

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Life Savers (One large bag)
- "Direction Story" Activity Page
- Gloves (For passing out Life Savers)
- Napkins

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is Alive
John 18–21:14

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**You can trust Jesus
with your life.**

KEY QUESTION

**What does it mean
to trust Jesus?**

MEMORY VERSE

**"Whoever believes in me . . .
rivers of living water will flow
from within them."
John 7:38, NIV**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Give the bag of Life Savers to one of the kids in your class.
- Direct the kids to listen carefully to the story you're about to read and to pass the candy accordingly when they hear the words RIGHT, LEFT, BACK, ACROSS.
 - "BACK" indicates sending the candy back in the opposite direction
 - "ACROSS" indicates passing the candy to a kid across from you in the circle
- Read the story in a clear voice—emphasizing the directional words.
- At the end of the story, share the candy with the whole group. (Use gloves to distribute Life Savers and napkins to the kids.)
- When the story is over, ask the following discussion questions:
 - How many of you have heard this story before? What does it make you think about?
 - What questions or thoughts do you have about this story? *(If possible, let kids who are experienced with this story talk with their friends who have questions—be ready to step in and provide guidance.)*
 - In the beginning of our game, there was just one big bag of Life Savers. But at the end, we shared the candy with everyone!
 - Jesus didn't come just to save some people—people who are really "good," or who go to church all the time, or kids who know all the answers—Jesus came to save everyone! Anyone can decide to trust Jesus.
 - If you decide to trust Jesus with your life, it means that you agree that Jesus can save people from sin—from the choices we make that go against God's ways—so that we can have a relationship with God that lasts forever!
 - You can pray and tell Jesus that you want to follow Him, be forgiven for the wrong things you've done, and to live a life that shows the world that God loves everyone!

Jesus had been traveling RIGHT around the area of Jerusalem in Judea. Many people LEFT their normal schedules to follow Him. The disciples had LEFT their homes and businesses to follow Him too. Wherever Jesus went, people followed Him RIGHT and LEFT.

Jesus showed the world God's love—He healed many people. When the people who had seen and heard Jesus went BACK to their homes, they talked about what He had done. He walked ACROSS towns and cities, telling people about God's love and His desire for everyone to have a relationship with Him.

There were religious leaders who didn't like this and wanted to get rid of Jesus RIGHT away. They LEFT their scheme in the hands of one of His friends who would betray Jesus. After a special dinner where Jesus went RIGHT around the table washing His friends' feet to show His love, they all LEFT that room. They walked to the Mount of Olives, going RIGHT and LEFT and RIGHT again, BACK and LEFT and ACROSS until Jesus found a quiet place to pray.

While Jesus was praying, a big crowd came RIGHT towards Him. Jesus was arrested, tried, and sentenced to die. ACROSS the whole countryside, everything went dark. Jesus died, but God used the plans of evil people to save all of the world from sin.

Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead. The tomb was LEFT empty. Some of Jesus' friends, some women, LEFT early in the morning to come to the tomb. Jesus appeared to them! Jesus was alive! So they ran RIGHT away to tell the disciples. The disciple John ran BACK to the tomb to see where Jesus had been buried, but all that was LEFT there were the burial cloths.

Later, Jesus appeared to His friends on the beach. They were fishing in boats. But when they knew it was Him, they LEFT their boats, swam RIGHT through the water, and ran ACROSS the shore. Jesus was waiting RIGHT next to a fire where He had LEFT some fish cooking while they talked. He brought His friends close, to His LEFT and His RIGHT, to tell them important things about God's love.

Jesus proved that He is alive and God's plan can be trusted. You can make a RIGHT choice to trust Jesus. When you do, you won't be LEFT wondering how you can be RIGHT with God. Jesus gave His life so you can have a relationship with Him that will last forever!

What to Do:

Provide one copy for each class.

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED:

- **Prayer Card: Day 3** (Located in kids' bags)
- **Pencils**
- **Pins** (If you haven't already, pass out pins for day three and attach to lanyards)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is Alive
John 18–21:14

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure kids have a pencil, prayer card, and a pin for day three.
- Direct the kids' attention to the Life Preserver icon on the prayer card and pin.
- Invite the kids to turn over their prayer card and write one way they're trusting Jesus this year— maybe for the first time, to start a relationship with Him; maybe trusting Jesus to help them make better choices; or by being brave enough to share about Him with others.
- Once kids are finished, close your group time in prayer.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**You can trust Jesus
with your life.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to save us from sin, and to show us how to live in friendship with You. Please help us to trust Jesus with our whole lives—in our thoughts and emotions and actions. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

KEY QUESTION

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