



# LET'S GO!

**Big Idea** *Jesus' followers tell the Good News of the resurrection to people everywhere.*  
**Bible Passage** *Luke 24:1-12, 36-53*

## Lesson Summary

On Sunday morning following the crucifixion, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and some other women went to anoint the body of Jesus. They found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. Two angels dressed in shining robes told them that Jesus was risen, just as He had told them. The women ran to tell the disciples.

Later, as the disciples were discussing this matter, Jesus came and stood among them. He reminded them that the Holy Spirit would come and empower them to take the message of repentance and forgiveness to all people everywhere.

## Teacher Devotional

*What a privilege it is, dear Lord, to teach these children about the resurrection! Empower me by Your Spirit and fill me with wisdom, I pray, so that I may rise to the occasion.*

*Bring the children to class with open hearts and minds to hear from You. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Make Disciples

**Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.**

### Opening Prayer

Take a moment to make sure the children understand the words repentance (turning away from sin toward God) and forgiveness (not holding someone's sins against him).

Pray that the children would experience these gifts themselves and share them with others.

### KeyVerse

**Topic:** Tell Everyone Everywhere

**Reference:** *Luke 24:47*

**Memorization Activity:** You will need colored plastic Easter eggs that open up. Write one word from today's verse on small slips of paper, and put one word in each egg. After introducing the verse, distribute the eggs. Have each child open an egg, take out the slip of paper, and read the word aloud. Let the students piece the verse together or line up in order according to their words. If time allows, have them replace the slips of paper in the eggs, rescrumble them, and play the game again.



## DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

### KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Jesus died on a Friday afternoon shortly before the Sabbath began.
- N** • Several women and disciples saw inside Jesus' empty tomb.
- O** • Jesus ate food with the disciples after His resurrection.
- W** • Jesus told the disciples to tell everyone everywhere about Him.

### CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Empathy toward the women and the disciples about Jesus' death.
- E** • Excitement about Jesus' resurrection.
- E** • Eager to share the Good News of the resurrection.
- L**

### CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Work a maze that takes the women to the empty tomb.
- O** • Identify emotions that the women might have felt.
- Memorize Luke 24:47.

## Spark Interest

**Teacher**—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

### **A Look in the Tomb** (10 minutes)

*This recreation gives kids a sense of what an empty tomb might look like.* **Supplies:** empty cardboard refrigerator box, beige blanket or sheet, strips of white cloth or a roll of gauze, flashlight

Before class, create an “empty tomb” by laying the refrigerator box on its side. Near one end, cut a round opening approximately two feet in diameter. Use the cardboard that you cut out as the “stone” and roll it to one side of the opening. Use a beige blanket or sheet to cover the tomb. Inside the tomb, place a bench or low table and lay long strips of white fabric or unrolled gauze on it. Position a flashlight so that it provides a warm glow in the empty tomb. Tell the students to imagine what it would be like to be in a graveyard, and instruct them to be quiet and serious as they take turns peeking into the tomb. When all have looked inside, read Luke 24:1-12. Briefly discuss what the women might have been feeling and thinking after they looked inside the tomb.

### **Disciple Guide—page 1**

Discuss what the women might have talked about or felt as they went to Jesus’ tomb.

## Explore Scripture

**Teacher**—Teach the Bible lesson. Include exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

### **Luke 24:1-12, 36-53**

To enhance the story, dress in Bible-times clothes as one of the women or as Peter. Your costume can be as simple as a pillowcase tied around your head and a bathrobe. Tell “your” part of the story in first person and the rest as it is written.

**It was Sunday morning, so early that most people were still sleeping. The women were walking and talking about the terrible events of the weekend! Their beloved master, Jesus, had been killed on Friday afternoon. The Roman soldiers had hung Him on a cross, and He died! They barely had time to wrap His body in cloth and put it in the tomb. The women wanted to prepare His body properly with spices so it wouldn’t smell bad, but as soon**

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## LET'S GO!



**R**ead Luke 24:1-12.  
**H**elp the women find their way to the tomb.





**W**hy did the women come to Jesus' tomb?  
**they wanted to care for His body**

**H**ow do you think the women felt when they saw the angel?  
**answers will vary**



as the sun went down on Friday, the Sabbath began, and no Jewish person could do any work. So they followed the others to the tomb and decided that as soon as the Sabbath was over, they'd come back and give Jesus a proper burial.

Now Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and some others were on their way to the tomb. They hadn't figured out how they were going to roll away that huge stone in front of it. But when they got there, the stone was already rolled away! They rushed into the tomb, looking for Jesus' body. The pieces of cloth were lying there, but no body. It was gone!

Suddenly two men were standing beside them. These weren't just ordinary men, though. Their clothes were as bright as lightning! They had to be angels. The women were afraid, and bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the angels said to them, "Don't look for Jesus here. This is a place for dead people, but Jesus is alive! He has risen! Don't you remember what He told you: 'The Son of Man must be handed over to evil men, be crucified, and on the third day be risen from the dead!'"

