

Kid's Church - Praise Place

Sunday, March 29

This Sunday's lesson is from John 11, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. I have included a preschool friendly summary, with three choices of how to tell the story with your children. There is a Youtube link to the story for your child to watch as well.

I miss your kiddos, I hope you are all finding a silver lining.

Ways to tell the story:

The sleeping game (it's ok.. Sometimes we all need this trick)

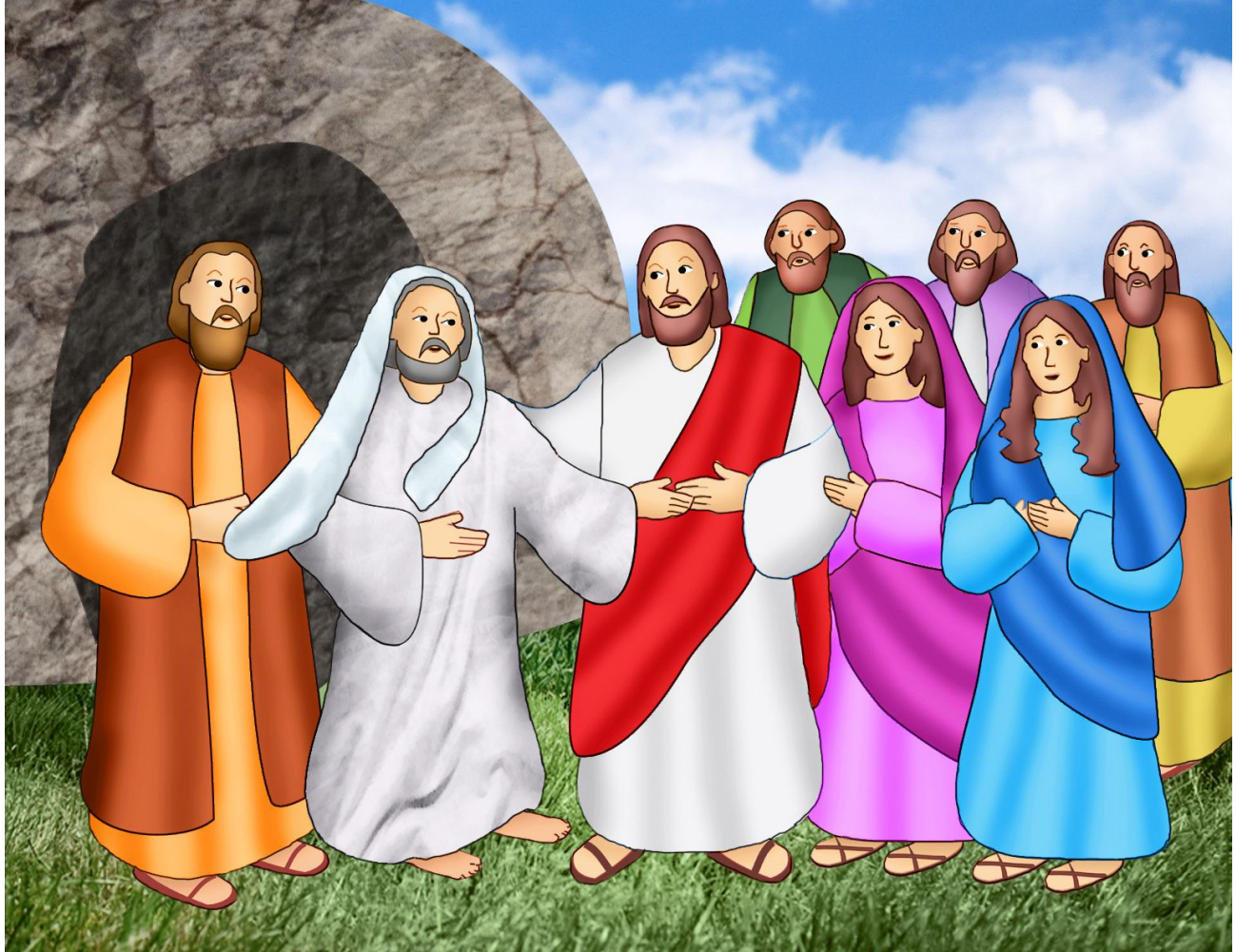
1. Have the children spread out and lay down on the floor. Instruct them to avoid moving or touching each other.
2. On the count of three, everyone should pretend like they are asleep.
3. Walk among them praising particular children for their convincing performance. "Wow, I am really starting to think _____is asleep."
4. Offer them the extra fun of tricking another grown up. Challenge them to convince another family.
5. Use this few minutes of *nap time* to teach the Bible story. You could say, "Imagine your having a dream about this ..."
6. Use a three count to "wake up" the children after a few minutes.

