



Lesson Thirteen

Jesus Is Alive

Heart Preparation & Bible Background



Bible Truth

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus showed that he is able to save his people from sin and death.

Scripture

John 20:1–18 (see Matt. 28:1–10; Mark 16; Luke 24:1–12)



Lesson Focus

Believe and tell that Jesus is our living Savior.

Goals for the Children

- Understand that Jesus did miracles to show people he is God.
- Understand that Jesus did miracles so that people would trust him as God, their Savior.
- Know that Jesus' resurrection is his greatest miracle.
- Put their trust in the risen Savior.



Memory Minute

[The angel said] . . . "He is not here; he has risen just as he said." Matt. 28:5a, 6a

It was hard for Mary Magdalene and the disciples. Their beloved Lord had died on the cross and his body had been placed in Joseph's tomb. In spite of what Jesus had told them before his death, they didn't really believe that he would rise again. Their hearts were heavy with grief and a profound sense of disbelief and loss.

But the hope of the resurrection began to dawn on them slowly in the morning that first day of the week. When John saw the linen cloths and the neatly folded head square in the empty tomb, faith began to take hold of him—the hope of seeing the risen Christ began to fill his heart. And when Jesus called Mary by name, she recognized that dearly loved voice and finally saw that it was *Jesus* the risen Savior, her Lord and Master who stood before her. Thankful trust quickly replaced her bleak sorrow and confusion, and she was able to tell his disciples what she knew to be true—the good news of his resurrection.

During his life, Jesus had shown God's miraculous power by calming the sea, healing the sick and raising the dead. Now the greatest miracle of all was revealed when Jesus rose from the dead. On the cross, Jesus paid the penalty for his people's sins by dying in their place. His resurrection proved that he had defeated sin and death for all those who would put their trust in him.

There was a distinct difference between Jesus' resurrection and the miracles that occurred with the widow's son, Jairus' daughter and Lazarus. They were restored to life such as they had before, but when Jesus was raised from the dead, he entered into a whole new quality of immortal life. He is the "firstfruits" of the resurrection, the first to experience resurrection life.

Today, your love for Jesus and your joy in his saving work will tell the resurrection story just as clearly as the words you use. Pray that God will open the hearts of the children who hear the good news, so that John's faith, Mary's joy and the gladness of the disciples will be theirs as well.