



Week 3- The Miracle Morning!

Bible Story: Jesus Raised and Appears to Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)

Additional Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, Matthew 28:1-10, Revelation 1:17-18

Lesson Main Idea: Jesus' resurrection brings us joy and the promise of eternal life with Him.

Gospel Connection: Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene after His resurrection shows that He is alive and continues to meet us in our lives today. His victory over death is our assurance of eternal life, offering us everlasting joy and fellowship with Him.

Welcome and Icebreaker (5 -10 min)

Gather everyone around to sit in a circle, in an intimate conversation-style setting. Pass a basket of plastic eggs. Everyone is going to take an egg. When they open the egg, they have to show everyone what's inside. If there's a picture or object, they have to try to tell us what part of the Easter story it reminds us of. But here's the twist: one of the eggs is completely empty. If someone opens the empty egg, they win the round! And do you know why the empty egg is special? Because it reminds us of the empty tomb. After Jesus was placed in the tomb, the stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty—because Jesus is alive!

ONE80 MC:

Good morning everyone! It is Easter, such a special time in the Christian calendar to celebrate what Jesus has done for us. As an Ice breaker today, I am going to pass around this basket of eggs. I want you to each take one. When it is your turn, you are going to open your egg and share what part of the Easter story your picture reminds you of. The catch is that one egg is completely empty. If someone opens the empty egg, they win the round! And do you know why the empty egg is special? Because it reminds us of the empty tomb. After Jesus was placed in the tomb, the stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty—because Jesus is alive!

Debrief: What makes the Easter story so important is not that Jesus died- its that he didn't stay dead. That he conquered death and rose from the dead. This is the part that so many people tried to discount however more the 500 people witnessed this miracle and had encounters with Jesus after his resurrection. This changes everything. A dead saviour means that all is hopeless, but a saviour that cannot even be held by death is remarkable and changes EVERYTHING!!!

Open in Prayer (2–3 min)

Ad lib. Thank God for who He is. Thank Him for sending Jesus to die on the cross so that we can have a second chance. Thank Him for having power over death. Welcome Him into your teaching time, and ask Him to open your hearts as you read and study His word.

Bible Exploration – Jesus Knew Before It Happened

(If the group is large you may prefer to split the group and do the bible lesson in two groups)

Fastest finger first – Who can find John 20:1-17

ONE80 MC: The story we're reading today comes from the book of John. John was one of Jesus' closest friends and wrote his book to show people who Jesus is and how much He loves us. John wanted everyone to know that Jesus' resurrection means new life and hope for all of us.

READ: John 20:1-17

Early on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb. When she got there, she found something unexpected - the stone had been rolled away! Mary Magdalene was very sad because she thought Jesus was gone forever. But when she looked into the tomb, she saw two angels. They asked her why she was crying. Mary didn't recognize Jesus at first. She thought He was the gardener. But when Jesus said her name, she knew it was Him! Imagine how surprised and happy she must have felt. Jesus calling Mary's name shows how personal His love is for each of us. How will you feel when you hear Jesus call your name aloud? That's the promise we can keep - when we meet Jesus face-to-face, he will welcome us just like he welcomed Mary that morning.

Jesus told Mary to go and tell His disciples that He was alive. Mary ran to share the good news with them. Jesus' resurrection wasn't just for Mary; it was for everyone. He wants us all to know the joy of His victory over death.

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

Paul tells the early Christians about Jesus' resurrection and how many people saw Him alive. This helps us understand that Jesus' resurrection is real and that it's a promise of new life for everyone who believes in Him. Every time we remember Jesus' resurrection, we can feel joy and hope. It's a promise that we will have eternal life with Him.

READ: Revelation 1:17-18

Years later, Jesus appeared to John in a vision and reminded him that He is alive forever and ever and has power over death and the grave. This means that because Jesus is alive, we don't need to be afraid of anything - not even death itself! Knowing that Jesus is alive forever and

has power over everything can give us great comfort and joy. We can trust Him and begin our NEW Life right now through faith.

GOSPEL CONNECTION: The resurrection of Jesus is at the very heart of the good news. When Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sins. But if the story ended there, we wouldn't have much hope. The amazing truth is that Jesus didn't stay dead - He rose again! This proves that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice for our sins and that Jesus has power over death itself. When we put our faith in Jesus, believing that He died for our sins and rose again, we receive forgiveness and eternal life. This isn't something we earn by being good; it's a free gift because of what Jesus has done. The resurrection means that just as Jesus rose to new life, we too can have new life in Him - a life filled with joy, purpose, and the promise of being with God forever. No matter what we've done wrong or how far we feel from God, the risen Jesus invites us to come to Him and receive this new life. His resurrection is our assurance that His promises are true and that He has prepared a place for us to be with Him forever. That's why we can celebrate every day like it's that first Easter morning!

Easter Story Summary

Play the following clip to get an overview of the [Easter Story](#).

Snack Time

Hot chocolate and Hot cross buns

Small Group Discussion

(Split into 2 groups- preferably boys and girls if numbers allow, and find a quiet space where you can be real) Remember to pass an object around to and give each member an opportunity to talk.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How do you think Mary Magdalene felt when she realized Jesus was alive? What did it change for her?
2. Why is Jesus' resurrection important for us to remember? How does knowing that Jesus is alive help us in our daily lives?
3. What are some ways we can share the joy of Jesus' resurrection with others?
4. Can you think of someone you can tell about Jesus and His love this week?
5. Why did Jesus appear to so many people and not just His friends?

Prayer Requests:

*Allow time for children to share- and jot down their requests. Make sure each child's request is prayed for. Ask kids if there is someone they know that doesn't know about Jesus that we can pray for. As a volunteer you can lead this prayer time by asking specific children to pray for specific requests, break into pairs and pray for each other or you can pray corporately- however you feel led.

Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank you for teaching us today about the joy and promise of Jesus' resurrection. Help us to remember that Jesus is always with us and that we can trust Him with everything in our lives. Please take care of the things we are worried about and help us to share the good

news

Reflection Time (5min)

Ask children to find a space where they can be alone and focus on Jesus. Use the reflection sheets to spend time praying and reflecting. The facilitator will let you know when time is up.

Wrap up and take home challenge

Challenge:

John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in me shall not perish, but have everlasting life!