

Special Unit Jesus Is the Son of God

Bible Memory

John 20:31, *ICB*

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.”

John 20:31, *KJV*

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.”

Preschool Bible Skills

Activities in this unit of lessons will help the children

- Know the Bible is God’s special book.
- Point to and repeat simple Bible Memory verses.
- Point to main characters in Bible pictures.

Teacher Helps on Resources CD

See the Contents document on the CD for a complete menu of printable files for the special unit.

Especially for 2s!

Depending on the children’s motor skills, activity suggestions geared for 2-year-olds can also be used by younger 3-year-olds.

Special Needs Helps

Look for this symbol to identify activities that work well for all children, including those with special needs. Additional helps for teaching children with special needs can be found on the *Resources* CD and at www.21stcc.com.



Online Helps

See the introductory pages for information about downloads that are available.



Lesson	Scripture	Focus
Triumphal Entry People Praise Jesus	Mark 11	♥ We can praise Jesus.
Jesus’ Resurrection Jesus Lives!	John 21	♥ Jesus is alive!

Immerse Materials for Special Unit Lessons

Preschool Make-n-Share activity pages and stickers for Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection lessons

Preschool Resources

CD

Audio Tracks

“He Is Alive” (track 1)

“Jesus Is the Christ” Bible Memory song (track 4)

“Jesus Lives!” Bible story activity (track 7)

Printable Files

Bible Memory Posters, Bible Memory Motions, Family Letters (in *NIV* and *KJV*)

Coloring Pages (for Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection lessons)

Cell Phone, Palm Branch, Patterns for Cutting Letters and Numbers [Teacher Helps] (Triumphal Entry lesson)

Jesus Is Alive Labels, “Jesus Lives!” Bible story activity (Jesus’ Resurrection lesson)

Visuals

Movable story frame, Triumphal Entry picture strip (sheet 1)

Jesus’ Resurrection picture strip (sheet 2)

Scamper quarterly poster (sheet 8)

Preschool/Pre-K & K Teaching Pictures for Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection lessons

Heart Tugs family resource paper, Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection issues

Scamper puppet

NOTE: Feel free to use the lessons in this special unit whenever they work best for you. You may choose to teach this unit first, save it until the end, or insert it to correspond with the holiday season. Be sure to use the *Resources*, *Make-n-Share* pages and *Heart Tugs* issues that correlate with these lessons.

Extra Moments, Extra Ideas for Special Unit

Give a copy of this page to each teacher or helper. Use the activities for early arrivers, during transition times, or whenever there is extra time.

When Your Class Begins

Although there are only two lessons in this unit, they may be the most important lessons you teach all year. You may have children in your class who are brought to church services only once or twice a year. There may be children from out of town who are visiting relatives. Some of these children might be hesitant to leave parents, or they may not be familiar with your class routine. Be prepared with extra materials. Decorate your room with flowers and bright colors. Have happy songs playing and Scamper ready to greet all children with enthusiasm. Scamper might whisper a special message in each child's ear: "Today we are going to have a praise parade for Jesus" or "Today we are going to have a special breakfast because Jesus is alive!"

Special Unit Bible Memory Activities

Print copies of the Bible Memory poster from the *Resources* CD and display them where you and others can refer to the Bible Memory often. Let children color in the letters and decorate their own posters with stickers.

Make simple wristbands from strips of construction paper. Be sure the wristbands are large enough to easily slip over a child's hands. Make two of each color. Allow each child to pick a wristband. Children with the same color of wristbands can pair up and say the Bible Memory back and forth to each other. (Note: Colorful elastic ponytail holders make great wristbands too and can often be found in pairs of bright colors.)

Using the printable file from the *Resources* CD, teach motions that will help children learn the Bible Memory. Teach and sing "Jesus Is the Christ," the Bible Memory song. Play the song as children march around the room waving palm branches.

The songs on the CD are reproducible. Send a CD home, along with the family letter also found on the CD, so parents can sing the songs with their children all week long. Ask parents to reinforce the Bible Memory words each day throughout the week.

Bible Play Fun

Provide a crate or box filled with child-size Bible-times costumes. The costumes can be children's bathrobes or men's button-down, short-sleeved shirts. Have fabric tie belts and lengths of fabric for headpieces. Include a few props, such as artificial palm branches. When there is extra time, children can put on the costumes and act out stories from the life of Jesus. Encourage them to play-act both the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and His appearance to followers after His resurrection.

Resurrection Gift Boxes

Fill small boxes with symbols that represent the meaning of Jesus' resurrection—paper or sticker crosses, small pictures of Jesus, red paper hearts. On Sunday, give each child a box. One by one, have children open the boxes and describe what is inside. Explain the meaning each object has to Jesus' resurrection. Give each child an unopened box to take home and share with a friend or family member.

Allergy Notice

Print out and fill out the Allergy Notice from the *Resources* CD (Teacher Helps folder) for each snack that is served. Post it visibly for parents to take note. And always check your own children's information. Also mark name tags so volunteers can easily identify dietary needs.

Teaching Tip

The *Resources* CD printable files include both the *International Children's Bible* and the *King James Version* for the Bible Memory Posters, Bible Memory Motions, and Family Letters.

Song lyrics are also provided on the *Resources* CD. Be sure to print and display those in your Sing and Pray area.



Something More!

For a fun spring craft idea, go to www.21stcc.com and check out Connect² under Downloads.



Read "Resurrection Sunday" in the Special Needs folder on the *Resources* CD for tips during this holiday season, if you have children in your classroom who have special needs.



