

Special Unit Jesus Is the Son of God

Bible Memory

John 20:31, *ICB*

“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.”

John 20:31, *KJV*

“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.”

Pre-K & K Bible Skills

Activities in this unit of lessons will help the children

- Know the Bible is God’s special book that tells us about God and Jesus.
- Know how to open and close the Bible correctly.
- Begin to sequence events in main Bible stories.

Teacher Helps on Resources CD

See the Teacher Helps folder on the CD for tips and helps in teaching pre-K & K children.

Especially for 4s!

Depending on children’s motor skills, activity suggestions geared for 4-year-olds can also be used by younger 5-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

Pre-K & K Make-n-Share activity pages and stickers for Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection lessons

Pre-K & K 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)
- Happy or Sad (track 10)

Printable Files

- Bible Memory Posters, Bible Memory Motions, Family Letters (in *NIV* and *KJV*)
- Coloring Pages (for Triumphal Entry and Jesus’ Resurrection lessons)
- Microphone, Palm Branch (color or black and white), Praise Bracelets, Special Needs Help (Triumphal Entry lesson)
- “Jesus Lives!” Bible story activity, “Jesus Lives!” Bible story, Fish (Jesus’ Resurrection lesson)

Visuals

- Bible story figures, palm branches, fish (sheet 1)
- Praise poster, Scout 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

Scout puppet

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. You may choose to use this unit at the beginning of the quarter, the end, or insert it when you feel it most appropriate. Be prepared with extra materials. Decorate your room with flowers and bright colors. Have happy songs playing and Scout ready to greet. Whisper a special message in each child's ear: "Today we are going to sing and praise Jesus" or "Today we are celebrating because Jesus is alive!"

Surprise your children with a visual that they and their parents will never forget. Cut a large circle from a refrigerator box. Paint it gray and use fishing line to suspend it from the ceiling to cover your entrance door. Have someone dress as an angel and sit on a stool at the entrance. As children come, have the angel say, "Are you looking for Jesus? He is not here. He has risen. Come in and see." Have the angel "roll the stone" so the child can enter.

Special Unit Bible Memory Activities

Make copies of the special unit Bible Memory Poster from the *Resources* CD printable files and display them where you and others can refer to the Bible Memory often. Allow children to color in the letters and decorate their own posters with stickers.

Divide children into pairs and give each pair a soft ball. One child can toss the ball to a partner and say, "Jesus is the Christ." The child catching the ball will toss the ball back and respond, "the Son of God."

Use the motions from the *Resources* CD to help children learn the Bible Memory. Sing "Jesus Is the Christ." Play the song as children sing along.

Remember that the songs on the CD are reproducible. Make copies and send a CD home with each child. Such CDs are great tools for helping parents to be able to sing the songs with their children.

Resurrection Bulletin Board

Cover a bulletin board with roll paper. Print and enlarge from the *Resources* CD the Jesus' Resurrection coloring page (or use an overhead projector). Cut out letters for the words "Jesus is alive!" Have children cut colorful fish shapes from construction paper. Children can color the picture of Jesus and add their fish.

Resurrection Gift Boxes

Fill small gift boxes with symbols that represent the meaning of Jesus' Resurrection, such as paper crosses, small pictures of Jesus, and 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. Leave a few boxes empty. Children who receive these boxes should not be disappointed, as they represent the best gift God has ever given—an empty tomb. Give each child an empty, unopened box to take home and share with a friend or family member.

Allergy Notice

Print 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.

Mark name tags so volunteers can easily identify dietary needs.



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.

Teaching Tips

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!

See Holiday Helps under Downloads and Connect² at www.21stcc.com for some spring craft projects.



Prepare Ahead

Begin gathering saltine cracker boxes, tissue boxes, or other small square boxes for lesson 2 in unit 1.



People Praise Jesus

Scripture: Mark 11:1-10

Bible Memory: John 20:31

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

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

Focus: ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Special Unit: Triumphal Entry

See the table of
contents.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

You praise God when you rise to a new day, pray for food and for loved ones, sing, and study your Bible. Your children are involved in praising God too. They know simple prayers, songs, and Bible stories. Rejoice with God at every opportunity you have to lead these little ones to explore ways to praise God!

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 the city of 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*.

 **Quick Step**
Welcome Parade

 **Family Living**
Preparing for a Guest

 **Craft**
Here Comes Jesus!

Immerse Materials

- Resources CD
- Scout puppet
- *Teaching Picture* Triumphal Entry, Resources CD Palm Branch printable file

Other Materials

- CD player, crepe paper streamers or scarves
- cleaning cloths, toy dishes, child-size broom
- green paper, tape, jumbo craft sticks, blunt-tip scissors

2 BIBLE DISCOVERY

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

 **Sing and Pray**

 **Bible Time**
People Praise Jesus

 **Bible Review**


 **Bible Memory**


- Resources CD; Resources sheet 1 Bible story figures TEa-TEc and palm branches; Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions


- CD player, tape, Bibles, highlighter, bookmarks

3 GROW AND GO

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

 **Quick Step**
Ways to Praise

 **Song**
Singing or Saying Our Praise

 **Craft**
Choose a Praise Prayer

- Scout puppet
- Resources CD Microphone printable file, Resources CD
- *Make-n-Share* and stickers for Triumphal Entry lesson
- *Heart Tugs* Triumphal Entry issue

- CD player, paper towel tube, tape
- washable markers, blunt-tip scissors, hole punch, paper fasteners

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 Scout 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.

