



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



CLUE
SOLVING THE MYSTERY OF EASTER

BIG IDEA

Every Easter, we share Jesus' good news.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Ascends to Heaven: Acts 1:3-10

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Mystery Puzzle Scavenger Hunt
- **ACTIVITY** | Laser Maze

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- **BIBLE STORY** | Acts 1:3-10
- **ACTIVITY** | Secret Message
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Megaphone Message
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Joshua 1:9

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Telephone
- **ACTIVITY** | Fingerprint Play-Doh



WEEK 4

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



CLUE
SOLVING THE MYSTERY OF EASTER

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Jesus Ascends to Heaven: Acts 1:3-10

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Mystery Puzzle Scavenger Hunt

- Welcome, detectives! We're on the last week of our series where we've been looking for clues to solve the mystery of Easter! **So far, we've learned about Jesus coming into Jerusalem on a donkey, Jesus sharing a special meal with the disciples, and when Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead.** We have one more exciting part to this story. Let's use our detective skills and see if we can find all the missing pieces!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Mystery Scavenger Hunt Pieces from your Week 4 folder and cut them apart. Hide the pieces all around the room. Have the children find all the pieces and assist them in putting the puzzle together.*
- You guys are becoming some really great detectives! Our story today is about what happened to Jesus after He rose from the dead and the special mission He has given us.

ACTIVITY | Laser Maze

- One thing detectives might have to do when they're on a case is sneak through a laser maze to try and get past security. We're close to cracking this mystery, but first, you have a mission: get the paper with an important message about Jesus to the other side of the room, without touching the laser beams!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the service, set up a laser maze by taping yarn or crepe paper streamers across the room (if you have a hallway area or a place where the walls are close together, this works well. You could also use chairs lined up or have students stand in two lines facing each other, holding the pieces). Arrange the pieces at different heights and angles so the kids will have to bend and jump over the streamers to get through. Write the words, "Jesus" and draw a heart on two pieces of paper. Split the kids into two teams and tell them to race through the laser maze one at a time, while holding the paper, trying not to let their bodies or the paper touch any of the laser beams.
- **Was it hard to go through the maze without touching the laser beams?**
- **Was it harder because of having to carry your important message?**
- **What was the message you were taking through the maze? It was Jesus' love!**
- **What clues do you think this gives us about our Bible story today?**
- We're going to learn today about what happened after Jesus rose from the dead. Here's a hint: He's given us a really special mission.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "He Rose" by Go Kids Music and "Better Than the Best Thing" by Yancy.

BIBLE STORY | Acts 1:3-10

- Last week we heard the most incredible true story that Jesus died on the cross and was put in a tomb. **Did Jesus stay in the tomb?** No, He came back to life three days later! Now let's see what happened to Jesus after that.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- What an awesome true story! Who did Jesus appear to while He was alive on earth for 40 days? Lots of people! He appeared to more than 500 people. Jesus performed miracles and showed people that He really was alive.
- **What else did Jesus tell us in these verses?** He told us to go into all the world and tell everyone the good news of the Gospel, and to tell everyone about Jesus' death and resurrection. He's alive!
- **What happened to Jesus after He gave us instructions to tell everyone about Him?** Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit, who is God, would come give power to His people. Then Jesus went up into heaven. The Bible says that Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father in heaven. What an amazing story! I think we have solved the mystery of Easter!
- After the very first Easter, Jesus gave His disciples a special assignment to share His good news with the world.
- **Have you put the clues together yet? Do you know what this story tells about Easter and why it's so special?** Here's the answer . . .

THE BIG IDEA | Every Easter, we share Jesus' good news.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:*
 - Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
 - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
 - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
 - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, read it out loud.
- This week's Big Idea: **Every Easter, we share Jesus' good news.**

ACTIVITY | Secret Message

- Jesus left us with a pretty important message. Let's see if we remember what it is.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Secret Message Activity Page from your Week 4 folder on to cardstock. Write in white crayon (pressing down very hard) "Jesus" in large letters. Have the children paint over the secret message with water color paint to reveal the secret message.*
- **What assignment did Jesus give us?** Don't keep the awesome news of Jesus quiet! Tell everyone the good news of His love!

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank you for the incredible gift of Jesus! Thank you for the clear message, that we are to tell everyone about Jesus. Help us to be brave and bold when we share the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. We love you, amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!*
 - **How many days did Jesus live on Earth after He rose from the dead?** (40 days.)
 - **Did Jesus keep quiet and to himself during those 40 days?** (No, He appeared before lots of people.)
 - **Does Jesus want us to tell people that He is alive?** (Yes! Jesus told us to tell the world about His story.)
 - **What happened to Jesus after His 40 days on earth?** (He went up to heaven to be with God.)
 - **What did Jesus leave with us to help us share His story?** (The Holy Spirit.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids sit in a circle on the floor. Prepare a piece of poster board with a large heart drawn on it. Ask the kids the questions below, and when they tell you names, write those names inside the heart. Pray for each person in the heart.*
 - **Have you ever told anyone about Jesus?**
 - **What can you tell someone about Jesus?**
 - **Who has told you about Jesus?**
 - **Do you know someone that doesn't know about Jesus?**
 - **Who is someone you can tell about Jesus?**

ACTIVITY | Megaphone Message

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Megaphone Message printable on cardstock and give one to each child. Give the kids decorating supplies and let them decorate their megaphones.*
- In our Bible story today, Jesus told us to tell everyone about His death and resurrection. Megaphones are used to shout important messages in sports and events with lots of people. You can take your megaphone home to remind you to share the message of Jesus!

TALK | Recap of the Month

- We had four weeks of looking for clues about the true meaning of Easter and trying to discover what really happened so many years ago. After looking at all the clues . . . we've finally solved the mystery! We know what really happened and why we celebrate Easter! Let's recap to remember what we learned:
 - We learned that **every Easter, we worship Jesus**, just like the people did so many years ago when they shouted, "Hosanna!" and waved palm branches.
 - We learned that **every Easter, we remember Jesus' sacrifice** of giving His life for us, just like Jesus and His disciples talked about His sacrifice during the Last Supper.
 - We learned that **every Easter, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection**, just like His followers did when they discovered He had risen from the dead.
 - And today, we learned that **every Easter, we share Jesus' good news** that He's alive and we can know Him!
 - We learned so much this month! I hope you had fun looking at all these clues and discovering the true meaning of Easter and why we continue celebrating it today.

MEMORY VERSE | Joshua 1:9

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .*

BE STRONG (*flex one arm*)
AND COURAGEOUS (*flex the other arm*).
DO NOT BE AFRAID (*put arms in front of your face*);
GOD WILL BE WITH YOU (*point up, and then put hands on hips*)
WHEREVER YOU GO (*march in place*).

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them that we can tell others about Jesus!

ACTIVITY | Telephone

- Now let's practice our communication skills! Jesus told us to share His good news with everyone and we're going to play a game and see how good we are at telling a message.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids join you in a circle on the floor. Whisper a short message in the ear of the child to your left and tell them to whisper what they heard to child on their left. Continue all the way around the circle. Once the message makes it back to you, share what the last child told you. Remember to keep your original message short and simple. You can use a phrase from the Bible stories we've studied this month would be a fun way to review.
- Wow! That was fun! I think you guys are ready to go out and share this good news with the world!

ACTIVITY | Fingerprint Play-Doh

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each child some Play-Doh, encourage them to flatten their Play-Doh and make fingerprints in it. Remind them that everyone's fingerprint is different. Have them look and compare how their prints are different from their friends.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.