People Praise Jesus

Scripture: Mark 11:1-10

Bible Memory: John 20:31

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (ICB)

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Special Unit: Triumphal Entry

See table of
contents.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

The praises of the people greeting Jesus in today’s passage seem spontaneous and heartfelt, the type of praises that Jesus not only deserves but welcomes. The crowd seems overwhelmed by their feelings—and their praises just spill out! When you praise Jesus, what do you say? As you share specific expressions of praise, the children in your class will get to know Jesus better through you.

Bible Background for the Teacher

In addition to Mark 11, read Matthew 21, Luke 19, and John 12. Bethany and Bethphage were on the eastern side of the Mount of Olives. From there, Jesus entered Jerusalem. A colt, or young donkey, was probably used as a sign of Jesus’ kingdom being one of peace, rather than His riding a horse—the symbol of war. The carrying or spreading of palm branches was used to recognize a victory. The word *hosanna*, which means “save us,” was shouted by those people who would later cry, “Crucify, crucify!”

Triumphal Entry Lesson at a Glance

1 GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore getting ready for a special guest*.



Craft

Quick Step
W-E-L-C-O-M-E Sign



Family Living

Clean Up!



Active Play

Phone List

Immerse Materials

- Resources CD Patterns for Cutting Letters and Numbers printable file

- Resources CD Cell Phone printable file

Other Materials

- scissors, colored paper, glue sticks, reusable adhesive

- brooms, paper towels, feather dusters, trash cans
- card stock, scissors, crayons

2 BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell what people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem*.



Sing & Pray

Sing and Pray



Bible Time

Bible Time
People Praise Jesus



Bible Review

Bible Review



Bible Memory

Bible Memory

- Resources CD, Resources sheet 1 movable story frame and picture strip TEa-TEd, Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, Bible, bookmark

3 GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *choose a way to praise Jesus*.



Song

Quick Step
Praise Sing-Along



Blocks & Buildings

Tell Jesus How Special He Is!



Craft

Praise Jesus Picture

- Scamper puppet

- toy microphones

- blocks

- Make-n-Share and stickers for Triumphal Entry lesson, Teaching Picture Triumphal Entry

- blunt-tip scissors, hole punch, yarn

- Heart Tugs Triumphal Entry issue

Closing the Hour

Getting Started (10-15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore getting ready for a special guest.**

Welcome

- Use a Scamper puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their contribution money.

Quick Step **W-E-L-C-O-M-E** Sign

Before class, use the patterns from the *Resources* CD to prepare large uppercase letters, one for each letter of the word *welcome*.

SAY: ♥ We can praise Jesus by making guests feel welcome in our class. Let's make a big sign to hang in our classroom to make special guests feel welcome.

Give each child, or a small group of children, a prepared letter and several scraps of colored paper. Let children tear the scrap paper into small pieces. Then have the children spread glue inside the letters and attach their torn pieces of paper. When children have finished, hang the W-E-L-C-O-M-E letters in order on a wall of your room.

ASK: How do you think special guests will feel when they see the welcome sign in our room?

What else could we do to make our room ready for special guests?

What can you do at home to get ready for a special guest?

Clean Up!

SAY: When a special guest is coming over to your home, you want your home to be clean, don't you? We are going to pretend that a special guest is coming to our room. Did you know that ♥ we can praise Jesus by making our room clean for our special guest? Let's do that!

Give children cleaning supplies and let them pretend to clean.

ASK: What did we do to make our room ready for our special guest?

What else could we do to get our room ready for a special guest?

Phone List

Before class, print the cell phones onto card stock and then cut out.

SAY: We're going to pretend that a special guest is coming to our room today. Let's pretend we are inviting other people to come. ♥ We can praise Jesus by making sure our guest feels welcome.

Give children the phones to color. Divide the children into small groups (or have them work with partners) and let them use their phones to take turns inviting each other to their houses to meet a special guest.

ASK: What did we do to get ready for our special guest?

What else could we do to make sure we're ready to meet our special guest?

Especially for 2s!

Give a phone to one of your 2s and use another phone to call the child. Invite that child to come and meet your special guest.

Focus

♥ We can praise Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Resources CD Patterns for Cutting Letters and Numbers printable file (Teacher Helps folder), scissors, scrap pieces of colored paper, glue sticks, reusable adhesive



Materials

brooms, paper towels (or rags), feather dusters, trash cans



Materials

Resources CD Cell Phone printable file, card stock, scissors, crayons



Teaching Tip

If your classroom floors are bare, bring a blanket or throw rugs for the children to sit on.

Cleanup

Sing "Cleanup Song" found in the *Resources* CD Teacher Helps printable files. Sing as children help you clean various areas of the room.



Focus

♥ We can praise Jesus.

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem.**

Materials

Resources CD tracks 1 and 4, CD player, Bible



Materials

Resources sheet 1 movable Bible story frame and picture strip TEa-TEd, Bible



Teaching Tip

You may want to cut the picture strip into four sections (cutting after each ID). Add one section at a time to a display board or a whiteboard ledge, building the picture as the story is being told.

Materials

Resources sheet 1 movable Bible story frame and picture strip TEa-TEd



Materials

Bible, bookmark, Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file



Sing and Pray

Sing “He Is Alive” and “Jesus Is the Christ.”

PRAY: **God, You are our Father, and we want to praise You. ♥ We can praise Jesus because He is Your Son. Help us praise You both by listening to today’s story from Your Bible and by learning more about You. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

SAY: **Have you ever wondered what some people did the first time they met Jesus? Our story today is found in the book of Mark in the Bible. Show Mark. It’s about some people who shouted “Hosanna” when they met Jesus. That word is like when we say “Yay! It’s Jesus!” Each time you hear me say “Jesus,” you say “Yay! It’s Jesus!” Practice doing this.**

Bible Time

Before class, prepare the picture strip. Hold up the frame to show scene TEa. Pause each time you say “Jesus” so children can respond.

