

Upside Down: Jesus changes everything

WEEK
TWO

APRIL 2020

GRADES
K-1

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

BIBLE STORY

Above All

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)

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

LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arrivers
Egg-tionary

25
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Opener
Bible Story
Worship
Prayer
Closer

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

"Alive" from *At the Top Of My Lungs*
"Thank You God" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

At the Cross
Jesus and Me
Egg-stravaganza!
Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

GodTime
Parent Cue

GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Print the "Memory Verse Strips" Activity Page onto colored paper and cut apart; two sets for each small group
- About 50 plastic Easter eggs
- Individually wrapped candies appropriate for your environment; at least one for each kid

EGG-TIONARY

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Egg-tionary Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one set for each small group
- Halved plastic Easter eggs; about 30 for every 2-3 kids

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

*** 1. AT THE CROSS****[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]**

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Cross" Activity Page on heavy white cardstock; two or three for each kid
- White shaving foam

- Table covering
- Wax paper or aluminum foil; one 16-inch length for each kid
- Masking tape
- Liquid water-based paint or food coloring
- Stir sticks, straws (or similar); one for each kid
- Cookie sheets or similar; one for every four kids
- Rulers or spatulas; one for every four kids
- Trashcan
- Wet wipes
- Check out YouTube® tutorials, such as "Shaving Cream Marbled Paper" at: <http://bit.ly/34LIBBG> (NOTE: Some tutorials advise smoothing out the shaving cream before adding your color. This step isn't necessary for this activity.)

2. JESUS AND ME**[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]**

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Jesus and Me" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Crayons

3. EGG-STRAVAGANZA!**[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]**

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Masking or painter's tape
- Timer or upbeat, fun worship music (check out Orange Kids Music on iTunes® or Spotify®)
- Prepared plastic eggs

NOTE: If you don't do Early Arriver, you'll need to prepare the eggs. Fill them with one Memory Verse Strip and/or one piece of candy.

GETTING READY, CONTINUED

PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Completed and dried Activity Pages from the “At the Cross” activity
- Scissors

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week’s GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Above All

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)



CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

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

LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. First and foremost, thank God for making a way for us to have a relationship with Him through the enormous sacrifice Jesus made on the cross. Pray for the kids who may be led by the Holy Spirit today to start a relationship with Jesus. Ask for God's guidance as you have those conversations today, and pray for wisdom about how to help those kids take the next step.

1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, Easter eggs, "Memory Verse Strips" (Activity Page), and individually wrapped candies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Lead kids to help prepare for the "Egg-stravaganza!" activity by filling eggs with one Memory Verse Strip and/or one piece of candy and then clasp the eggs shut. (There may be some empty eggs. That's okay.)
- While they work, ask:
 - Has someone ever shared or given you something special? What was it?
 - How did it make you feel?

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15 MINUTES

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Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)



EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

MEMORY VERSE

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Philippians 2:3, NIV

LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

2. EGG-TIONARY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Egg-tionary Cards" (Activity Pages), plastic Easter egg halves

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to get into groups of two or three.
- Give each group about 30 plastic egg halves.
- Hold up one of the "Egg-tionary Cards" so that everyone can see it.
- Guide kids to work together to arrange the egg halves in the same pattern as the object shown on the card.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What pictures did you make with your eggs? (*a rabbit, a flower, a house, a smiley face*) I've got one more picture for you. Let's see if you can guess what it is. (*Gather kids around so that everyone can see, and then make a cross out of a few egg halves.*) Yes! It's a cross. **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group and learn about the most important cross of all!**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW

BIBLE STORY

Above All

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

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CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

* 1. AT THE CROSS

WHAT YOU NEED: “Cross” Activity Pages, white shaving foam, table covering, wax paper or aluminum foil, tape, liquid water-based paint or food coloring, stir sticks (or similar), cookie sheets (or similar), rulers or spatulas, trashcan, wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cover your work area with the table covering.
- Set a piece of wax paper in front of each kid.
- Squirt shaving cream onto the paper, making and filling about a 10-inch square.
- Invite kids to squirt drops of paint on top of the shaving cream. A little goes a long way, so encourage them to be careful and to use self-control!
- Lead kids to use a stir stick to swirl the paint to make a design. They can swirl up and down, side to side, in circles, in starbursts, or randomly.
- Show kids how to carefully lay a “Cross” facedown on the shaving cream and LIGHTLY rub the back of the paper.
- They should press just enough so that the entire underside of the paper comes into contact with the shaving cream but not so hard that the paper sinks into the foam.
- Carefully lift the paper and lay it on a cookie sheet with the shaving-cream side up.
- Use the ruler or spatula to scrape off the excess shaving cream. It helps to do this over a trashcan!
- Set aside the paper to dry.
- Kids can make additional prints, adding paint and shaving cream as needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“When Jesus died on the cross, it seemed that something really bad had happened. But when God sent Jesus to die on the cross, He had something really good in mind—something better than ANYONE could ever imagine. God sent Jesus to die on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven! What is sin? (Pause.) Yes, sin is when we do or say or think things that are wrong. But God is perfect and doesn't do anything wrong, and that separates us from Him. God doesn't want to be far from us, so God did something amazing: He sent Jesus, His one and only Son, to die on the cross to pay for ALL of our sins so that we can live forever with Him!