Mary thought, "I do remember Jesus saying that! Is this the third day already? Let's see, Friday, Saturday, and today is Sunday! He told us this would happen! Jesus has risen from the dead!"

The women rushed out of the tomb and ran back to town. They told Peter, James, John, and the other disciples what they had just seen. "I don't believe it," said one. "It sounds like a bunch of nonsense to me." They wondered if the women were so sad that they were losing their minds.

But Peter wanted to see for himself. He got up and ran all the way to the tomb, and sure enough, no Jesus! He went home again, wondering what to think. Of course all the disciples were still talking about it.

While they were talking, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you!" The disciples jumped from surprise. They thought it was a ghost! But Jesus said, "It's really Me! Look at Me; touch Me. I'll even eat something to show you I'm not a ghost." The disciples gave Jesus some broiled fish, and He ate it right in front of them.

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## Tell Everyone—Luke 24:36-53

How did Jesus convince the disciples that He was really alive?

**He invited them to touch Him**

(24:39-40)

**He ate food**

(24:41-43)

What did Jesus tell His disciples to do?

**preach to all nations and be His witnesses**

(24:47-48)

**stay in the city until the Holy Spirit comes**

(24:49)



The Bible can help you know what to say!



Who can you tell about the Good News: "Jesus died to forgive your sins and He is alive from the dead!"

**Answers will vary** \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

Wow! It really was Jesus, risen from the dead! Jesus reminded them that this is what the Scriptures said would happen. The Scriptures also said that now this message of salvation and forgiveness of sins would be told to people everywhere. Then Jesus told them, "You are My witnesses! You have seen these things happen! And when the Holy Spirit comes and gives you power, I will send you to tell everyone about it."

Sure enough, that's just what happened. With the Holy Spirit's power, the disciples continued to tell the great news about Jesus to people everywhere. And after they died, other Christians told people, and it continues even today. Jesus' followers, including you and I, are telling their friends the Good News.

### Disciple Guide—page 2

Help kids discover for themselves what Jesus told the disciples after His resurrection.

## Inspire Action

**Teacher**—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

### In Their Shoes (5 minutes)

*This discussion encourages kids to imagine the women's mindset.*

**How do you think Mary and the other women felt over the weekend? How do you think they felt when they saw that Jesus was gone? When they realized Jesus was alive, how do you think they felt? If you knew about this great news, would you want to tell other people about it?**

### Closing Prayer

Pray that the news of the resurrection of Jesus would penetrate the children's hearts. Pray that they would eagerly share the news of Jesus' resurrection with the people around them.

## Additional Activities

### Resurrection Cards (15 minutes)

*This craft creates a way for kids to tell others the Good News.*

**Supplies:** construction paper, markers, crayons, stickers

Write "He is risen!" on the board. (You may also write other Easter phrases such as "He is risen, indeed!" or "Alleluia!") Give the children sheets of white paper or construction paper (folded in half) and supply them with card-making supplies such as markers, crayons, and stickers. Make a model card ahead of time to show the children. Invite them to share their cards with a friend or relative.

### Act It Out (10-30 minutes)

*This dramatization brings the Scripture to life.*

**Supplies:** women, two angels, disciples, Jesus

If time is short, do a simple role-play with children acting out their parts as you narrate the story. If you have more time, let the children speak their parts, carry out stage directions, and wear Bible-times costumes.

### DISCIPLESHIP TIP

Ask God to give you wisdom as you relate to your students about Easter. Some of them may be excited about what the "Easter bunny" brought them; others may quickly point out that there is no such thing. God can help you love the children with both sensitivity and truth.

### Resurrection Eggs (15 minutes)

*This object lesson helps children learn the resurrection story.*

**Supplies:** Resurrection Eggs

Resurrection Eggs are a carton of one dozen colored plastic eggs. Inside each egg is a symbol of the Easter story, such as a small crown of thorns or a nail. The set comes with a booklet explaining how to use the eggs to present the Easter story.

### "I Believe" Declarations (10 minutes)

*This craft creates a way to affirm the kids' belief in Jesus.*

**Supplies:** Bible, cardstock, masking tape

As an aside to the Bible story, read (or tell in your own words) John 20:24-29—Thomas's declaration of faith. Allow children to make a declaration of their faith in Jesus. They could do this by saying out loud, "I believe!" Or, make up a class set of "I Believe!" buttons from cardstock. Children may affix these to their clothing to announce to others that they believe.

