

JESUS IS ALIVE

HIGHLIGHTS:

This week your child learned that Jesus rose from the dead and He is alive. On the third morning after the crucifixion, some women, Mary, Mary Magdalene and Joanna, went to Jesus' tomb to prepare His body for burial. When they neared the tomb, they realized the stone had been rolled away. They entered the tomb but did not find Jesus' body. They were confused, but two men in gleaming clothes appeared. These men said, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" The women realized Jesus was alive! They were so excited and they went to tell the disciples.

(Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-11, Luke 24:1-12 & John 20:1-18.)

COLORS AT SNACK TIME:

During snack time, provide foods that are these different colors: yellow - unpeeled bananas or pineapple, black foods - blackberries or Oreos, red foods - strawberries, raspberries or cherries, white foods - cauliflower, ranch dressing or angel food cake, and green foods - broccoli or green grapes. Talk with your child as to why you chose these colors: yellow which stands for heaven, black stands for sin, red which represents Jesus' blood that was shed on the cross, white which means forgiveness, and green which stands for growing in God by reading the Bible and praying. As your child is eating his snack, read to him from the Bible and talk with him using these questions:

1. What did the women see when they came to the tomb?
2. How was the stone rolled away?
3. Where was Jesus?
4. Who did the women go tell that Jesus was gone?

RETELL THE EASTER STORY:

Your child will make several props to help retell the story of Jesus and Easter. Using a round clothespin for Jesus, have your child draw a face on it and then for clothes, wrap the pin with fabric scraps and tie with yarn. To make the cross, have your child glue two craft sticks together and decorate with markers. Grab a toilet paper roll, tissue paper and a rock to make the tomb. Let your child cover the toilet paper roll with tissue paper so that it looks like a cave and seal the tomb with a rock the size of the end of the toilet paper roll. Now your child can act out the story using the props. If he wants, he can wrap Jesus' body in gauze and place it in the tomb during that section of the story.

HIDE AND SEEK:

Play a simple game of hide and seek to help explain that Jesus rose from the tomb. Grab a laundry basket or a large cardboard box to be the cave and place it on its side. Cut the shape of a stone out of paper and tape it over the opening of the box. Next draw several simple pictures of Jesus and hide them around the room. Have your child look for the pictures of Jesus, telling him that Jesus' friends didn't know where He was. Lead your child to discover that Jesus is not in the tomb. When all the pictures are found, say the verse from Matthew 28:6 – He is not here, He is risen.