "Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the (**CROWN, HANDKERCHIEF**) that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself."  
**JOHN 20:6-7**

### FILL IN THE BLANK:

7. "Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and \_\_\_\_\_."  
**JOHN 20:8**

### TRUE OR FALSE:

8. "For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead." **JOHN 20:9**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**
9. "Then the disciples went away again to their own homes." **JOHN 20:10**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**

# PETER AND JOHN VISIT JESUS' TOMB

(JOHN 20:1-10)

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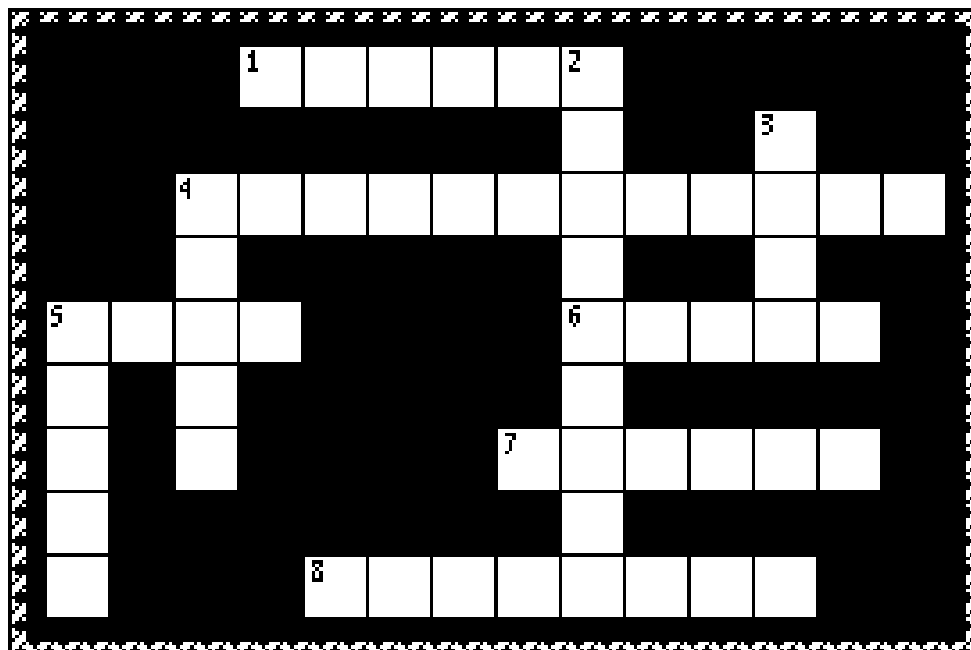
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SIMON PETER  
STONE  
TOMB



# PETER AND JOHN VISIT JESUS' TOMB

## (JOHN 20:1-10)



- 3 DOWN "For He taught His disciples and said to them, 'The Son of Man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will \_\_\_\_\_ the third day.'" **MARK 9:31**
- 5 ACROSS "On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the \_\_\_\_\_ early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb." **JOHN 20:1**
- 5 DOWN "Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have \_\_\_\_\_ away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.'" **JOHN 20:2**
- 6 ACROSS "\_\_\_\_\_ therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb." **JOHN 20:3**
- 7 ACROSS "So they both ran together, and the other disciple \_\_\_\_\_ Peter and came to the tomb first." **JOHN 20:4**
- 1 ACROSS "And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen \_\_\_\_\_ lying there; yet he did not go in." **JOHN 20:5**
- 4 ACROSS "Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the \_\_\_\_\_ that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself." **JOHN 20:6-7**
- 8 ACROSS "Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and \_\_\_\_\_." **JOHN 20:8**
- 2 DOWN "For as yet they did not know the \_\_\_\_\_, that He must rise again from the dead." **JOHN 20:9**
- 4 DOWN "Then the disciples went away again to their own \_\_\_\_\_." **JOHN 20:10**