SAY: **Jesus was walking along the road toward the big city of Jerusalem. Jesus’ special helpers were with Him. They knew it was a time when many people were going to Jerusalem to worship God.**

Show scene TEb. **When Jesus and His helpers got to a small town near Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of His helpers to go and get a colt for Him. No one had ever ridden on this colt before.**

Show scene TEc. **After the two helpers got the colt, some of Jesus’ helpers put their coats on the colt and then Jesus got on. Other people saw Jesus riding on the colt. They knew Jesus was a special person. They cut palm branches and spread the branches on the road. There were people in front of Jesus and people behind Jesus.**

Show scene TEd. **The people were happy. They shouted, “Hosanna!” “Praise God!” The people knew Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Let’s shout “Praise Jesus!” Do so.**

Bible Review

Show the picture strip with the story frame. Allow children to help move the story frame and tell about different parts of the Bible story.

ASK: **Who sent His helpers to go get a colt for Him to ride? (Jesus) Who shouted, “Hosanna!”? (the people)**

Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, place a bookmark at John 20:31. Print and display the Bible Memory motions from the CD.

SAY: **♥ We can praise Jesus by saying the words of our Bible Memory. Who would like to open my Bible and find the Bible Memory?** Choose a child to find the place marked with a bookmark. Thank the child for handling the Bible carefully. Read the Bible Memory aloud; then use the motions to help children learn the verse.

Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **choose a way to praise Jesus**.

Focus

♥ We can praise Jesus.

Quick Step Praise Sing-Along

SAY: ♥ We can praise Jesus when we sing to Him. Let's have a praise sing-along.

Use Scamper to help you lead children in a praise song. Give each child a microphone. Let children suggest songs about Jesus to sing. Have several songs in mind in case children choose songs that the group doesn't know or that are not appropriate.

ASK: **How did we praise Jesus?**

What songs can you sing at home to praise Jesus later today?

Tell Jesus How Special He Is!

SAY: **Do you know something special about Jesus? ♥ We can praise Jesus by telling Him how special He is. Let's build a tower of praises with these blocks.**

Gather children in a circle. Let each child choose a block, and you choose one too. Say something special about Jesus, and place your block in the middle of the circle. Have each child take a turn, adding his block to the tower as he says something about Jesus. If the tower falls, start again.

ASK: **How did we praise Jesus?**

How can you praise Jesus at home?

Especially for 2s!



Be prepared to make statements about Jesus, and have children repeat what you say, rather than having them come up with statements on their own.

Praise Jesus Picture

Before class, cut out and punch holes around the edges of the *Make-n-Share* pictures. Cut yarn into 30" lengths, one per child.

SAY: ♥ We can praise Jesus by telling someone else about Him. Let's make some pictures. Then we'll practice telling someone else about Jesus, using our pictures.

Give each child a picture of Jesus. Assist as needed in weaving the yarn through the holes and tying ends into bows. Have children decorate the picture frames with stickers. Use the teaching picture to demonstrate how to tell someone else about Jesus by pointing to Jesus and by saying the Bible Memory words. Let each child practice telling someone about Jesus.

ASK: **How can you use this picture to praise Jesus?**

Who will you tell that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God?

Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and today's *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the Then and Now activity with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

Scamper puppet, toy microphones (or paper-towel tubes, cylindrical blocks, or rolled-up sheets of paper)



Offer behind-the-head earmuffs or noise-canceling headphones for children who experience noise sensitivity.

Materials

blocks



Materials

Make-n-Share and stickers for Triumphal Entry lesson, blunt-tip scissors, hole punch, yarn, *Teaching Picture* Triumphal Entry





People Praise Jesus

Scripture: Mark 11:1-10

Bible Memory: John 20:31

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (ICB)

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Special Unit: Triumphal Entry Extra Hour

See table of contents.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

The praises of the people greeting Jesus in today’s passage seem spontaneous and heartfelt, the type of praises that Jesus not only deserves but welcomes. The crowd seems overwhelmed by their feelings—and their praises just spill out! When you praise Jesus, what do you say? As you share specific expressions of praise, the children in your class will get to know Jesus better through you.

Bible Background for the Teacher

In addition to Mark 11, read Matthew 21, Luke 19, and John 12. Bethany and Bethphage were on the eastern side of the Mount of Olives. From there, Jesus entered Jerusalem. A colt, or young donkey, was probably used as a sign of Jesus’ kingdom being one of peace, rather than His riding a horse—the symbol of war. The carrying or spreading of palm branches was used to recognize a victory. The word *hosanna*, which means “save us,” was shouted by those people who would later cry, “Crucify, crucify!”

Triumphal Entry Lesson—Extra Hour

1 MORE! GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore getting ready for a special guest*.

-  **Quick Step**
Then and Now
-  My Own Palm Branch
-  Goodies for Guests

Immerse Materials



- *Heart Tugs* Triumphal Entry issue
- *Resources* CD Palm Branch printable file

Other Materials

- green construction paper, glue sticks, jumbo craft sticks, blunt-tip scissors
- unfrosted cupcakes, icing, plastic knives, sprinkles, paper plates, napkins, wet wipes

2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell what people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem*.



