

BRIDGE KIDS AT HOME // THE GOOD NEWS OF EASTER

MARCH 14, 2021 : WEEK 4 : WHERE DID JESUS GO?

TOPICS

Easter, Heaven, Jesus, Resurrection

BIBLE VERSE

"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2 NKJV

Begin by asking the children how many rooms they believe there are in the largest hotel in the world. Then repeat this verse several times, and have the children memorize the last part, "I am going there to prepare a place for you." Ask the children who said these words (*Jesus*). Then ask them how many rooms they believe there will be in Heaven and how this makes them feel.

BIBLE STORY

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the story about the resurrection of Jesus from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

Introduction:

After Jesus was placed into the tomb, some of His disciples came to visit Him. They wanted to put spices on His body. But when they reached the tomb, they were surprised to find Jesus missing. As we read our story from the Bible today, see if you can tell where Jesus went.

Read Mark 16:1-7, 19 (The Resurrection)

Discussion Questions:

1. Did the disciples go early in the morning or late at night to the tomb? (*Early in the morning.*)
2. How did they roll away the stone after they arrived at the tomb? (*The stone was already rolled away.*)
3. Was Jesus still in the tomb? (*No.*)
4. Where did Jesus go after talking to His disciples? (*Heaven.*)
5. Why did Jesus go to Heaven? (*To prepare a place for us.*)

FUN TIME

Where did Jesus Go? (Activity is below.)

CLOSING ACTIVITY

In the Tomb, Out of the Tomb (Game is below.)

FUN TIME // WHERE DID JESUS GO?

In this fun activity, children will get an idea about where Jesus went after He died on the cross, and what He is preparing for those who believe in Him.

TOPICS:

Easter, Heaven, Jesus

MATERIALS:

2 or 3 old plain white T-shirts
1 large plain flat sheet (beige or white)
1 large cardboard box (tall enough for little children to pass through like a door)



DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

PREPARATION:

Before class, make a tomb out of the cardboard box, where opposite ends are open. Stand the box upright and make a passageway (curtain) out of the large sheet. Secure left and right curtain halves to the top of the box on one end, letting them flow freely, but able to come together. The children should not be able to see inside the tomb through the curtains. Leave the opposite end of the box open. Cut the T-shirts into strips about 3" wide and 12" long, at least one for each child. Place the strips of linen inside the box.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

After setting up the tomb, let each child go through one at a time. Have a helper on the other end to give one of the strips of linen to each child as he or she exits the other end. Tell them not to show it to anyone until everyone has been through the tomb.

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

After Jesus died on the cross, His beloved friends put him into a tomb. A few days latter, when Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James visited the tomb they saw something, but not Jesus. What did they see? Where did Jesus go? Let's find out what Mary and Mary found inside. *(At this point, have the children line up single file to enter the tomb one at a time and take a strip of linen when they exit.)*

Well, Jesus wasn't in the tomb. They only found strips of linen in the tomb, probably similar to the strip you are holding. Instead, Jesus was alive. Do you know where Jesus went? Jesus said that in His Father's house are many rooms, and He is going there to prepare them for us. Would you like to live in one of these rooms in Heaven?

Note: Younger children will not fully understand why Jesus died, but you can present the basic idea that because men and women continued to disobey God, Jesus took the blame. This way God would not punish those who believed in Jesus. After Jesus died and rose from the dead, He went back to His Father's house to prepare a room for everyone.

CLOSING ACTIVITY // IN THE TOMB, OUT OF THE TOMB

Easter Sunday school game: Kids love this energy burning game. It can be adjusted to fit many different topics and themes.

TOPICS:

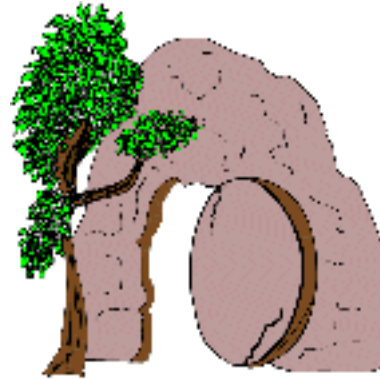
Easter, Lazarus, Resurrection, Just for Fun

MATERIALS:

String, Yarn or Tape.

DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes



PREPARATION:

Draw a long line using yarn or masking tape (or use an imaginary line).

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Have the children line up in a straight line facing the leader on the right side of the line. The right side of the line is "In the Tomb" and the left side of the line is "Out of the Tomb." The leader yells either "In the tomb," or "Out of the tomb." Upon hearing the command, the children jump from one side to the other. If the children jump in the wrong direction or don't jump to the other side when it's a valid command they are out of the game. The last player still in wins the game. The leader will try and get the players to jump incorrectly by pointing to one side as they yell to jump to the opposite side or by repeating the same side and/or changing the pace. Game can be easily adapted to fit other themes.