



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- How would you explain the true meaning of Easter to someone?
- Why do we need Jesus in order to have a true relationship with God?
- Name five things Jesus does for us that no one else can do.
- What are some things that can get in the way of the true meaning of Easter? What can you do to keep Jesus in your Easter celebrations today?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Rise Again

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23
(John 16; Matthew 26)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you celebrate Easter?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate because Jesus is alive.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."

Philippians 2:3, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

GROWING FROM THE GROUND UP

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4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, markers, index cards

WHAT YOU DO:

- Provide Bibles as needed.
- Ask kids to look up 1 Peter 3:18. If kids need help

locating the verse, use the tip below.

***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.*

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- Invite someone to read 1 Peter 3:18 aloud as everyone follows along.
- Divide kids into groups of three and give each group 10-15 index cards and some markers.
- Give the groups time to divide up the verse and write it out on the cards, two or three words per card.
- When they're finished, instruct them to shuffle their cards and trade with another team.
- Guide teams to race to put their new cards in verse order.
- Read the verse again and then ask:
 - What do you find in this verse that gives you reasons to celebrate?
 - If you were to rephrase 1 Peter 3:18 and insert your name into it, how would it read?
 - How is Jesus an example of humility in this verse?
 - What is one thing in this verse you don't want to forget as you celebrate Easter today?
- Point out that Jesus put us first by dying on the cross for us so that we can live forever with God. He humbly took the punishment that was meant for us. But the cross is not the end of the story, and it's not the end of 1 Peter 3:18. Jesus is alive, and we can celebrate!



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to take turns giving prayers of thanks for Easter.
- Ask them to remain seated as they pray silently or aloud thanking Jesus for dying for them.
- Ask them to "rise up" (stand) as they pray silently or aloud praising Jesus for rising from the dead.
- When finished, close with a brief prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus, thank You for loving each of us enough to come and be our Savior. We know that You're alive and that You're stronger than anything—even death. We love You! Amen."

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