



ALIVE AGAIN!

Young Preschool • #NT11 • February 9, 2025

Concept

Jesus is God. He made Lazarus alive again.

Goal

Children will learn that Jesus was able to raise Lazarus from the dead because He has power over death. They will learn that they will live forever with Jesus if they accept God's forgiveness through Christ.

Passage

John 11:1-45

Key Verse: "Everyone who believes in Jesus will live forever, even though they die." John 11:25b

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jesus Loves Me Bible, Angela & Ken Abraham</i> <p>Learning Activity #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Laminated, magnetic-backed pictures of:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Tomb</i> ◦ <i>Lazarus</i> ◦ <i>Mary</i> ◦ <i>Martha</i> 	<p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printed pages with Lazarus and the key verse, 1/child • ½" white file folder labels, 1 sheet/8 children • Crayons

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the shaded areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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"The last great 'sign' in John appears in the exact center of his book, chapter 11, and forms a narrative hinge for all that precedes and follows. John points to the miracle involving Lazarus as the event that turned the religious establishment fatally against Jesus. His account also offers a neat summary of what miracles did, and did not, accomplish in Jesus' time on earth.

"The story of Lazarus has a unique 'staged' quality about it. Usually when Jesus got word of a sick person he responded immediately, sometimes changing plans in order to accommodate the request. This time, after receiving word of the illness of one of his good friends, he lingered in another town for two more days. He did so intentionally, in full knowledge that the delay would result in Lazarus's death. John includes Jesus' cryptic explanation to his disciples, 'Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe.' Deliberately, he let Lazarus die and his family grieve."^[1]

"Martha was crying. Mary was crying. All the mourners were crying. Finally, Jesus himself, 'deeply moved in spirit and troubled,' broke into tears. John does not say why Jesus wept. Since he had already revealed his plans to raise Lazarus from the dead, he surely did not feel the same grief as the devastated mourners. Still, something got to him. As he approached the tomb, again he felt a spasm, 'groaning in spirit; as some translations have it.

"Death had never bothered Jesus before...

"Jesus' prayer at the tombside gives a clue: 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.' Nowhere else had Jesus prayed with an over-the-shoulder audience in mind, like a Shakespearean actor who turns to the crowd to deliver an aside. At this moment Jesus seemed self-consciously aware of his dual identity, simultaneously the One who came down from heaven and the Son of Man born on earth."^[2]

[1] The Jesus I Never Knew, Philip Yancey, ©1995 Philip Yancey, Zondervan Publishing House, p. 178.

[2] Ibid, p. 179.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Introduction Lg. Group

Transition Lesson Lg. Group

Activity Stations:

- **Did You Ever See?[1]**
- **Instructions: Make up verses to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" Examples:**
 - Did you ever see a <<child's name>>, <<child's name>>, <<child's name>>?
 - Did you ever see a <<child's name>>
 - ... Jump up and down?
 - ... Touch his big toe?
 - ... Turn round and round?
 - ... Hop on one leg?

[1] Jackie Silberg, Games to Play with Two Year Olds, © 1993 Jackie Silberg, p. 206.

Hand Activity [1] - Lazarus in the Cave

Lazarus in the cave,
(make a fist by putting your thumb inside your fingers)
Lying so still.
Jesus said, "Come out"
I think I will.
(pull your thumb out from under your fingers)

[1] Adapted from "Jack-in-the-Box", Jackie Silberg, Games to Play with Two Year Olds, p. 19.

Listen now while I read about Lazarus from the Bible.

"Lazarus Lives"

Instructions: Read the narrative from pages 322-326 of the Jesus Loves Me Bible.

A very amazing thing happened, didn't it? Lazarus was dead for four days but then he was alive! Everyone was amazed when Lazarus came out all wrapped up in the cloths he was buried in. Jesus asked Lazarus' friends to unwrap him and set him free.

Do you know what? When the people saw this, many of them believed that Jesus was God. Only God could ever make somebody alive after they had been dead. Jesus is God. He made Lazarus alive again.

Jesus wants every one of you to know that He is God and He made Lazarus alive again. He wants you to believe that He is God. You can tell Jesus that you believe He is God and ask Him to forgive your bad choices. Then you will be friends with Him just like Lazarus was.

**Lesson
Continued
Lg. Group**

Transition

**Learning
Activity#1
Lg. Group**

**Learning
Activity#2
Sm. Group**

We're going to pray now. You can tell Jesus about how you learned that He is God and that He made Lazarus alive again! (Pray with the children.)

Let's make a craft to remind us that Jesus is God. He made Lazarus alive again.

Craft – Lazarus Is Alive

- **Instructions:** Give each child a picture and a sheet of labels. Color the picture with crayons. Help children pull the labels off the sheet and stick on Lazarus to resemble his burial wrappings.

Play

- **Instructions:** Allow the children to use the provided laminated figures to reenact the story.