



Jesus Appeared to the Disciples

Bible Passage: Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23

Key Passage: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Matthew 28:19-20**

Big Picture Question: What is our mission as believers? Our mission as believers is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Spirit.

Bottom Line: I can know Jesus is alive so I can trust Him and tell others about Him.

Christ Connection: Jesus prepared His disciples for a life of ministry. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us until He returns.

LARGE GROUP: Communicating God’s truth in engaging ways.

Say This: We are at a really cool part of God’s big story. Now remember, Jesus had been crucified and buried in a tomb, but we know that Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. Jesus appeared to Mary, and that same day, Jesus explained to two of His disciples how all of the Scriptures point to Him. Jesus was really busy after He raised from the dead! Listen to our Bible story to learn what Jesus did next. Our story this week is called “Jesus Appeared to the Disciples.”

Watch Video:

As believers and followers of Jesus, we have a mission. This mission comes from Jesus Himself, and He gave it to His disciples after He rose from the dead on the third day. This mission is also our big picture question. Our big picture question is, ***What is our mission as believers? Our mission as believers is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Spirit.***

When you have a great surprise, what do you want to do after getting it? *[Allow kids to answer, but make sure to point out that we usually want to share that great surprise with others.]*

Jesus’ appearing to the disciples was an amazing surprise. Although Mary and some of Jesus’ other followers had told the disciples that they had seen Jesus alive, the disciples were confused. They were hiding in a locked room, trying to make sense of what had happened, when suddenly **Jesus appeared to His disciples!**

The disciples were afraid at first, but Jesus calmed their fears. Jesus showed them His hands and His side, and He also ate fish to show that He was not a ghost. Jesus was really, truly, physically alive! Jesus’ disciples were so happy, they rejoiced. Then Jesus told them they had a job to do. He said that they were to tell everyone that He was alive.

Christ connection

Jesus, who had the power to defeat death, didn’t just give the disciples a job to do in their own



power. Jesus gave them power through the Holy Spirit so they could tell the world He is alive. Jesus is still alive today. As Christians, our job is to tell everyone that He is alive so that other people can believe the truth about Jesus and become His followers, or disciples.

What is our mission as believers? Our mission as believers is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit. We do that by telling people who Jesus is and what He has done to rescue us from sin and death. Then we wait to see the Holy Spirit move. Only God can change a person's heart, but we spread the gospel so everyone has a chance to hear.

Let's pray together and head out to small group.

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 40 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

1. Bible Story Review/Skills

What You Need: Story Point Poster, Bibles

What You Do:

- Distribute Bibles and guide kids to find the Book of Luke.
- Remind kids that the Book of Luke is in the division of the Bible called the Gospels.
- It was written by Luke, who was a doctor and a Gentile (non-Jew).
- Luke is the third book in the New Testament. Encourage kids to find Luke 24:36-49.
- Lead them to refer to the passage as they answer the following review questions:

What You Say " **Jesus appeared to His disciples.** He sent them out to tell people about Him. Jesus' disciples obeyed and the good news about Jesus spread. "

2. Discussion Questions:

- **What did Jesus say to His disciples when He appeared?** (*"Peace to you!" Luke 24:36*)
- **How did Jesus show the disciples that He was not a ghost?** (*He showed them His hands and side, Luke 24:39*)
- **What did Jesus say the disciples should tell people about?** (*repentance and forgiveness of sins, Luke 24:47*)

Now guide kids to discuss these questions:

- At least 500 people said they saw Jesus after His resurrection. **Why do you think we can believe their testimonies?**
- ***What is our mission as believers? Our mission as believers is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Spirit.***

3. Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, dry erase board and marker, markers, sticky notes

What You Do:

- Write the memory verse on a dry erase board.



- Invite all the kids to read the verse together.
- Then use sticky notes to cover four to six words of the key passage.
- Challenge kids to say it again.
- Then cover a few more words.
- Continue until you have covered all of the words and kids can say the memory verse from memory.

What You Say: “Our memory verse is called the Great Commission. A commission is something that you are commanded to do. All Christians are called to share the gospel with the world. It’s not always easy, but we can obey Jesus’ command because He has given us the Holy Spirit to help us.

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Prayer journals, Journal page (1 for each kid), markers/crayons, Bibles

What You Do:

- Distribute journal pages and pencils.
- Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page:
 - What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
 - What does the story teach me about myself?
 - Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
 - Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
 - How does this story help me to live on mission better?
- As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas and write in your small group journal.

What You Say: Pray, Thank God for His Word so we can know Him more. Pray that kids would believe by faith that Jesus is alive.

As adults arrive to pick up, tell kids to recite the memory verse to them.