

## Jesus Is Alive and With Us All the Time

### Bible Point **Jesus Is Alive**

#### Bible Verse

Jesus is alive (adapted from Mark 16:6b).

#### Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will ■ know that Jesus is alive,
- learn that Jesus is with them all the time, and
  - express joy that Jesus lives.

#### Bible Basis

- **Jesus is alive and with us all the time.**

After Jesus had died on the cross, the disciples were sad and frightened. For three years, Jesus had been their guide, their protection, their hope. Now he was dead, and they didn't know what to do; they were afraid, and all hope was gone. When he rose from the dead, they likely didn't immediately realize how all that had changed. Before his death, Jesus could be with them only physically, and only with a limited number of people at any given time. After his resurrection, Jesus was different. He could be with all of them—and all of us—all of the time! No longer is he bound by the confines of a human body, and he promises us in Matthew 28:20 not only that he is capable of being with us all the time, but that he *will* be with us always!

It's easy to get into a habit of doing everything in our own power and with no consideration of anyone but ourselves. But if we continue doing that, we eventually run into something we can't handle and are forced to turn to Jesus. How much better off we'd all be if we learned to rely on him all the time!

#### ■ *Bible Song*

SUPPLIES: *Bible, CD player*

Say: Who is alive? Our Bible verse today tells us that Jesus is alive. Show children Mark 16:6 in the Bible. The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God and Jesus. Let's sing a song about the Bible. Lead children in singing "God's Special Book" to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

This is God's special book.  
 Yes, it's God's book you see!  
 I learn about all God has done  
 And his love for me!  
*(Repeat.)*

Bible!

## ■ Bible Story: Jesus Is Alive

SUPPLIES: towel, PLASTIC egg, 'nest' made in a small bowl lined with appropriate material (raffia/crepe paper/leaves), toy or stuffed animal baby duck bird or (if not available use paper cutout.). Jesus and tomb CRAFT from 4/11-12, Butterfly CRAFT from Week 4/4-5.

Place the towel beside you.

**Say:** Today we'll learn that Jesus is alive. We'll also learn that Jesus is with us all the time.

**Ask:** • Do you see a little bird? (No.)

• Where is the little bird? (In the egg; in the nest.)

**Say:** We can't see the bird, but we know it's in the egg. Let's peek inside.

Let child touch the nest and look inside the plastic egg.

Let's pretend we're birds hatching. Scoot close together in our little nest.

Spread the towel over child and yourself.

**Then say:** Ooo, it's dark inside our big egg, but we're not scared because we know that Jesus is alive and with us all the time! Poke at the eggshell, little birds, and we'll hatch.

Tap the sides of the towel with your hands, and then slowly slide the towel off.

**Say:** Oh, look at the pretty world. Flap your wings! It's lots of fun to be alive. Set the towel aside. We can't see birds in eggs, but we know birds are there. What else have we talked about that hides inside something before we see it fly away? (A butterfly flies out of a cocoon.)

Butterflies are alive in the springtime and so are baby birds, bugs, and flowers. Springtime is a happy time!

Put the baby duck and butterfly safely aside.

**Say:** But long ago there were people who weren't happy. They were mean people who didn't like Jesus and didn't think he was God's Son. The mean people put Jesus on a cross, and he died. Can you find the cross? Have children find and touch the cross. Jesus' friends were very sad. His body was laid in a tomb (cup your left hand and hold it sideways), and a big stone was rolled in front of the tomb (place your right fist in front of your cupped palm). What a sad time. Then something wonderful happened!

**Say:** If you have the craft from last week use that to demonstrate this part of story. Here's the tomb where they laid Jesus. And here's the stone in front of the tomb. God sent an angel to roll that big stone away.

Demonstrate how to roll away the stone; then replace it.

**Say:** You can roll away the stone, too, and peek inside the tomb. Do you think Jesus is in there? Let child roll the stone away from the tomb. Each time a child peeks in the tomb, whisper: Jesus isn't here.

Jesus is alive.

God's angel rolled away the stone and told Jesus' friends that Jesus is alive. Isn't that wonderful? Let's clap to show how happy we are that Jesus is alive. Lead children in clapping.

Point to the egg and say: The egg is empty because the bird is alive. Point to the cocoon. The cocoon is empty because the butterfly is alive.

Point to the tomb. And the tomb was empty because Jesus is alive.

**Say:** What else is alive. Have children think of things they see when they go for walks that are alive.

Jesus' friends were glad to see Jesus. They were happy that Jesus is alive. Jesus prayed for his friends (fold your hands and encourage children to follow). And Jesus loved his friends. Turn to someone and say, "I love you." Pause while children respond.

Then Jesus said he was going to live in heaven. Jesus told his friends to tell everyone that he's alive. I'll count to 3, and then we'll say, "Jesus is alive!" Ready? One, two, three...Jesus is alive!

**Say:** Spring is a wonderful time of new life, and we're so glad that Jesus is alive. Let's sing a song to show how happy we are for new life in Jesus.

## ■ *Jesus Is Alive Today*

Lead children in singing “Jesus Is Alive Today” (adapted from Mark 16:6b) to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.

Jesus cares for me. (*Cover your heart; then hop.*)

Jesus cares for me. (*Cover your heart; then hop.*)

Jesus is alive today. (*Wave your hands in the air.*)

Jesus cares for me. (*Cover your heart; then hop.*)

Jesus is with me. (*Point to yourself; then hop.*)

Jesus is with me. (*Point to yourself; then hop.*)

Jesus is alive today. (*Wave your hands in the air.*)

Jesus is with me. (*Point to yourself; then hop.*)

Jesus loves me so. (*Hug yourself; then hop.*)

Jesus loves me so. (*Hug yourself; then hop.*)

Jesus is alive today. (*Wave your hands in the air.*)

Jesus loves me so. (*Hug yourself; then hop.*)

Say: Jesus’ friends were so happy. They knew that Jesus is alive, and we know that Jesus is alive, too.

Jesus died, but came back to life again. He wants to be our forever friend. He will always be with us, wherever we go. What a good friend for us to have! Say it with me: Jesus is alive!

Springtime reminds us that new life is everywhere. Today we can add lively little birds to our bulletin board.

## Bible Craft

This week’s Bible Crafts for Jesus’ ASSENTION will be printed and posted at the church for Drive By pick up at DBCC on Monday 4/20.