Quick Step Welcome Parade

SAY: Sometimes when special people visit, the town has a parade. Bands march and people wave flags to welcome the special person. In our Bible story today, we will learn about a time when people had a parade to welcome Jesus. Let's have our own parade. ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Play “He Is Alive.” Have children march around the room as they wave streamers. Let them take turns pretending to be the important person.

ASK: If Jesus was the important person in our parade, what would we say to praise Him? Say sentences that praise Jesus as you march. (Examples: “Jesus, You are great.” “Jesus, You are strong.”)

What is your favorite thing about a parade?

How would you feel if Jesus came to our town? What would you do?

Preparing for a Guest

SAY: In our Bible story today, people got ready for Jesus to come to their town. They wanted to praise Jesus. ♥ We can praise Jesus too.

Have Scout whisper to you. **Scout wants us to pretend that we are going to have a special guest today. Let's clean our room to get ready. Who will dust? Who will sweep? Who will set the table?** Have Scout assign each child a chore. He can bark encouragement as children do their jobs.

ASK: How do you feel when someone special comes to your house? What do you do to get ready for a guest at your house?

Here Comes Jesus!

Before class, make a copy of the palm branch and write the Bible Memory on it. Then make more copies on the green paper.

SAY: Have you ever been excited because someone special was coming to your house? Show the teaching picture. In Bible times when important guests visited, people would lay down their coats or palm tree branches for the guests to walk across. This picture shows a time when Jesus came to visit a town. Let's make some palm branches. Then ♥ we can praise Jesus too. Distribute supplies. As children make their branches, talk about welcoming special people.

ASK: How do you welcome guests to your home? What can you do or say to praise Jesus?

Especially for 4s!

Before class, cut out the branches so 4s can glue on the sticks. They will enjoy waving the branches up and down, high and low, fast or slow.

Focus

- ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Resources CD track 1, CD player, crepe-paper streamers or scarves



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

Materials

Scout puppet, cleaning cloths, toy dishes, child-size broom (or vacuum cleaner)



Teaching Tip

Do the action rhyme, “Then and Now,” from *Heart Tugs*.

Materials

Resources CD Palm Branch printable file (color or black and white), marker, Teaching Picture Triumphal Entry, green paper, tape, jumbo craft sticks, blunt-tip scissors



Something More!

Have an adult crawl around like a donkey, as the children parade, waving their palm branches.

Cleanup

Play “He Is Alive” (track 1). Have children march from area to area, straightening as they go.



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 and sheet 1 Bible story figure TEc, CD player



Materials

Resources sheet 1 Bible story figures TEa-TEc and palm branches, tape, Bible (optional: sand pan)



Teaching Tip

As the story is being told, stand figures in a sand pan. A plastic 9" x 12" storage container with a lid makes a great sand pan. Cornmeal or rice can be used in place of sand if desired.

Materials

palm branches from Getting Started



Teaching Tip

If you did not make palm branches, let children do so at this time.

Materials

Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions, Bibles, highlighter, bookmarks



Sing and Pray

Sing "He Is Alive" and "Jesus Is the Christ."

PRAY: **God, thank You for letting Jesus come to us. ♥ We can praise Jesus for the wonderful things He does. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Smile at the children. **Show me your happy faces.** Have children do so. Show TEc. **Look at these happy faces. The Bible tells us why they are happy.**

Bible Time

Before class, attach the easels from sheet 1 to the backs of the story figures. (Or place figures in a sand pan as you tell the story.)

SAY: **Our story is from the Bible book called Mark, chapter 11.** Show Mark 11. **Have you ever ridden on a colt? This person rode a colt.** Show Jesus TEa. **Who do you think He is?** Give hints if needed.

Jesus and His 12 followers were coming to Jerusalem. Show followers TEb. **Where do you think Jesus got the colt?** Allow children to guess. **Just before entering Jerusalem, Jesus told His followers to get a young colt that was tied outside a house. Nobody had ever ridden on this colt.**

Jesus' followers put their coats on the colt, and Jesus sat on it. Today was a very special day. Show people TEc. **When the people saw Jesus coming, some of them put their coats down on the road. Other people cut branches from trees and put them on the roadway.** Add palm branches. **When the people laid the branches on the road, it showed that the people knew Jesus was an important person.**

The people were very happy and excited. They wanted Jesus to be their king. They shouted and said, "Praise God!" and "God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" and "Hosanna," which means "save us." The people were praising Jesus. ♥ We can praise Jesus too. Have children shout each phrase.