-  **More! Sing and Pray**
-  **Bible Time—Another Way!**
People Praise Jesus
-  **More! Bible Review**
-  **More! Bible Memory**

- *Resources* CD, *Teaching Picture* Triumphal Entry, *Resources* CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, Bible, Bible-times robe, coats, palm branches from More! Getting Started

3 MORE! GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *choose a way to praise Jesus*.

-  **Quick Step**
Scamper Puppet Story
-  Praise and Prayer Circle
- Saying Good-bye**

- Scamper puppet
- *Resources* CD, *Heart Tugs* Triumphal Entry issue

- paper, pencil
- Bible, paper, crayons
- CD player

More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore getting ready for a special guest.**

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Have children practice inviting guests to their homes, using toy phones, or have them help clean the room.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step Then and Now

SAY: **♥ We can praise Jesus by getting our homes ready when guests come over. Let’s do an action rhyme that shows how people in Bible times got their homes ready for guests and how we get our homes ready today.**

Give each child a *Heart Tugs*. Point to the pictures and allow children to tell how their homes are different from homes in Bible times. Play-act sweeping, sitting on mats or chairs, and turning on lights.

ASK: **What are some things we do to get ready for special guests? What do we do that is different from the things people did in Bible times?**

My Own Palm Branch

Before class, print copies of the palm branch. Cut out two for each child.

SAY: **Back in Bible times, people used palm branches to wave or lay on the ground when they wanted to honor someone or praise a special guest. Let’s make palm branches. ♥ Then we’ll praise Jesus with our branches.**

Give each child two palm branches. Show how to cut fringe along the outside edges. Glue one branch to each side of a jumbo craft stick, leaving half the stick showing. Allow glue to dry. Practice waving palm branches.

ASK: **Back in Bible times, what did people do with palm branches when they had a special guest? (waved them, laid them on the ground) What would you do to say hello to a special guest?**

Especially for 2s!



Give children prepared palm branches. Show them how to wave hello with the palms and how to lay the palms carefully on the ground.

Goodies for Guests

SAY: **Everyone here is special—everyone’s a special guest. Let’s make goodies for our special guests—each other. ♥ We can praise Jesus as we treat each other in a special way.**

Help each child use a wet wipe. Give each child a cupcake, a dollop of icing on a paper plate, and a plastic knife. Show children how to spread icing and add sprinkles. Place cupcakes on plates. Help children trade cupcakes. Have children repeat “Welcome, special guest” to each other. Eat cupcakes or wrap them to take home.

ASK: **How did we welcome each other today?**

If a special guest were coming to your house, what would you do to get ready for that person?

Focus

- ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Heart Tugs Triumphal Entry issue



Materials

Resources CD Palm Branch printable file, green construction paper, glue sticks, jumbo craft sticks, blunt-tip scissors



Teaching Tip

The palm branch pattern is also provided in full color on the *Resources* CD printable files.

Materials

unfrosted cupcakes, icing, plastic knives, sprinkles, paper plates, napkins, wet wipes (optional: plastic wrap)



Teaching Tips

You may prefer to bring frosted cupcakes and just have children decorate them with sprinkles.

Be sure to check all food allergies, and have an alternative snack available.

Focus

♥ We can praise Jesus.

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem.**

Materials

Resources CD track 1,
CD player, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing “He Is Alive.”

PRAY: **God, we love You, and we love Your Son, Jesus. We can praise You for being our God, and ♥ we can praise Jesus for being Your Son. Thank You for Your Son. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

SAY: **When Jesus went to Jerusalem, the people greeted Him in a special way. Our story today is found in the book of Mark in the Bible. Show Mark. Let’s act out our Bible story and see what the people did.**

Materials

coats, *Teaching Picture*
Triumphal Entry, Bible,
palm branches from More!
Getting Started, Bible-times robe



Bible Time—Another Way!

Be sure children have their palm branches. Put on the robe.

SAY: **Hello, children. I’m pretending to be someone in the crowd of people who followed Jesus as He went to the town of Jerusalem many years ago. Can you pretend with me?** Allow responses. **Great! Let’s get started.**

Many people were following Jesus that day. We all knew Jesus was special, and we wanted to follow Him. Do you know why Jesus is special? Yes, Jesus is the Son of God. Let’s stand and say those words together: Jesus is the Son of God. Stand and repeat the words.

Well, just before Jesus got to Jerusalem, He sent two of His helpers to get a colt. Let’s pretend we’re riding a colt. Do so. **Jesus usually walked, but this time He rode a colt. After all, it was a special day. Some of us put our coats on the ground (put coats on floor), and the colt walked on them. Some of us put palm branches on the ground, and the colt walked on them. Let’s put our palm branches on the ground.** Do so. **Jesus rode into Jerusalem. It was a happy day! We knew God had sent Jesus to earth to help us. We shouted and praised Jesus that day. Some of us waved our palm branches.** Show the teaching picture and have children pick up their branches. **Let’s shout “Hosanna!”** Do so and wave branches. **Let’s shout “Praise God!”** Do so and wave branches. **Let’s shout “Jesus is the Son of God.”** Do so and wave branches. **You are a good crowd of people. You are good at praising Jesus.**



Option

Have a special guest tell the Bible story. Give the guest a copy of the story beforehand. Provide a Bible-times robe, if desired.

Materials

coats, palm branches
from Bible Time—
Another Way!, Bible



More! Bible Review

ASK: Hold up coats. **What did the people do with their coats?**

Hold up palm branches. **What did the people do with branches?**

Hold up the Bible. **What does the Bible tell us the people shouted when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt?** (“Hosanna!” or “Praise God!”)

Let children use the coats and branches to act out the Bible story.

Materials

Resources CD Special
Unit Bible Memory
Motions printable file and
track 4, Bible, CD player, palm
branches from Bible Time—
Another Way!



More! Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Show John 20:31 in the Bible to the children and teach the motions. Then SAY: **When Jesus went to Jerusalem, the people shouted praises to Him. ♥ We can praise Jesus by singing our Bible Memory song.** Lead children in singing and waving the branches, as they march to the song.

More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **choose a way to praise Jesus**.

Focus

♥ We can praise Jesus.

Quick Step “A List of Praises”

Bring Scamper out holding the paper. SAY: **Hi, Scamper! What do you have?** Take the paper; Scamper whispers to you. **Children, Scamper has a list that some of his friends wrote. It’s a list of all the things they like about Scamper. Let’s read some of the things on the list.**

Scamper’s friends wrote an interesting list. Read, “Scamper is good at helping find something when it’s lost, especially when it’s a nut” and “Scamper is good at cheering up someone who has had a hard day.” **Scamper, your friends really like you. These things are praises about you.** Scamper nods his head. **When people love someone else, they want to praise that person. Your friends wrote a lot of praises about you.** Scamper whispers to you. **Scamper, that’s a great idea! Children, Scamper has been listening to you talk about Jesus. He knows you love Jesus. Scamper wants you to make a list of praises to tell why you love Jesus. Let’s do that right now!** Lead the children in naming reasons why they love Jesus. Have Scamper clap his paws as you read the finished list aloud.

ASK: **What did the children in Scamper’s neighborhood do to show they love him?** (wrote a list of praises)

What can we do to praise Jesus? (make a list of reasons we love Jesus, say praises to Jesus, sing to Jesus)

Lead children in a time of praise to Jesus. Allow them to choose the way to praise Jesus.

Praise and Prayer Circle

Before class, draw a picture of a mouth and a picture of a hand, each on a separate sheet of paper.

Lay the pictures, paper, and crayons on the floor. Gather children around the objects. SAY: ♥ **We can praise Jesus every day. Let’s name ways we can praise Jesus, using these things.**

Allow each child to choose a picture or an object to use to praise Jesus. For example, if the child chooses the picture of a mouth, he can use his mouth to say a praise sentence to Jesus or sing a song. If the child picks paper and crayons, he can draw a picture of something he likes about Jesus.

ASK: **What did we do to praise Jesus in our praise and prayer circle? Can you think of another way to praise Jesus?**

Especially for 2s!



Have children repeat suggested actions as you show and tell how to use the various items to praise Jesus.

Saying Good-bye

- Sing the Bible Memory song while walking, marching, or skipping around the room.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the Then and Now activity with their children. Note: *A Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

Scamper puppet, paper, pencil



Suggested list

Jesus is the Son of God.
Jesus loves me.
Jesus died for me.
Jesus loves children.
Jesus heals the sick.

Materials

Bible, paper, crayons



Cleanup

Use Scamper to encourage the children as they clean the room. He can give award stickers to children as he sees them helping.





Jesus Lives!

Scripture: John 21:1-13

Bible Memory: John 20:31

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (ICB)

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Special Unit: Jesus’ Resurrection

See table of
contents.











Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Imagine sharing this lesson’s truth with someone who has never heard the gospel story. That person might experience amazement over the incredible parts of the story, but the joy becomes greater when the person accepts Jesus as Savior through faith, repentance, and baptism! Jesus’ resurrection is what encourages believers to keep going when times are tough, to keep believing when times are tragic. Focus on the joy of having a Savior who lives today. It is a joy that cannot be over-celebrated!

Bible Background for the Teacher

After His resurrection, Jesus told His apostles to go to Galilee to wait for Him. While they were waiting, some of the followers went on a night’s fishing expedition at Lake Galilee. It is not known where the fire and the fish and bread that Jesus prepared came from, but the one who miraculously fed more than 5,000 on one occasion and 4,000 on another was quite able to provide. In fact, He is the one who created the fish, the shore, and the waters!

Jesus’ Resurrection Lesson at a Glance

		Immerse Materials	Other Materials
<p>1 GETTING STARTED Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore what makes people happy and sad.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step News Circle</p> <p> News I Know</p> <p> Look and Find</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication toys and objects (see activity) • magazines, poster board, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks
<p>2 BIBLE DISCOVERY Use all these activities to help children <i>tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.</i></p>	<p> Sing and Pray</p> <p> Bible Time Jesus Lives!</p> <p> Bible Review</p> <p> Bible Memory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources CD; Resources CD “Jesus Lives!” and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files; Resources sheet 1 movable story frame, sheet 2 picture strip JRa-JRd; Teaching Picture Jesus’ Resurrection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD player, Bible
<p>3 GROW AND GO Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Good News Banner</p> <p> I’ve Got Good News to Share!</p> <p> “He Is Alive”</p> <p>Closing the Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make-n-Share and stickers for Jesus’ Resurrection lesson • Teaching Picture Jesus’ Resurrection • Resources CD • Heart Tugs Jesus’ Resurrection issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blunt-tip scissors, crayons, hole punch, glue sticks, yarn • CD player

Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore what makes people happy and sad.**

Welcome

- Use a Scamper puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their contribution money.

Quick Step News Circle

SAY: I have some news to share with you. I'm going to share the news with you in a news circle. Let's play!

Gather children in a circle. **SAY: I'm going to whisper happy or sad news into _____ (first child's) ear. Then she will whisper it to the next child. We'll see if the news goes all the way around our news circle.**

Whisper either sad or happy news into a child's ear. See if the same news reaches the last child. Continue with other sentences before finishing with the happy sentence: **♥ Jesus is alive!**

ASK: What happy news did you hear?

What sad news did you hear?

Especially for 2s!

Whisper one thing in each child's ear and have each repeat it for the class.