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW



CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

(Open the Bible to John 3:16.) "The Bible says: God so loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life (NIV).

[Make It Personal] (Briefly share your own salvation story in a kid-appropriate way.)

"It's okay if you don't understand all of this yet. But if you have any questions, you can talk to your parents, me, or any of the other leaders here at church. We'll be very happy to help you understand as much as you can! Just remember: **Jesus put us first**, and Jesus put you first!"

(Note: Depending on what you know about your kids, it might be a good idea to simply "plant the seeds" and have a conversation about salvation, without explicitly leading kids to take the step of faith. If a child's parents are already believers, they will probably want to be present for the moment when their child takes a step of faith. Use your judgment and your knowledge of your kids' home lives when having this conversation.)

LIVE FOR GOD APPLICATION ACTIVITY



IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

BIBLE STORY

Above All

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)

2. JESUS AND ME

WHAT YOU NEED: “Jesus and Me” Activity Pages, crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each child a “Jesus and Me” Activity Page.
- Invite kids to draw a picture of themselves with Jesus.
- When they finish, they can turn over their papers and write letters to Jesus. They can thank Jesus for dying on the cross for their sins, they can ask Jesus a question, or they can simply say, “I love you.”

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

“This week, we're learning that **Jesus put us first**. How did Jesus put us first? (Pause.) Yes! Jesus loved us SO much that He gave up His life and died on the cross for our sins. But Jesus didn't stay dead! God brought Him back to life!

“When you believe in your heart that Jesus is who He said He was, and when you ask Him to forgive your sins, He will! (Open the Bible to John 3:16.) The Bible says: *God so loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life* (NIV).

LIFE APP

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

“So, remember, God loves us SO much that **Jesus put us first!** In fact, God loves YOU so much that Jesus put YOU first.”

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR
FROM GOD**
MEMORY VERSE
ACTIVITY



MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

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Above All

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LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

3. EGG-STRAVAGANZA!

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared Easter eggs; masking or painters' tape; timer or upbeat worship music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use masking or painters' tape to divide your area in half.
- Divide the group into two teams. Lead the teams to stand on opposite sides of the tape, with each kid about six feet away from the line.
- Scatter the eggs along the tapeline.
- At your signal, give the teams 30-45 seconds to move as many eggs as possible to the other team's side.
- Add fun, variety, challenge, and safety by leading kids to only move the eggs by flicking them with their fingers or putting them (golf style) with their elbows.
- The winning team is the one with the FEWEST eggs on their side when time ends.
- Instruct each team to open their eggs, pull out the memory verse strips, and put the verse in order.
- If they're missing a strip, lead the other team to share. (Both teams can set aside duplicate strips.)
- You can let the kids eat their candies or wait until after when their parents pick up.
- Read the verse aloud together.
- *OPTION: If you have a bigger group, consider creating a four-square playing field. Divide the group into four teams accordingly.*

WHAT YOU SAY:

"We live in a world where it's easy to put ourselves first. WE want to win the game, WE want to find the most Easter eggs, and WE want to get the most candy. But Jesus didn't live that way. He didn't think about Himself first. Instead, **Jesus put us first!** In fact, Jesus loves you SO much that He gave His life for you!

"So, this week, look for ways to put others first. Let someone else go first in line. Let someone else get more candy. Let someone else be more important than you. And remember Philippians 2:3: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud (NIV).* Because **Jesus put us first**, we can put others first, too."

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

BIBLE STORY

Above All

Crucified and Risen
John 18:12–20:23

(Supporting: John 16, Matthew 26)

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

LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRAY AND DISMISS

WHAT YOU NEED: Completed Activity Pages from the “At the Cross” activity, scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite each child to choose one “Cross” to take home. (If kids know which cross/crosses they personally made, let them have “first dibs” on their own creations.)
- Give kids a couple minutes to cut out their crosses.
- Provide help as needed, reminding kids to cut carefully and slowly. Try to let them do as much of the cutting themselves as possible.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“Jesus put others first in everything He did. He even put YOU first. In fact, Jesus came so that you can have a relationship with Him and live with God forever!

“Some of you believe in Jesus, and some of you still have questions about who He is. And that’s OK. If you have questions, you can talk to your parents, me, or any of the other leaders. We’ll be happy to help you understand as much as you can! But no matter what, always remember: **Jesus put us first!** Let’s pray.

“Thank You, God, that You love us more than we could ever imagine. You love us SO much that You put us first and sent Jesus to be our Savior. Help us be humble and put others first, too. Help us believe in You more every day. We love You, Lord. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, guide kids to show parents their marbled crosses and tell parents today’s Bottom Line: **Jesus put us first.**