

Katie



The Sunday
School Lady



JOHN 11 LAZARUS

Scripture: John 11:17-44

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: 2 toilet paper rolls, construction paper

Ask:

Who can tell me what happened in our story last week? (Jesus told the people he was the good shepherd and the gate for the sheep.)

Summarize: If you remember from two weeks ago, when Jesus healed the man born blind, the Pharisees and teachers of the law were becoming very angry with Jesus. They tried to stone Jesus and kill him, but he escaped. In our story today, Jesus is going to go back to the place they tried to kill him. He is going because his friend Lazarus has died. His disciples don't really want him to go, but Jesus says that Lazarus has fallen asleep, and he needs to go wake him up. (Lazarus wasn't really sleeping, but Jesus meant he had died)

Read: John 11:17-37

Ask:

- How do you think the sisters felt in this story?
- They knew Jesus and had sent word to him that Lazarus was sick, but Jesus didn't come right away.
- Have you ever prayed for something, and you felt like God said no or didn't answer? Tell me about it.
- I wonder if Mary and Martha felt like that. They knew Jesus could have healed their brother, but he didn't come.
- Did anyone notice the next I AM statement that Jesus makes? (I am the resurrection and the life)
- Who can remember any other I AM statements he has made so far? (The gate, the good shepherd, the I AM, the bread of life)
- What did Jesus do when he saw the sisters crying?
- Jesus is compassionate. He hurts when we hurt, and he sees our tears. Here, he even sheds his own.

Play a Game:

Ask for volunteers. Divide the kids into equal groups (probably of four or five). Each group needs a toilet paper roll and a volunteer to be the Lazarus. The kids are going to race to wrap the person completely in the roll of toilet paper, leaving the nose open to breathe. The team that wins will be able to be the Lazarus for the next part of the story.

Read: John 11:38-44

Act it Out:

Have your Lazarus winner led to an area of the room where they can lay down in the tomb. Have someone act as Jesus, Mary, Martha, and the mourners. Play through the dialogue of the women telling Jesus if he had been there, their brother wouldn't have died. Have them weep together. Then have them go to the "tomb" and have Jesus call Lazarus out. Remove the toilet paper from Lazarus.

Do a Craft:

In order not to waste all the toilet paper, create a toilet paper flower and place it on construction paper as a reminder that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He turns ashes to beauty, and brings life from death, so we have a flower from our "grave clothes."

If you need a video for how to make a toilet paper flower, you can search toilet paper origami on YouTube. I will also include instructions for a simple one on the next page.

Apply:

This was a huge miracle that Jesus did. Because of this, the religious leaders tried all the more to kill Jesus. But they had a new problem. What would they do with Lazarus? He had a testimony that was incredible, and because of him, many were following Jesus. John 12 tells us that because of this, the leaders made a plan to kill him, too. He turns grave clothes to beauty, just like our TP turned to flowers. He turns sin and shame into a story of salvation that brings him glory.

Our stories of what Jesus has done for us are powerful. They can cause others to see Jesus for who he truly is and follow him. So is your life a testimony of what God has done? Are you willing to share about Jesus with others? Let's think about some things God has done in our lives that we can share with others so they might know him, too.

Memorize: John 11:25-26

Close in Prayer



Step 1:

Take 4 squares of toilet paper. Fold the first square in half and then in half again. Set it aside.

Step 2:

Set the second square before you like a diamond. scrunch it together like a pleat, pinching in the middle. Either twist it to (kind of) hold its shape, have a friend hold it, or put a clothespin on it). Do this with all remaining squares of TP

Step 3:

Lay the scrunched squares over one another in a flower shape on top of the first square from step one.

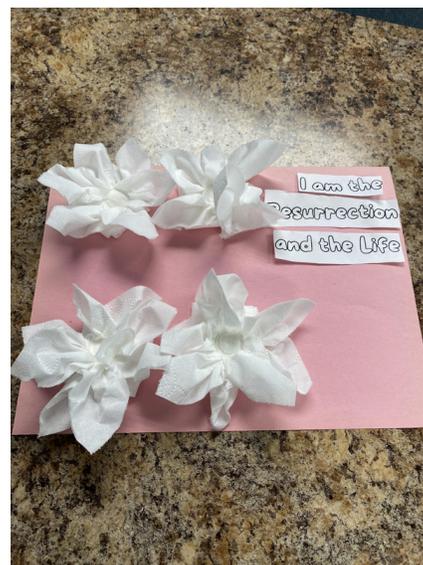


Step 4:

Turn on a faucet and then turn it off. Once it has stopped dripping, press the TP flower under the faucet "stamping it" with the rim of the water. This will cause the flower to stick together.

Step 5:

Glue the flower to construction paper and add the words "I am the Resurrection and the Life."



I am the
Resurrection
and the Life

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