News I Know

SAY: Sometimes we hear news on a radio or TV. Sometimes we read news in a letter. Maybe a friend tells you news. Some news is happy. Other news is sad. Today's news is good news—♥ Jesus is alive! Let's share news with each other as we play.

Allow children to play with the items you have provided. Encourage them to tell happy and sad news as they play. Use the suggestions provided in the News Circle activity.

ASK: What news did you hear that made you feel happy?

Did you hear any sad news? What was it?

Look and Find

SAY: Sometimes news can make us feel sad. When we hear the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive, we feel happy. Let's look for pictures that show happy people and pictures that show sad people.

Tell children to find pictures of happy people and sad people in the magazines. Talk about what makes people happy and sad. Have children cut out the magazine pictures, separate them into happy people and sad people, and then glue them onto separate poster boards.

ASK: What might have made the people happy in the pictures you found?

What might have made the people sad in the pictures you found?

How does the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive make you feel?

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.



Happy and Sad News

I had pizza for lunch.

Jesus loves you and me.

I'm going to a friend's house to play.

My grandma is sick.

My favorite toy is broken.



Some children have difficulty knowing the difference between "happy news" and "sad news." Draw a happy face on one side of a paper plate and a sad face on the other to give hints.

Materials

communication toys and objects (such as toy cell phone, newspaper, child's magazine, *Heart Tugs*, microphone, computer keyboard)



Teaching Tip

If a child shares personal sad news, be sure to offer words of comfort. If appropriate, send the child a note of encouragement.

Materials

magazines, poster board, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks



Cleanup

Point to an area that needs cleaning. Ask children to show happy faces as they work together to clean the area.



Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.**

Materials

Resources CD tracks 1 and 4, CD player, Bible



Materials

Resources sheet 1 movable Bible story frame and sheet 2 picture strip JRa–JRd



Teaching Tip

You may want to cut the picture strip into four sections (cutting after each ID). Add one section at a time to a display board or a whiteboard ledge, building the picture as the story is being told.

Materials

Resources CD track 7, Resources CD “Jesus Lives!” printable file, CD player, Teaching Picture Jesus’ Resurrection



Materials

Bible, Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions



Sing and Pray

Sing “He Is Alive” and “Jesus Is the Christ.”

PRAY: **God, You are so great! We thank You that ♥ Jesus is alive. Help us understand today’s story from Your Bible. Help us tell other people the good news. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

SAY: **Today’s story is found in the book of John in the Bible. Show John. Our story has some sad parts and some happy parts. Let’s listen!**

Bible Time

Before class, slide the picture strip into the story frame.

SAY: **Jesus did many wonderful things, and the people loved Him. Review last week’s story. But this happy day was followed by a sad day. Some men did not believe that Jesus was God’s Son, and they put Him on a cross. Show scene JRa. Jesus died on the cross. That was sad news. Then His body was placed in a tomb. A tomb is like a small cave. Jesus’ body was in the tomb for three days. But on Sunday, the first day of the week, Jesus came back to life! What a happy day! Jesus’ helpers were happy He was alive. We are happy ♥ Jesus is alive too. As I tell the rest of this story, I want you to cheer each time I say “Jesus.” Practice doing so.**

Show JRb. SAY: **Jesus told His helpers to go and wait for Him in Galilee. While they waited for Him, the helpers fished from a boat on Lake Galilee. They fished all night, but they didn’t catch any fish.**

Early the next morning, Jesus’ helpers saw a man on the shore. The man told them to throw their net on the right side of the boat. When they threw their net on the right side, they began to catch fish. So many fish that they could not pull the net back inside the boat.

Show JRC. **When Peter realized that it was Jesus who had called to them, Peter jumped right into the water and hurried to see Jesus. The rest of the helpers went to shore in the boat, pulling the net full of fish behind them. Show JRd. When everyone was on shore, they ate a breakfast of bread and fish with Jesus. They were happy to see Jesus. We are also happy that ♥ Jesus is alive!**

Bible Review

Before class, print “Jesus Lives!” from the CD. Listen to the activity, and be ready to lead in the actions.

SAY: **Let’s act out our Bible story.** Lead children in the motions as they act out the story. Show the teaching picture.

ASK: **What was the sad news in our Bible story?** (Jesus had been killed.)
What is the happy news? (Jesus is alive!)

Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

SAY: **Did you know the Bible has a lot of books in it? Today’s Bible Memory words are from the book called John. Show John. Here’s what God told John to write about Jesus: “Jesus is the Son of God.” Say that with me.** Do so; then review the Bible Memory motions with the children.

Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Quick Step Good News Banner

Before class, cut out a banner and set of word cards for each child.

SAY: The good news is that ♥ Jesus is alive! Everyone who loves Jesus is happy about this. Let's make banners to use in sharing this good news.

Assist children as needed in making the banners. Talk about how they can use the banners to share the good news about Jesus.

ASK: What is the good news you have to share? (♥ Jesus is alive!)

Who will you give this good news banner to?

I've Got Good News to Share!

SAY: Today's Bible Memory words are "Jesus is the Son of God." We're going to play a game. You will choose someone to show this picture to. Then you will say the Bible Memory to that person. The picture and Bible Memory will help us remember that ♥ Jesus is alive.

Have children stand in a circle. Give the teaching picture to a child and say the Bible Memory to him. Then say the Bible Memory together. Instruct him to choose another child. Have him show the picture to the second child and say the verse. Then both children can repeat the words. Continue until every child has chosen another child to say the verse with.

ASK: Who did you share the good news with?

What is the good news? (Jesus is alive! Jesus is the Son of God!)

Especially for 2s!

Have your 2s repeat each word of the Bible Memory after you. They can say the verse together each time the picture is shown to another child.