### Empty Tomb Cookies (15-30 minutes)

*This snack illustrates the resurrection story.* **Supplies:** Easter Story cookies (see below), ingredients and supplies to make a batch in class

Easter Story cookies, or "empty tomb" cookies, are meringue cookies made with egg whites, vinegar, salt, sugar, and nuts or chocolate chips. An illustration can be told about each of the ingredients regarding the suffering of Christ. The cookies sit in the oven overnight, and in the morning they come out hollow on the inside, like an empty tomb. To do this during class, make a batch the night before, and bring another set of ingredients to class, prepare them, and put them in the oven. Bring out the already-baked batch so the children can taste one. The recipe, which is somewhat lengthy, can be found with an Internet search by typing "Easter Story Cookies."

### SUPPLIES

#### General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides  
Pencils, markers, crayons  
Paper, scissors, tape, glue

#### Make Disciples

None

#### Spark Interest

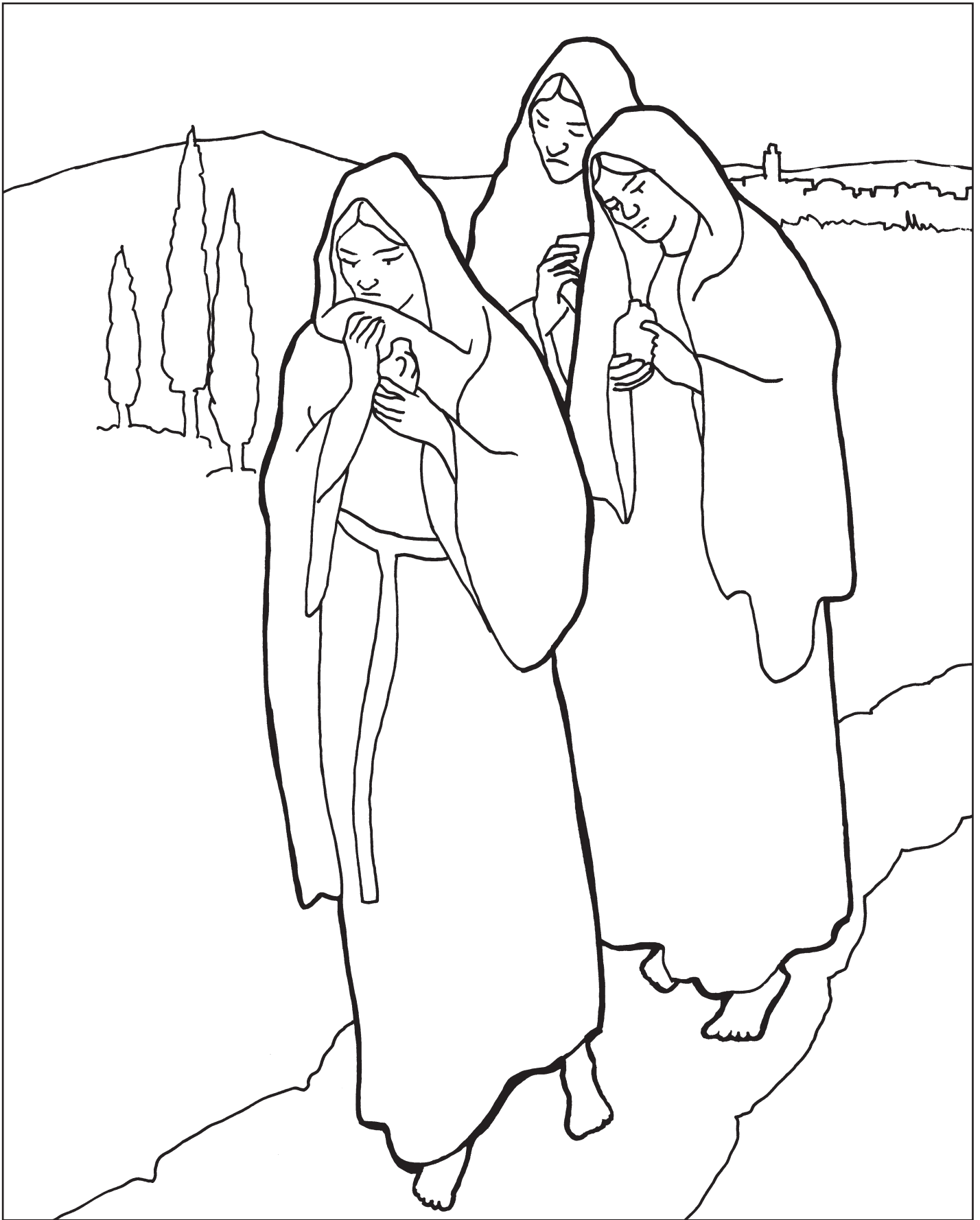
- A LOOK IN THE TOMB: empty cardboard refrigerator box, beige blanket or sheet, strips of white cloth or a roll of gauze, flashlight

#### Explore Scripture

Bible-times clothes, such as a pillowcase and bath robe

#### Inspire Action

- IN THEIR SHOES: none



*Let's Go!*



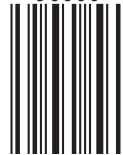
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