# PETER AND JOHN VISIT JESUS' TOMB

(JOHN 20:1-10)

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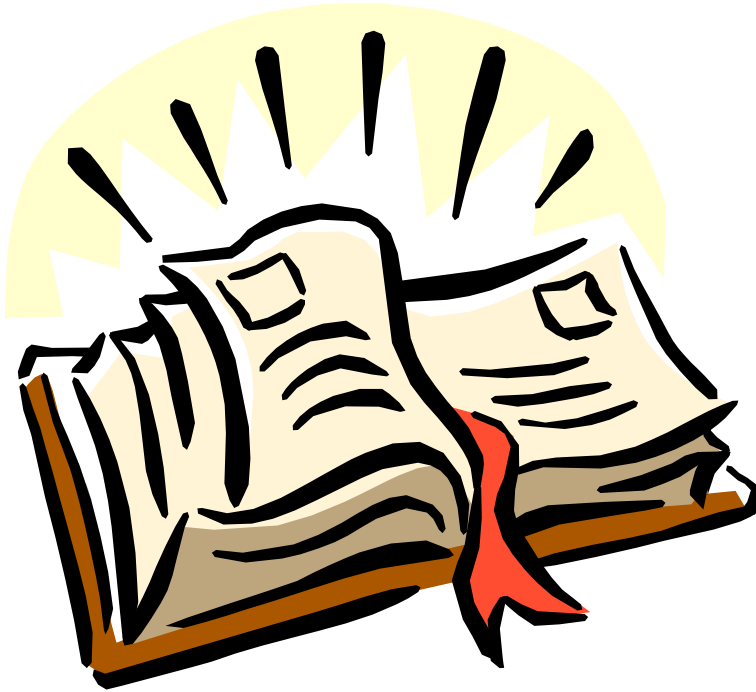
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RISE  
SCRIPTURE  
SIMON PETER  
STONE  
TOMB



# Bible Time for Kids!



**CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:**

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**LESSON TITLE: Peter and John Visit Jesus'  
Tomb**

**THEME: Jesus conquered death!**

**SCRIPTURE: John 20:1-10**



# Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids. Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions for children and their families. Our purpose is to supplement our Sunday morning curriculum and give you an opportunity to encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

This week in Children's Church we learned about **Peter and John visiting Jesus' tomb**. The theme was "**Jesus conquered death**." By Jesus rising from the dead He revealed His power and victory over sin, which leads to death. We can also receive eternal life because of His resurrection.

In our devotion this week we will study further about the price Jesus paid so we can live forever in eternity with Him in heaven. Sin does lead to death and we are all sinners, but through Jesus Christ we are more than conquerors.

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 20:1-10**. The following five devotions are based on either the scripture and/or the theme for Sunday's lesson. As a starting point it would be good for you to review these verses with your children.

These devotions are designed to help you reinforce Sunday's lesson throughout the week with your children, provide some more ideas for the application of God's Word in your children's lives and provide a tool to help in family devotions.

Obviously children at various age levels will respond to the devotional in different ways. You may want to add your own ideas to these to make them more age appropriate.

May the Lord bless you as you study His Word together!

# Believing is Seeing

**Text: 2 Corinthians 5:7** - "For we walk by faith, and not by sight."

**Also read John 20:1-2**

The world we live in has a saying, "Seeing is believing." What the world is telling us is if you don't see something then don't believe it. It was the same when Jesus lived. Everyone lived according to what they saw and even then if they saw something, it didn't always cause them to believe. Think of all the miracles Jesus did and how many people still did not believe He was the Son of God. But the truth of God's word tells us that Jesus was the Son of God. It also tells us that God's plan for the world was that He would be crucified and rise from the dead on the third day for the forgiveness of our sin. Then why doesn't the world believe? Because the world is blind to their sin.