Bible Review

Ask questions about the Bible story. If the answer is yes, have children wave their branches and say, "We can praise Jesus." If the answer is no, have children quietly hold their branches.

- ASK: **Did Jesus tell His followers to find a chariot?** (no)
Did some people put their coats on the road? (yes)
Did some people pick berries from the fields? (no)
Were the people sad? (no)
Did the people want Jesus to be their king? (yes)
Did the people shout and say, "Praise God!"? (yes)

Bible Memory John 20:31

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD. In each Bible, highlight John 20:31 and place a bookmark.

Help the children find and point to the Bible Memory in their Bibles. Read the verse and have the children say it with you as you teach the motions.

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 Ways to Praise

Show Scout. SAY: **We can praise Jesus. Scout is going to help us choose some ways to praise Jesus. When Scout whispers to me a way to praise Jesus, I'll tell you what he said. Then ♥ we can praise Jesus.**

Have Scout whisper to you. Each time, name a way to praise and encourage children to do the action. (Possible ways to praise: Jump up and down and say, “Jesus, You are great.” Wave your hands and say, “Jesus, You are the Son of God.” Fold your hands and pray, “Jesus, You are special.” Clap your hands and sing, “You are great and awesome.”)

- ASK: **What is your favorite way to praise Jesus?**
How will you praise Jesus this week?

Singing or Saying Our Praise

Before class, print and prepare the microphone from the CD, using the paper towel tube.

SAY: ♥ **We can praise Jesus. Let's choose a way to praise Jesus by singing or speaking into a microphone.**

Ask each child to choose a way to praise Jesus: sing or speak. Play “Jesus Is the Christ” and have singers sing. Next, ask speakers to take turns saying the Bible Memory into the microphone. They could also say a prayer. If time allows, children can switch roles.

- ASK: **What is your favorite way to praise Jesus?**
When we praise someone, we tell that person how special he is.
What can you say is special about Jesus?

Choose a Praise Prayer

SAY: **Just like the people in Jesus' day, ♥ we can praise Jesus. When we praise Jesus, we tell Him how special He is. Let's make a spinner game that tells words we can say to praise Jesus.**

Assist children in completing their projects. Encourage each child to point his arrow at one praise sentence. Talk about places where children can praise Jesus (home, church building, school, playground). Lead children in saying the praise sentences as they pray.

- ASK: **Where can you praise Jesus this week?**
What can you say to praise Jesus?

Especially for 4s!

Have spinner boards and arrows cut out. Have 4s turn their arrows to the same sentence. Say the sentence together. Repeat with other sentences.

Closing the Hour

- Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and a copy of *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to make the mini fruit kabobs at home with their children. Note: *A Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Materials

Scout puppet



Materials

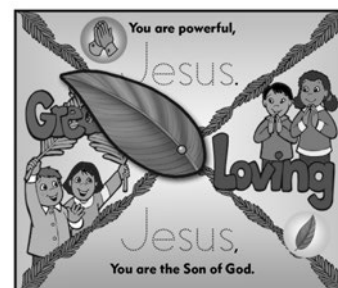
Resources CD Microphone printable file and CD track 4, paper towel tube, tape, CD player



Read the Special Needs Help for the Triumphal Entry lesson on the *Resources* CD for a way to enrich this activity for children who are non-verbal.

Materials

Make-n-Share and stickers for Triumphal Entry lesson, washable markers (or crayons), blunt-tip scissors, hole punch, paper fasteners





People Praise Jesus

Scripture: Mark 11:1-10

Bible Memory: John 20:31

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

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

Focus: ♥ We can praise Jesus.

**Special Unit:
Triumphal Entry
Extra Hour**
See the table of
contents.










Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

You praise God when you rise to a new day, pray for food and for loved ones, sing, and study your Bible. Your children are involved in praising God too. They know simple prayers, songs, and Bible stories. Rejoice with God at the opportunity you have to lead these little ones to explore ways to praise God!

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 the city of 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

		Immerse Materials	Other Materials
<p>1 MORE! GETTING STARTED Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore getting ready for a special guest.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Preparing for a Guest Game</p> <p> A Toy Parade</p> <p> Preparing a Meal for a Guest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Heart Tugs</i> Triumphal Entry issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blocks; toy people, animals, and cars • wet wipes, grapes, pineapple chunks, melon chunks, toothpicks, paper plates
<p>2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY Use all these activities to help children <i>tell what people did when Jesus came to Jerusalem.</i></p>	<p> More! Sing and Pray</p> <p> Bible Time—Another Way! People Praise Jesus</p> <p> More! Bible Review</p> <p> More! Bible Memory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Resources</i> CD, <i>Teaching Picture</i> Triumphal Entry, <i>Resources</i> CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD player, Bible, tape
<p>3 MORE! GROW AND GO Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>choose a way to praise Jesus.</i></p>	<p> Quick Step Scout Puppet Story</p> <p> Praise Bracelets</p> <p>Saying Good-bye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scout puppet • <i>Resources</i> CD Praise Bracelets printable file, <i>Resources</i> CD • <i>Teaching Picture</i> Triumphal Entry, <i>Heart Tugs</i> Triumphal Entry issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small bag, dog bone, praise CD, toy cell phone, small Bible • colored paper, tape, crepe-paper streamers, 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.
- Gather children to sing praise songs to Jesus.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step Preparing for a Guest Game

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about a time when people prepared to praise Jesus when He came to their town. ♥ We can praise Jesus too. Let’s play a game to help us remember how we welcome guests.

