



Use Week of:

Easter • Session 2

Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 26–28;
1 Corinthians 15

STORY POINT: Jesus obeyed God's plan.

KEY PASSAGE: John 3:30

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever.

Bible Story for Toddlers

God sent Jesus to rescue us. Even though Jesus never disobeyed God, people put Jesus on the cross and then buried Him. Jesus did not stay dead though. On the third day, God made Him alive again. A man named Paul had good news for people who love Jesus. Paul said, "I taught what is most important. Jesus died on the cross to rescue us like the Scriptures said. Jesus was buried and He came back to life on the third day like the Scriptures said. Jesus appeared to Peter and then to the other friends. Then He appeared to a big crowd of people at one time. Then He appeared to me. Jesus is alive, and people who love Him will live with Him forever!"

Babies Gospel Gems

- * God sent Jesus to rescue us.
- * Jesus died on the cross and is alive.
- * People who trust in Jesus will live with Him forever.

Additional resources are available at gospelproject.com.

For free training and session-by-session help, visit MinistryGrid.com/gospelproject.

BABIES Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 15. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY • God sent Jesus to rescue us from our sin. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.**

Jesus died on the cross and is alive! People who trust in Jesus will be alive with Him forever. [*Pray.*]

Sing a Bible story song

Sing to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes":

"Jesus always obeys God, obeys God. [*Repeat.*]

Jesus *came to rescue you and me.

Jesus always obeys God, obeys God!"

*Substitute *died and rose again to set us free* the second time.

SAY • **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN** to rescue us from sin. Jesus died on the cross and is alive. Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever!

Make tape resist art

Use painter's tape to make a cross on white construction paper. Protect babies' clothing with a smock or T-shirt. Provide jumbo sidewalk chalk for babies to cover the paper. Peel off the tape, leaving the cross shape on the paper. Write the story point on the cross. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY • Jesus died on the cross and is alive. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.** People who trust in Jesus will live with Him forever!

Play out the story

Provide a plastic Jesus figure for babies to touch. Say that Jesus died on the cross, and cover the figure with a blanket. Count to three, and remove the blanket.

SAY • The good news is that God sent Jesus to rescue us. Jesus died on the cross and is alive! **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.**

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church's security guidelines. Give parents today's big picture card. Repeat the gospel gems and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

TODDLER Activities

Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to 1 Corinthians 15. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

Shout the good news

Gather toddlers in a circle. Invite them to squat down. Whisper "Jesus is alive," louder and louder as they slowly stand. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • Paul told people the good news: Jesus died on the cross and is alive. God sent Jesus to rescue us. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.**

Sing songs about Jesus

Sing favorite songs about Jesus' resurrection, such as "He Lives," "Low in the Grave He Lay," and "Alive Forevermore." If you are unfamiliar with the songs, look them up online before the session. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.** Jesus died on the cross and is alive. Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever.

Make a cross

Encourage toddlers to lay cardboard blocks on the floor in the shape of a cross, helping as needed. Talk about the Bible story as toddlers work together.

SAY • God sent Jesus to rescue us. Jesus died on the cross and is alive. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.** People who trust in Jesus will live with Him forever.

Count the children in the room

Invite toddlers to sit in a circle. Encourage toddlers to clap or count aloud with you as you slowly walk on the outside of the circle, gently tapping each child's head. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • God sent Jesus to rescue us. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN,** even though it meant He had to die. Jesus died on the cross and is alive. Many people saw Jesus alive, and one day Jesus will come back!

BONUS Teaching Hour

SESSION TITLE: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

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CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever.

Transition activity: Make a cross mosaic

Cut construction paper to make a cross for each toddler. Provide tissue paper squares for toddlers to glue on their cross. Write the story point or Christ connection on each child's artwork. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • People make wrong choices, and we disobey God. Jesus never disobeyed God. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.** Jesus died on the cross and is alive. People who trust in Jesus will live with Him forever!

Sort stones

Provide smooth river rocks of various shapes and sizes. Make sure toddlers do not put the rocks in their mouth. Help toddlers sort the rocks. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • Paul wanted people to know the most important thing: **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.** Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb with a large stone in front of it. God made Jesus alive again. Jesus brings forgiveness and life with God forever.

Play “I Witness”

Encourage toddlers to play freely. Explain that to witness something means to see it and tell others about it. As toddlers play, say, “I witness a friend sharing blocks” or another activity and allow toddlers to guess who it is. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • Jesus died on the cross and is alive. Many people saw Jesus alive, and one day He will return. God sent Jesus to rescue us. **JESUS OBEYED GOD'S PLAN.**

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ Connection, story point, or gospel gems throughout the week.