In John 20:1-2 we read how Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb early while it was still dark. That says a lot about Mary and the love she had for Jesus. It may have been scary for Mary to go to Jesus' tomb while it was still dark, but Mary was committed to following Jesus completely. She was so grateful to Him for casting out the seven demons that once controlled her. But what Mary did not know was yet to be revealed. When she came upon the tomb the stone had been rolled away. She was afraid someone had come and taken Jesus' body away. She didn't know what to do; so she ran to tell the disciples.

Sometimes what we see scares us when we don't know or understand all of the truth about a situation. But when we walk by faith we learn that believing is seeing. In believing God's word we begin to see the truth and not what we see with our eyes. The Lord was going to be teaching Mary and His disciples some very wonderful things. He had risen from the dead and they were going to all see Him very soon. But the Lord also wants us to walk by believing in Him and not by sight. This means we need to trust Him in everything. Even in those times we don't see or understand everything. What do you think it means to walk by faith?

- What did Mary do when she saw the stone?
- Was Mary walking by faith or by sight in this story?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Faith:** Complete trust in God.



Day Two

# More than Conquerors

**Text: Mark 16:11** - "And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe."

**Also read Luke 24:11-12**

What a surprise it must have been for Peter and John, Jesus' close friends, when Mary told them that someone had rolled the stone away and taken the Lord! They had to see it for themselves. The Bible tells us in John 20:4 that, "they both ran together." Think of a time when you were so excited about something, perhaps going somewhere like an amusement park. Didn't you just want to run to be the first one to get there? Well, something even more exciting than an amusement park happened on the morning that Peter and John ran to Jesus' tomb!

At first the disciples didn't believe Mary. Maybe they thought she was making everything up. After all, who could have rolled away that huge stone? And where were the guards who were supposed to be watching the tomb? Like in our story yesterday we see here that Peter and John had to see before they believed. In many ways we are just like Peter and John because we like to see to believe also. God knows that we are like that. God wanted Peter and John to see that He had conquered death. This was really happening. Jesus had risen from the grave. Death was defeated forever!

If Jesus had not risen from the grave He would still be dead today and we would be dying in our sins. Much of the world today believes that Jesus lived and was crucified and buried. What they don't see is that He conquered death by rising on the third day. They don't want to believe because they don't want to admit that they need a savior. We are all sinners apart from Jesus and we need to have Him in our lives in order to conquer death. The only way to have life forever is by trusting in Jesus. There is no other way for us to get to heaven. We may still die in these bodies, but because we believe in Jesus we will live forever with Him. Jesus conquered death and is the way, the truth and the life. There is no fear of death when we believe and trust in Jesus as our savior.

- Do you believe in Jesus?
- Is there someone you know who is afraid of dying?
- If so, will you tell them about Jesus and how He conquered death?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Conquer:** To overcome and win.

# Getting a New Tent

**Text: 2 Corinthians 5:1** - "For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

**Also read 2 Corinthians 5:1-8**

Joel and his dad were out camping one weekend. It seemed to be a beautiful weekend when they left. The sun was out and it was warm. "This is going to be a perfect weekend", Joel thought. They got up to their camp sight and put up the tent. Dad noticed a hole in the tent as he was setting it up. "Looks like we may have to get a new tent if we are going to do much camping this year", he said. Joel looked up at the sky and saw some gray clouds gathering together and told his dad, "We may have wished we got that new tent sooner." Sure enough, within half an hour the gray clouds got thicker, and then there was thunder and lightning. Rain began to fall on their campsite. Dad covered up the hole as best he could but still some of their things got wet. "Were getting a new tent as soon as we get home", dad told Joel.

There are two things about a tent that we can learn from. The first thing is that a tent isn't permanent. That just means it isn't someplace we live in all the time. We don't live in tents; we live in houses. We just stay in tents for a short period of time. The second thing we learn from tents is that they can wear out. After a while they can get old and torn.