Have the children stand side by side in a line. As you name ways to prepare for a guest, have them take a step forward. As they move forward, have them act out that motion. If you name something that is not a way to prepare for a guest, have the children stand still. (Examples: clean house, say hello, frown, sing, light candles)

ASK: Have you ever had a guest come to your house? Who? What are ways you welcome a guest?

Epecially for 4s!

Before playing, name ways children prepare for a guest. Then play the game, adding statements that are not ways to prepare for a guest.

A Toy Parade

SAY: Have you ever been to a parade? Were there important people in the parade? Today’s Bible story is about a parade of praise for Jesus. ♥ We can praise Jesus too. Let’s make a pretend parade.

Help the children make a road with their blocks. They could add block barriers and bleachers. Show the children how to use the toy people as spectators and participants in the parade. The children could use cars and animals in their parades as well. As the children play, talk about welcoming guests to your town.

ASK: Have you ever been to a parade? Have you ever been *in* a parade? What important people are in parades?

Preparing a Meal for a Guest

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about a time when Jesus was a special guest and the people praised Him. ♥ We can praise Jesus too. We prepare food when special people come to our homes. Let’s make a snack to give to some special guests.

Show the pictures of A Welcome Treat in *Heart Tugs*. Have children wash their hands. Help children skewer two pieces of fruit on a toothpick. Have them place two or three fruit skewers on each plate. As they work, talk about welcoming guests into their homes. They can take turns being the special guests and serving the snack to one another.

ASK: Who are guests in your home? How do you prepare for a guest in your home?


Focus

- ♥ We can praise Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials
none



 Acting out one way to prepare for a guest as a whole group provides modeling for children who may have difficulty following this activity.

Materials
blocks; toy people, animals, and cars



Materials
wet wipes, grapes, pineapple chunks, melon chunks, toothpicks, paper plates, *Heart Tugs* Triumphal Entry issue



Teaching Tips

Check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative one available.

For an alternative kabob, use cheese chunks and bologna pieces.

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, *Teaching*
Picture Triumphal Entry



Materials

Bible



Materials

Teaching Picture
Triumphal Entry, tape,
Resources CD track 4, CD player



Materials

Resources CD Special
Unit Bible Memory
Motions printable file, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing “He Is Alive.”

PRAY: **Thank You, God, for many wonderful things, especially for Jesus, Your Son. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

Show the teaching picture. SAY: **These people were excited to see this man on the colt. We are going to find out why.**

Bible Time—Another Way!

Each time you say “Hosanna! Praise God! Bless His name!,” have children repeat the phrase and then jump up and wave their arms over their heads. Practice several times. Explain that the word *hosanna* means “save us” and that the people who said those words were excited about praising Jesus.

SAY: **Today’s story is from a New Testament book of the Bible called Mark, chapter 11.** Show the New Testament division page and then show Mark 11. **Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. There was a crowd of people with Him and a crowd of people waiting for Him. The crowd loved to say “Hosanna! Praise God! Bless His name!”** Pause for children to respond.

Some of Jesus’ followers got a young colt for Jesus to ride on. Because this was a special occasion, people in the crowd laid their coats and palm branches down on the road Jesus was traveling on. It was like a parade. The people were ready for Jesus. They were waiting to wave and say “Hosanna! Praise God! Bless His name!” Children respond.

The people were excited. They wanted Jesus to be their king. Jesus rode on the young colt like a king. And the people were so happy. They shouted, “Hosanna! Praise God! Bless His name!” Children respond.

Just like the people praised Jesus, ♥ we can praise Jesus too. Let’s say our phrase one more time: “Hosanna! Praise God! Bless His name!” Have children do so.

More! Bible Review

Tape the picture to a chair. Arrange the chairs in two lines back to back. Each child should have a chair. Play “Jesus Is the Christ” as the children move around the chairs. Stop the song and have each child rush to sit down. The child who sits in the chair with the picture can name an event from today’s story. Continue playing until each child has had a turn. Do not remove children from the game.

More! Bible Memory John 20:31

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

Show John 20:31 in the Bible. SAY: **Our Bible Memory is the highest praise we can give to Jesus: “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.” Let’s practice saying our Bible Memory.** Encourage the children to follow you as you lead them in saying the verse while doing the motions. Then have the children be seated on the floor in pairs. One person in each pair should jump up, say “Jesus is the Christ,” and then be seated. Then have the other partners jump up and say “the Son of God.” Do this several times. Switch partners and repeat the activity.