"He Is Alive"

SAY: ♥ Jesus is alive and that's exciting! Let's sing a song about Jesus being alive. We can use this song to share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.

Play "He Is Alive." Have all the children sing the song. Divide the children into two groups. One group can be the singers and the second group can be the audience. Allow the singers to sing the song for the audience. They may want to use microphones as they sing the song. Switch the two groups and sing the song again.

ASK: How did we use this song to share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive?

Who can you sing this song to this week as you share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive?

Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and this week's *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the Happy Colors activity with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

Make-n-Share and stickers for Jesus' Resurrection lesson, blunt-tip scissors, crayons (or washable markers), glue sticks, hole punch, yarn



Materials

Teaching Picture Jesus' Resurrection



If a child cannot repeat the entire verse, shorten it and make up motions to one or two words, such as "Jesus is alive!" Even if the child only mirrors the motion for one word, the child is participating in internalizing God's Word.

Materials

Resources CD track 1, CD player (optional: toy microphones)



Teaching Tip

If you have a smaller class, you and Scamper the puppet can be the audience. The children can sing to you.

You and the children can share the good news right away by visiting another class and singing the song for them.



Jesus Lives!

Scripture: John 21:1-13

Bible Memory: John 20:31

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (ICB)

“Jesus is . . . the Son of God.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Special Unit: Jesus’ Resurrection Extra Hour

See table of
contents.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion




Imagine sharing this lesson’s truth with someone who has never heard the gospel story. That person might experience amazement over the incredible parts of the story, but the joy becomes greater when the person accepts Jesus as Savior through faith, repentance, and baptism! Jesus’ resurrection is what encourages believers to keep going when times are tough, to keep believing when times are tragic. Focus on the joy of having a Savior who lives today. It is a joy that cannot be over-celebrated!

Bible Background for the Teacher

After His resurrection, Jesus told His apostles to go to Galilee to wait for Him. While they were waiting, some of the followers went on a night’s fishing expedition at Lake Galilee. It is not known where the fire and the fish and bread that Jesus prepared came from, but the one who miraculously fed more than 5,000 on one occasion and 4,000 on another was quite able to provide. In fact, He is the one who created the fish, the shore, and the waters!

Jesus’ Resurrection Lesson at a Glance—Extra Hour

1 MORE! GETTING STARTED
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore what makes people happy and sad.*

-  **Quick Step**
Are You Happy or Sad?
-  Happy and Sad Towers
-  Happy Colors





Immerse Materials

- *Heart Tugs Jesus’ Resurrection* issue

Other Materials

- blocks
- crayons



2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY
Use all these activities to help children *tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.*

-  **More! Sing and Pray**
-  **Bible Time—Another Way!**
Jesus Lives!
-  **More! Bible Review**
-  **More! Bible Memory**

- *Resources* CD, CD “Jesus Lives!” and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files, Scamper puppet, *Teaching Picture* Jesus’ Resurrection

- CD player, Bible

3 MORE! GROW AND GO
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.*

-  **Quick Step**
Scamper Puppet Story
-  Fish and Bread Take-Home Snacks
- Saying Good-bye**

- Scamper puppet
- *Resources* CD Jesus Is Alive Labels printable file
- *Heart Tugs Jesus’ Resurrection* issue

- newspaper, notebook, pen
- mailing labels, wet wipes, small scoop, fish-shaped crackers, oyster crackers, resealable plastic bags

More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore what makes people happy and sad.**

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Gather children to play the News Circle game from first hour.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation's policy for restroom breaks. You might want to serve fish-shaped and oyster crackers, which also will be used in More! Grow and Go.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

none



Materials

blocks



Some children may have difficulty knowing the difference between “happy news” and “sad news.” Make a sign to give hints. Draw a smiling face on one side of a paper plate and a frowning face on the other. Show the appropriate side as news is shared.

Materials

Heart Tugs Jesus' Resurrection issue, crayons



Teaching Tip

Children love to explore different mediums. Provide gel pens or other kinds of special markers.

Quick Step Are You Happy or Sad?

SAY: **Sometimes we hear news that makes us happy. Sometimes news makes us feel sad. Let's show how we act when we are happy or sad.**

Name and model various motions. Have children repeat the motions after you. Let the children tell which each motion is—a happy motion or a sad motion. Possible motions: clapping (happy), jumping up and down (happy), walking slowly with head bowed (sad), wiping tears from eyes (sad), hopping on one foot (happy). As time allows, have children lead in other happy and sad motions.

ASK: **What kind of news makes you feel and act sad?**

What news makes you happy?

How do you feel when you hear the news that ♥ Jesus is alive?

(happy)

Happy and Sad Towers

SAY: **♥ Jesus is alive; that's good news. It makes us happy. Bad news makes us sad. We're going to build two towers, one for happy news and one for sad news.**

Gather children in a circle. Let each choose a block. Set one block down. **This is the happy news tower.** Place another block a foot away. **This is the sad news tower.** Have children take turns telling news and placing their blocks on the appropriate tower. Continue telling happy or sad news and adding blocks as time allows. If a tower falls, start over.

ASK: **What news makes you happy?**

What news makes you sad?

How do you feel about the news that ♥ Jesus is alive?

Especially for 2s!

Make simple statements and ask 2s which tower they should place their blocks on.

Happy Colors

SAY: **We feel happy because ♥ Jesus is alive. Let's make a picture we'll call Happy Colors.** Give each child a copy of today's *Heart Tugs*. Show how to finish the picture, using the coloring code.

ASK: **How do these fun colors make you feel?**

Are there some colors that make you feel sad? Which colors?

How does the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive make you feel?