In our reading today we learned that our bodies are kind of like tents. We weren't designed to live in them forever. That is why people die. Their bodies get old and wear out. But there is a dwelling place that will last forever that the Lord promises for us. These are our new bodies. If you are a Christian did you know that when you die, or when the Lord returns that you will receive a brand new body? That one won't grow old, break down or get sick. Isn't it exciting news that we already have these new bodies prepared for us?

- Have you ever been camping in a worn out tent?
- What are the two things we can learn from tents?
- What has God promised for us?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Tent:** a reference to our physical bodies (2 Corinthians 5:1-8).

# Telling the Good News

**Text: John 20:9** - "For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead."

**Also read Psalm 16:10**

Peter and John were Jesus' closest disciples, yet they still did not understand that Jesus was going to rise from the dead. Jesus had taught them about it, but they just didn't fully understand until it happened. And there are people today that know Jesus was crucified and died but they don't know or believe that Jesus has risen from the dead. The Bible tells us that these two disciples did not yet know the scripture (John 20:9), so how then would they be taught the truth? Jesus was going to rise again from the tomb and tell them what had happened and what He did for them. Then after He would go to the Father He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be their teacher. So if Jesus lives in heaven now, and we have been given the Holy Spirit, who will then teach those who don't know that He conquered death? Yes, You and I!

It is our job to tell the Good News of Jesus' victory over sin and death. So how do we teach others about Jesus and the Bible? We read our Bibles and pray for Jesus to show us the truth in His word. The Holy Spirit will help us to understand the Bible.

Some people believe in different religions and don't know about Jesus and His resurrection. There are a lot of different kinds of religions in the world and all of these religions have a teacher. Jesus was a teacher when He walked with His disciples on this earth, but He is different from every other teacher because He is the only teacher that rose from the dead to conquer death. Every other religion apart from Christianity does not have a teacher who still lives today. But being a Christian is not just a religion, it is a relationship with God and Jesus proved this by coming back and telling His disciples "I am with you always." Isn't it wonderful to worship Jesus, the Son of God and the only teacher to come back from the dead?

- There are a lot of religions; ask your mom or dad to share some of those with you.
- Is there someone you know who doesn't know about Jesus rising again? Tell them about Jesus.

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Religion:** A belief that is held to; man trying to reach up to God.  
**Christianity:** God reaching down to man through His Son Jesus.

Day Five

# Where's Your Stinger?

**Text: 1 Corinthians 15:55** - "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

**Also read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58**

One time when I was a kid I was running around on the grass at a park barefoot. I was having too much fun playing the game with my friends to be watching where I stepping. On the grass there was clover with the little flowers that bees like very much. Without even realizing it I stepped down and my foot landed right on top of a bee. I felt something strange on my foot and stopped immediately and looked down. It hit me what I had done. I panicked and yelled for my friends and family to come right away. I thought I might be dying, but everyone quickly reminded me that most people don't die from bee stings. But it did certainly begin to sting and hurt really bad.

As I calmed down, something I noticed about the bee that stung me was that its' stinger had been removed. It wouldn't be able to sting anyone else. In fact it is interesting that after bees sting someone that within a short period of time they will end up dying. In our reading today we learn that Jesus has removed the stinger from death. We can no longer be stung by death. Let's take a closer look at what that means.

Because Jesus rose from the grave it means that He has power over death. He has also promised that when we believe in Him we will have eternal life. Death no longer has power over us because it no longer has power over Jesus. Like the bee that no longer has a stinger and can't hurt anyone else, Jesus took the sting of death upon himself so that the stinger would be removed for us. We now have the victory in Jesus. So we don't have to be afraid. We can just trust in Jesus and know that He will always take care of us.

- Has a bee ever stung you? Tell about it.
- What kind of life do we receive when we believe in Jesus? (eternal)
- Can you think of how Jesus removed the sting from death?

## **Kid's Prayer Time**



This week when you pray remember to thank the Lord for His resurrection. Because He has risen from the dead we can have eternal life. Let's rejoice this week in the new life we have in Jesus.