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 “Scout’s Bag”

Place all items except the dog bone inside the bag. Bring out Scout holding the bag. SAY: **Scout, what do you have there? Have you been shopping? Scout shakes his head and then whispers to you. You’ve been collecting items from the neighborhood children? Let’s show the children what you have.**

Scout was having a normal day. He was taking naps and chewing on his bone. While he was chewing on his bone (give Scout the dog bone to chew), **Scout noticed the children. They were talking about Jesus. They were praising Jesus, telling Him how special He is. They were using the items Scout has in his bag.**

Scout gives you the CD. **Scout saw a boy in his family listening to a praise CD. He was singing praises to Jesus.** Scout gives you the cell phone. **Scout watched a girl talking about Jesus on the phone to her grandma. The little girl said, “Jesus is the Son of God. He is very special.” The girl was praising Jesus.** Scout gives you the Bible. **At the end of his day, Scout’s family was sitting on the children’s beds. Before they turned out the lights, the family prayed together. They praised Jesus in their prayers. They said, “Jesus, we praise You for loving us, for taking care of us, for creating us.” That’s praise. ♥ We can praise Jesus too.**

ASK: **What is your favorite way to praise Jesus?**

What is your favorite song to sing to praise Jesus?

What can you say in your bedtime prayers that praises Jesus?

Materials

Scout puppet, small bag, dog bone, praise CD, toy cell phone, small Bible



Teaching Tips

If a dog bone isn’t available, print one from the Scout folder on the *Resources* CD.



Many children with special needs may identify with Scout as the recurring character in class each week. Use him during a transition time that seems particularly difficult.

Materials

Resources CD Praise Bracelets printable file, colored paper, tape, several colors of crepe-paper streamers, *Resources* CD track 1, CD player



Cleanup

Sing “He Is Alive” one more time as the children help clean up.



Praise Bracelets

SAY: ♥ We can praise Jesus. Let’s make praise bracelets to use while we praise Jesus.

Make copies of the bracelets onto colored paper and cut out. Guide the children to fold the bracelets on the dotted line and tape crepe-paper streamers to the edges. Help them tape the bracelets around their wrists. Play “He Is Alive” as the children move around the room, waving their bracelets in praise.

ASK: **How can we use our bracelets to praise Jesus?**

What is another way we can praise Jesus?

Especially for 4s!



Hold the streamers for the younger children to tape. Demonstrate several movements with the bracelets before you turn on the CD.

Saying Good-bye

- Guide children in playing the teaching picture musical chairs game from More! Bible Review as they wait for parents.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to make the mini fruit kabobs at home with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.



Jesus Lives!

Scripture: John 21:1-13

Bible Memory: John 20:31

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

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

Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!

Special Unit: Jesus’ Resurrection

See the table of
contents.











Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

Good news and bad news. The birth of a child; the death of a loved one. These extremes are a part of our lives. And nothing was more heartrending than the roller coaster of emotions that Jesus’ disciples went through during the last weeks of His life: the death of Lazarus and his healing; the crowds of the triumphal entry who turned against Jesus; Jesus’ death and His resurrection. It is that last, precious good news that we share with our children today: ♥ Jesus is alive!

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 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 Good News and Bad News</p> <p> Happy and Sad</p> <p> Happy and Sad Hide-and-Seek</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources CD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD player • colored paper, marker, scissors
<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, Scout puppet, Resources CD “Jesus Lives!” and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files, Resources sheet 1 fish, Teaching Picture Jesus’ Resurrection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD player, Bibles, materials for a boat (see activity), 2 bedsheets, bread
<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 Get Hooked on Jesus Mobile</p> <p> Good News Stone</p> <p> Good News! Game</p> <p>Closing the Hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make-n-Share Jesus’ Resurrection lesson • Resources CD • Heart Tugs Jesus’ Resurrection issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hole punch, yarn, washable markers, blunt-tip scissors, yarn • CD player, flat rocks, Jesus stickers

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 Scout 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 Good News and Bad News

SAY: Jesus died on a cross. That’s sad news. But ♥ Jesus is alive! That’s happy news. Let’s think about being happy and sad.

Have children rub their eyes as though they are crying and say “I’m sorry” when you name things that make them sad. Have them smile, jump up, and say “That’s great!” when you name things that make them happy. (Suggested statements: I hurt my toe. I’m going to a friend’s house. I lost a ring. I have a new book. My friend is sick. My team won! I am at Bible school.)

**ASK: When are some times that you are sad?
When are some times that you are happy?**

Happy and Sad

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about a time when people were sad and then they were happy. The people were happy because ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s listen to happy and sad songs. We can act out feeling happy and sad.

Play “Happy or Sad.” Guide the children to respond in movement to the songs. When the song sounds happy, have the children skip, laugh, hug. When the song sounds sad, have the children pretend to cry, sit down, and put their faces in their hands.

