

for use as
STEP 1



**Resurrection
Focus:**

Surprise! He's
alive!

**Resurrection
Bible Basis:**

Luke 24:1-12

**Resurrection
Memory Verse:**

“Why do you look for the living
among the dead? He is not here;
he has risen!
—Luke 24:5b-6a

Students will watch a video about some surprising facts as an introduction to a lesson on Jesus’ surprising resurrection from the dead.

Materials:

- Internet access

As students join your group today, share a bizarre but true event that happened to you. (These can include coincidences and God-ordained encounters.)

If time permits, invite your students to share hard-to-believe stories of their own with the rest of the group.

- **What Christians believe to be God-ordained encounters many people like to call “coincidences.” Why do you think this is so?** (Answers will vary. Students may observe that some people don’t believe in God or don’t believe in a God who is actively involved in people’s lives.)

The following video clip is about bizarre facts that are hard to believe. They are true though. We’ll discuss later about what was hardest to believe!

Share the following video [1:51; stop at 1:38]:
15 Interesting Facts that You Won't Believe | Quick Fact
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SC-B5uK9AE>

- **What hard-to-believe fact did you find most surprising?** (Answers will vary.)
- **Why do you think we don’t know more about many of these bizarre facts?** (Accept all reasonable answers; there are no wrong answers.)

Learning interesting facts is just that: Interesting! However, believing bizarre facts about a risen Jesus—today’s lesson topic—is more than interesting. It leads to a changed life, a faith in God who is in heaven, and awareness of how important it is to share this hard-to-believe, yet life-changing story with others. Let’s look into it.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

middle school



Resurrection / April 9, 2023

Surprise!

for use as
STEP 4 ▶

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Luke 24:1-12

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Memory Verse:**

"Why do you look for the living
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Materials:

- Internet access
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

Although Jesus had predicted His own resurrection on numerous occasions, the women and the disciples did not understand what He was saying so they were very surprised to find the tomb empty.

➤ **How do you think you would have reacted when you found the tomb empty that morning? Why?** (Allow students to share what they think it might have been like.)

Have your students look up and read Romans 8:11: If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit, who lives in you (Romans 8:11).

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home.) Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home.) Have your students copy the following on an index card or piece of paper: *God raised Jesus from the dead, and He will raise _____, too.* Encourage each student to write their name in the blank on their index card.

➤ **In times of uncertainty, how can these words encourage us?** (Allow students to share; some may mention finding it comforting that God is in control over death, that He has a plan and future for us, etc.)

Make yourself available to meet with any student who expresses a desire to talk with someone about salvation. Use this week as an opportunity to get more directly connected with your students via emails, texts, and/or video chats. Challenge your students to reach out to their friends using these methods to share the gospel. Encourage them in the fact that this unprecedented circumstance is a unique opportunity where people are open to the gospel as never before.

End your time together thanking Jesus for His resurrection and the life it brings to us.

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