Puzzle - Print the picture at the beginning of this lesson and cut it in pieces and have them put the puzzle together as you read the story.

Drawing - Tell the children to draw the main characters as you read about them.

Youtube link to this Sunday's story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dca8SSsXCmM>



Jesus had some very good friends named Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Mary, Martha and Lazarus were brothers and sisters. They lived in the town of Bethany. Jesus liked to go to Bethany and visit his friends.

One time, when Jesus was far away preaching about God, Lazarus got sick. Mary and Martha were very worried about their brother. They thought he might die.

“Let’s send someone to go and get our friend Jesus,” the sisters said. “Jesus can help Lazarus get better.” So Mary and Martha sent a messenger to find Jesus.

When the messengers found Jesus they asked him to hurry to Lazarus’ house because he was very sick. Jesus said, “Don’t worry; this sickness will not end in

death.” Jesus kept teaching the people for two more days before he travelled to Bethany.

After the two days had passed Jesus told the disciples, “We have to go to Bethany because Lazarus has fallen asleep. I have to go wake him up.” When he saw the disciples did not understand he explained, “Lazarus is dead.”

The disciples were very confused while they were travelling to the town of Bethany. What did all this mean? How did Jesus know that Lazarus was dead? How could you “wake up” a dead person?

Finally, Jesus and the disciples arrived in Bethany. Lots of people had come to Mary and Martha’s house. Many of them were crying. Jesus was not surprised because he knew that they were all crying about Lazarus. Lazarus had been dead for four days.

Martha went out to meet Jesus. Martha was very sad, “Jesus,” she said, “if you had gotten here earlier then Lazarus would not have died!”

Jesus said to her, “Don’t worry, Martha, your brother will rise again.” Martha did not understand. She thought Jesus meant that Lazarus would be alive again when he got to heaven. She went to go get Mary.

When Mary heard that Jesus was in town she quickly went to meet him. She was so sad about Lazarus that she was crying very loudly when she said, “Jesus, if you had been here sooner then Lazarus would not have died.”

Jesus knew that everything would be all right but he was very sorry to see Mary so sad. Jesus knows what it is like to feel very sad. He cared so much for Mary that he cried too.

Then Jesus asked someone to take him to the place where Lazarus was buried. When Lazarus had died the family had to take care of his body. In those times they put a cloth over the dead person’s head. Then they wrapped the hands and feet in strips of cloths. After that they used long strips of cloths to wrap around and around the body until the person was all wrapped up. Then they put the body in a cave or a tomb and put a big stone over the door. Lots of family members were often buried in the same cave or tomb.

Lazarus was buried in a cave. Lots of people were gathered around it. When Jesus arrived at the cave he asked the people to roll the stone out of the entrance. Martha gasped, "Jesus, how can we do that? Lazarus has been dead for four days. "

"Martha, just you wait and see. If you believe then you will see the glory of God."

The people took away the big stone. After Jesus prayed he called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" What was Jesus doing? Didn't he know that Lazarus was dead? What do you think was happening?

Everyone looked at the entrance of the tomb and guess what they saw. Lazarus was coming out of the tomb and he was alive! Everyone was so happy! Lazarus was alive. There was only one problem. Lazarus was alive but he could not move. He was still all wrapped up in the burial clothes!

Jesus told the crowd, "Go ahead, and take his grave clothes off so he can move around."

What a happy day this must have been in Bethany. At the beginning of the day everyone had been sad but now they were happy. God and Jesus know what it is like to be sad. When we are sad we can pray to God and he will help us feel better.