**ASK: What makes you sad? What makes you happy?
How do you move when you are sad? How do you move when you are happy?**

Especially for 4s!

Give 4s suggestions about how to move to the songs. Choose one or two movements and practice before playing the CD.

Happy and Sad Hide-and-Seek

Before class, cut several 3" circles from the paper. Draw happy faces on half of the circles and sad faces on the rest. Hide the faces around the room.

SAY: Today we are talking about being happy and sad. We are sad that Jesus died. We are happy because ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s play a happy and sad hide-and-seek game.

Guide the children to find the happy and sad faces. Then ask the children to name things that make them happy or sad, based on the faces they found.

**ASK: When was a time you were happy?
When is the last time you were sad?**

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.



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.

Materials

Resources CD track 10, CD player



Use the same visual cue from Good News and Bad News to help children know when to move in happy ways or in sad ways.

Materials

colored paper, marker, scissors



Cleanup

Guide children to happily clean up the area. Then have them make sad faces when there is no more work to be done.



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, Resources sheet 1 fish, CD player, Scout puppet, Bible



Materials

materials for boat, 2 bedsheets, Resources sheet 1 fish, Teaching Picture Jesus' Resurrection, bread



Before Class

Prepare a boat large enough for the children to sit in. The boat could be a masking-tape shape on the floor, chairs arranged in a boat shape, or cardboard boxes cut and taped together to form a boat shape.

Teaching Tips

If needed, print and cut out additional fish from the Resources CD.

Also included on the CD is a printable file of the Bible story. Print the story and place it in your Bible. Open your Bible as you tell the story.

Materials

Resources CD track 7 and "Jesus Lives!" printable file, CD player



Materials

Resources CD Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bibles



Sing and Pray

Sing "He Is Alive" and "Jesus Is the Christ."

PRAY: **Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to earth. He died for us. We are very happy that ♥ Jesus is alive!**

Bring out Scout holding a fish. SAY: **Scout, have you been fishing?** Have him whisper to you and respond. **Today's story is about 153 fish? That's a lot of fish, Scout. Let's find out what happened.**

Bible Time

Gather children outside the boat area. Guide them to act out the story.

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 who did not love Jesus put Him on a cross to die. They did not believe Jesus was God's Son. Jesus' followers were sad when He died.** Have children make sad faces. **After He died, His body was placed in a tomb, and a big stone covered the opening. 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, God sent an angel to roll that stone away and God brought Jesus back to life! What a happy day! Jesus' followers were happy He was alive.** Children show happy faces. **We are happy ♥ Jesus is alive too.**

Later some of Jesus' followers were waiting for Him in Galilee. While they were waiting, they fished. Children get into the boat and pretend to fish, using sheets as nets. **Jesus' followers fished all night, but they did not catch any.** Have children pretend to fish and then show frustration.

When morning came, the men saw a man on the beach. The man told them to fish on the right side of the boat. When they did, the fishermen caught 153 fish—so many fish that they couldn't get them into the boat! Have children throw the sheets into the "water." Throw the fish onto the sheets. Have children pull nets into the boat.

John, one of the fishermen, realized that the man was Jesus. Peter, another fisherman, jumped into the water and swam to Jesus. Show picture.

When all the fishermen got to the shore, Jesus served them fish and some bread. Give each child a slice of bread. **The people were very happy that ♥ Jesus is alive!**

Bible Review

Before class, print "Jesus Lives!" from the CD and practice the motions. Play the Bible story activity and lead children in the motions.

ASK: **What did the men who didn't love Jesus do to Him?**

Who brought Jesus back to life?

Why were Jesus' followers happy? (Jesus is alive.)

Bible Memory John 20:31

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

SAY: **After Jesus died and came back to life, He showed us that He is God's Son. Our Bible Memory talks about Jesus.** As a child holds the Bible, read the verse together; then do the motions.

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.**

Quick Step Get Hooked on Jesus Mobile

SAY: ♥ Jesus is alive! That is good news. We need to tell people that ♥ Jesus is alive! Let's make mobiles to give away so we can tell the good news that Jesus is alive.

As you assist children in making their mobiles, talk about the 153 fish and ways to tell someone the good news that Jesus is alive. Encourage children to give away their mobiles and to tell the good news.

ASK: **What is our good news?** Guide the children to say the Bible Memory.
Who will you give your mobile to?

Especially for 4s!

Before class, cut out and hole-punch the pieces. Then 4s can assemble the mobiles and talk about whom they will give them to.

Good News Stone



Sing "He Is Alive." SAY: **In today's story, we learned that a big stone was put in front of the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. After God sent an angel to roll away the stone, who was inside the tomb? . . . No one! Because ♥ Jesus is alive! He did not stay dead. Jesus' followers told everyone the good news that Jesus is alive.**

Give each child a rock and a sticker. **We can tell everyone the good news too. Here is a stone to remind us that the tomb was empty. Let's put a sticker of Jesus on our stones.** Do so. Sing "He Is Alive" again. Then encourage children to give their rocks to someone they will tell the good news to. Take time to pray for the people who will receive their stones.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus' followers find out about Him?** (Jesus is alive!)