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened after Jesus came back to life.**

Materials

Resources CD track 1,
CD player, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing “He Is Alive.”

PRAY: **God, we want to praise You so much today! You are so good and special to us. Thank You that ♥ Jesus is alive! In His name, amen.**

SAY: **Are you happy when you sing praises to God?** Let children respond. **Our Bible story today will make us happy too. It’s found in the book of John in the Bible. Show John. Let’s listen as I tell the story.**

Materials

Resources CD track 7
and “Jesus Lives!”
printable file, CD player,
Teaching Picture Jesus’
Resurrection



Bible Time—Another Way!

Before class, print a copy of “Jesus Lives!” from the CD. Listen to the activity and be ready to lead the motions.

SAY: **Jesus’ helpers were happy because Jesus was alive. But they weren’t always happy. The Bible tells us about a very sad time.**

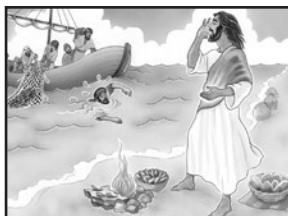
On a Friday, Jesus’ helpers were sad because some people who did not like Jesus put Him on a cross to die. Show me a sad face. Have children do so. **I think that is how Jesus’ helpers looked when Jesus died. After Jesus died, His body was put in a tomb, and a huge stone covered the opening. A tomb is like a cave. But something amazing was about to happen.**

Early Sunday morning an angel came and rolled that huge stone away. When Jesus’ helpers came to the tomb, they looked inside, but Jesus was not there! The angel told them that Jesus had risen from the dead! Jesus was alive again! How do you think Jesus’ helpers looked then?

Encourage the children to show happy faces.

Let’s act out our Bible story and show what happened. Play “Jesus Lives!” Encouraging children to exaggerate the actions will help them understand the intensity and excitement of the story.

Show the picture. **Jesus’ helpers must have been very excited when their net was full of fish. They were even more excited when they realized Jesus was on the beach. They were happy to know ♥ Jesus is alive!**



Materials

none



More! Bible Review

ASK: **Is anyone good at showing a sad face?** Choose a child.

Who can show a happy face? Choose another child.

Have the first child show a sad face.

ASK: **What happened in today’s Bible story that was sad?** (Jesus died. The fishermen caught no fish.)

Have the second child show a happy face.

ASK: **What happened in today’s Bible story that was happy?** (Jesus rose from the dead, helped the fishermen catch fish, and ate breakfast with His helpers.)

Materials

Bible, Resources CD
Special Unit Bible
Memory Motions
printable file



More! Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Read the Bible Memory to the children. While doing the motions, have half the class say the first half of the verse, “Jesus is,” and the other half the class respond with “the Son of God.” Have each group take turns starting and responding.

More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

3 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Quick Step “Do You Know Good News?”

Have Scamper come in carrying the newspaper. Scamper whispers to you. SAY: **Children, Scamper wants to tell you something he just learned. It’s about this newspaper. Would you like to hear what Scamper learned?** Allow for responses.

Scamper has learned that the newspaper is full of news. Have Scamper clap his paws. **Scamper likes news, don’t you?** Have Scamper nod his head and then shake it no. **Scamper, do you like news, or don’t you?** Have Scamper whisper to you. **Oh, I understand now. Scamper says that he likes happy news but not sad news.** Have Scamper nod. **Good point, Scamper!**

Have Scamper disappear, then come back carrying the notebook and pen. Look surprised. **Scamper, what are you doing?** Scamper whispers to you. **Children, Scamper wants to write his own newspaper. He’s going to write only about good news.** Scamper claps. **He wants to get this happy news from you.** Scamper jumps and claps. **Can anyone tell Scamper some good news?** Allow children to do so. If no one tells that Jesus is alive, prompt a child to do so. Have Scamper clap. **Yes, Scamper, the children have learned to share the very best news— ♥ Jesus is alive!**

ASK: **What is the very best news?** (Jesus is alive.)

Who can you tell this good news to?

Materials

Scamper puppet,
newspaper, notebook,
pen



Fish and Bread Take-Home Snacks



Before class, print the labels from the CD.

SAY: **Let’s make snack bags we can give to friends. When you give a snack bag to a friend, you can share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Have children use wet wipes to clean their hands. Let each child add a label to a bag and then scoop some crackers into the bag. Close the bags. Tell the children that the crackers can remind them of the fish and bread Jesus ate with His helpers after He died and came back to life.

ASK: **Who will you give your snack bag to?**

What good news will the snack tell your friend? (Jesus is alive!)

Especially for 2s!

Have 2s give their snacks to each another and say ♥ “Jesus is alive!”

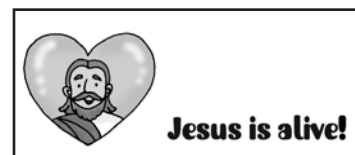
Saying Good-bye

• As children wait for parents, lead them in the following action rhyme: I’ll sing. (pretend to sing) / I’ll praise. (wave hands in air) / I’ll pray. (pretend to pray) / I’m happy Jesus is alive today! (point to Heaven and jump up and down)

• Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to talk about the best reason to be happy—Jesus is alive! Note: *A Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

Resources CD Jesus Is Alive Labels printable file,
4" x 2" mailing labels, wet
wipes, small scoop, fish-shaped
crackers, oyster crackers,
resealable plastic bags



Teaching Tips

Have extra crackers for children to eat as they work. Always check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative snack available.

Instructions for printing mailing labels can be found in the Contents document on the CD.

Cleanup

Ask children to find partners. Give each pair a cleanup task and encourage partners to work together.