Who are you going to share your stone with?

Good News! Game

SAY: **When Jesus came back to life, His followers were very happy to see Him. They had an important message to share—♥ Jesus is alive. That is our good news too. Let's share the good news that ♥ Jesus is alive.**

Play a game like Duck, Duck, Goose. Have children sit in a circle. Select one child to go around the circle, tapping heads and saying "Good news!" and then stop behind a child and say "Jesus is alive!" This child jumps up and names a way to share the good news that Jesus is alive. The two children then trade places, and the second child proceeds around the circle tapping heads and saying "Good news!" Continue until all have had a turn.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus' followers have to share?**
What good news about Jesus do you want to share?

Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and a copy of *Heart Tugs*. Mention to the parents the A-L-I-V-E Cheer they can do at home with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Materials

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



Materials

Resources CD track 1, CD player, flat rocks, Jesus stickers



Teaching Tip

If you have a smaller class, set up a simple maze. Have one child walk through the maze. When he returns, he can say to the next child in line, "Good news—Jesus is alive!" Then the second child can proceed through the maze. Let the children go through the maze in different ways—hopping, skipping, etc.

**Special Unit:
Jesus' Resurrection
Extra Hour**
See the table of
contents.

Jesus Lives!

Scripture: John 21:1-13

Bible Memory: John 20:31

"Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God." (ICB)

"Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God." (KJV)

Focus: ♥ Jesus is alive!



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Good news and bad news. The birth of a child; the death of a loved one. These extremes are a part of our lives. And nothing was more heartrending than the roller coaster of emotions that Jesus' disciples went through during the last weeks of His life: the death of Lazarus and his healing; the crowds of the triumphal entry who turned against Jesus; Jesus' death and His resurrection. It is that last, precious good news that we share with our children today: ♥ Jesus is alive!

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 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**
Happy News Waterpaint
-  Happy and Sad Food
-  Happy and Sad Movements

- Immerse Materials**
- *Make-n-Share* WATERPAINT™ page for Jesus' Resurrection
 - *Resources* CD

- Other Materials**
- cups of water, paintbrushes, paper towels
 - crackers, squeezable cheese, paper plates, napkins
 - CD player, scarves



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, *Teaching Picture* Jesus' Resurrection, *Resources* CD "Jesus Lives!" Bible story activity and Special Unit Bible Memory Motions printable files

- CD player, Bible, paper lunch bag, toy boat, plastic fish, stick, bread

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**
Scout Puppet Story
-  A-L-I-V-E Cheer
- Saying Good-bye**

- Scout puppet, *Resources* CD Fish printable file
- *Heart Tugs* Jesus' Resurrection issue
- *Heart Tugs* Jesus' Resurrection issue

- pencils

More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of the activities on this page to help children explore what makes people happy and sad.

Focus

♥ Jesus is alive!

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Gather children together to sing “He Is Alive!”, using instruments.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step Happy News Waterpaint

SAY: There are lots of reasons we feel happy and lots of reasons we feel sad. Today we are going to talk about one reason we feel happy—♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s paint some pictures with water and talk about being happy and sad.

Guide the children to brush the water onto their pictures. Talk about being happy and sad as the children work.

ASK: What makes you feel happy? sad?

When was the last time you were happy? sad?

Who do you tell when you are happy?

Who comforts you when you are sad?

Happy and Sad Food

SAY: Our Bible story today is about hearing good news after hearing sad news. The good news is ♥ Jesus is alive! Let’s talk about being happy and sad as we prepare a snack.

Give each child two crackers on a paper plate. Help children create happy and sad faces on their crackers, using the squeezable cheese. Talk about what makes the children happy and sad.

ASK: When have you been happy? When have you been sad?

What do you do when you are happy?

What do you do when you are sad?

Happy and Sad Movements

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about hearing something sad and hearing something happy. ♥ Jesus is alive! That’s the happy news. Let’s listen to some happy and sad songs while we play with our scarves.

Give each child a scarf. Play the recorded segments of song that are cheerful and solemn sounding. Guide children to wave the scarves over their heads when they hear happy songs and lay the scarves over their heads when they hear sad songs.

ASK: When do you feel happy?

When do you feel sad?

Especially for 4s!



Demonstrate various ways to wave the scarves before beginning the song. Have the children follow you the first time. Then pick a child leader for the children to follow the second time.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Make-n-Share

WATERPAINT™ page for Jesus’ Resurrection lesson, cups of water, paintbrushes (or cotton swabs), paper towels



Materials

crackers, squeezable cheese (or cookies and squeezable icing), paper plates, napkins



Teaching Tip

Check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative one available.

Materials

Resources CD track 10, CD player, scarves (optional: CD with happy and sad songs)



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, *Teaching*
Picture Jesus' Resurrection, Bible



Materials

Resources CD track 7
and "Jesus Lives!"
printable file, CD player



Something More!

After the children have acted out the story, SAY: **I'm going to serve you breakfast too.**

Then serve the children some pancakes.

Materials

paper lunch bag, toy
boat, plastic fish, stick,
bread



Materials

Resources CD track 4
and Special Unit Bible
Memory Motions printable file,
CD player, Bible



More! Sing and Pray

Sing "He Is Alive."

PRAY: **Thank You, God, for many wonderful things, especially for Jesus, who is alive.**

Ask questions about the picture. (Examples: Why do you think this man is in the water? Who is the man on the beach?) SAY: **Let's open the Bible, God's special book, to the New Testament book called John, chapter 21, and find out what happened.** Show the New Testament part of the Bible; then show John 21 as you begin Bible Time.

Bible Time—Another Way!

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

ASK: **How many of you love Jesus? Let's smile.** Have children do so. **Jesus' followers loved Jesus too. And they were happy because Jesus was alive. But the Bible tells us about a very sad time. Did you know that there were some people who did not like Jesus?**

One Friday Jesus' followers were sad because the people who did not like Jesus had put Jesus on a cross to die. Show me a sad face. Have children do so. **I think that is how Jesus' followers must have looked when Jesus died. After Jesus died, His body was put in a tomb. A tomb is like a cave. And a huge stone covered the opening of the tomb. But something amazing was about to happen!**

Early Sunday morning God sent an angel to roll that huge stone away. When Jesus' followers 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' followers looked then? Encourage the children to show happy faces.

Let's act out our Bible story to see what happened on a day after Jesus came back to life. Play the activity, guiding children with the motions.

More! Bible Review

Place all items in bag. SAY: **Today's Bible story is about a happy time for Jesus' followers. Let's remember the story by looking at what is in this bag.** One by one, pull an item out of the bag and have children guess how the item relates to the story. They could retell that portion of the story.

ASK: **Why were Jesus' followers glad to see Him?** (Jesus was alive!)

What did Jesus do for His followers? (helped them catch fish, made breakfast for them)

More! Bible Memory John 20:31

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

Have a child hold the Bible opened to John 20:31. SAY: **Today's Bible Memory tells us about Jesus. Jesus is important because He is the Son of God. Let's read our Bible Memory from the book of John in the New Testament.** Play "Jesus Is the Christ" as you read the verse and do the motions together. Then sing the song and do the motions together.

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 “Scout’s Happy News”

Before class, print and cut out fish from the CD. Prepare enough fish for each child to take one home.

Scout comes out hopping. SAY: **Look! Scout’s smiling. What could make him so happy?** Scout whispers to you. **Scout says he had a lot of good things happen to him today. He rolled in the grass. He ran with his friends who gave him a bone.** Scout whispers to you. **What? You had one unusual thing happen too?** Scout disappears and then returns, holding a fish. **Scout, where did you get that fish?** Scout whispers to you.

While Scout was doing his happy things, he noticed something unusual. The children were giving these paper fish to people and telling them good news—Jesus is alive! Scout saw a little girl give a fish to her neighbor and say “Jesus is alive!” He saw a boy give a fish to his friend and say “I’m happy that Jesus is alive.” Then one of the children handed Scout a fish. The children laughed and shouted together, “Jesus is alive!” Scout was happy that he could play and hop and run. But Scout knew that the really good news is about Jesus. ♥ Jesus is alive! Scout gives a happy bark.

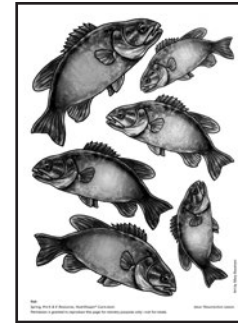
Have Scout give each child a fish to share with someone this week. Talk about whom they will give the fish to and what they will say.

ASK: **What is our good news?** (♥ Jesus is alive!)

Who can you tell?

Materials

Scout puppet, *Resources*
CD Fish printable file



Materials

Heart Tugs Jesus’
Resurrection issue,
pencils (or crayons)



A-L-I-V-E Cheer

SAY: **Jesus is alive! Jesus’ followers were very happy to see Jesus alive again. That’s good news for us too. Let’s cheer about our good news.**

Practice the cheer included in today’s *Heart Tugs*. Talk about what it means to be alive. **Jesus was dead, but then He was alive again.** Have the children trace the letters to the word *alive*. Discuss who the children can tell that ♥ Jesus is alive.

ASK: **What good news did Jesus’ followers find out about Him?** (He was alive.)

What are some ways we can share this good news?

Especially for 4s!



Younger children may be more successful at tracing the letters with their finger rather than a pencil or crayon. Point to the letters one by one and name them. Then perform the cheer together.

Saying Good-bye

- Play the Good News! Game from first hour until parents arrive.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to practice the A-L-I-V-E Cheer at home with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.21stcc.com.

Cleanup

As the children help to clean up, encourage them to high-five one another and say “Jesus is alive! That’s good news!”

