

WILD
BIBLE

JESUS
all about life



Two Easter Lessons for Years K-6

Good Friday

and

Easter Sunday

Wild Bible Easter Lessons

Welcome to the Wild Bible Easter Lessons for school-aged children from K-6.

There are two lessons here for the Easter weekend using the Wild Bible videos. In this resource you will find suggestions for songs, games, crafts, prayer and Bible stories. There are also links to additional video resources for the Wild Bible stories taken from the Gospel of Mark (CEV).

Use this as a menu to construct a productive, safe and special time for your children to discover the good news about Jesus at Easter. We have offered different Bible engagement activities and questions for different age groups. The games and songs are for everyone to enjoy together.

Good Friday Lesson



Preparation

- Print out Good Friday pictures (if required)
- Potting mix, seeds and pots – choose fast shooting seeds (pumpkin, squash, lettuce, peas, beans). Have the “potting area” set up before the lesson. Do any prep needed to help the seeds sprout fast!
- Print out a ChatMat for each family to take home and play. (ChatMat is at the end of this document)

Welcome – Curiosity (all ages)

- *Good Friday is both a good day and a very sad day.*
- *Can anyone tell me why it is sad?*
- *Can anyone tell me why it's called 'good'?*

Songs and Music (all ages)

- Choose a couple of songs to sing with the children. If your children don't like to sing, play some music during the games below.

Games (all ages)

Alive or dead

This is a running game where children have two choices (dead or living) and must run to the side of the play space reflecting their choice.

Set the children up on a line in the middle of the play space. Tell them they can run to one side for Dead – if they think the thing the leader has called out is dead. They can run to the opposite side for Alive – if they think the thing is living.

Call out the item – children run – they return to the centre line for the next item.

fossil, virus, leaf, tree, ant, rock, sun, bacteria, mushroom, dinner, God, car, medicine, straw, bread, water, ice cream, timber.

Stuck in the Mud

Play a game of ***stuck in the mud*** with a slight modification- there is only one **rescuer**. One child or leader is the **tagger**. They must run around and try and tag others. When someone is tagged, they must stand still with their legs apart so the **rescuer** can crawl through their legs. The rescuer cannot be tagged. The game ends when everyone has been tagged.

Reset, and play again if there's time.

Debrief questions:

- *Did you like the game?*
- *How did you feel when you were waiting to be rescued from the mud?*
- *What do you most need rescuing from?*

Leader link statement

Jesus came to rescue us from the thing we most need rescuing from – sin.

Bible Time

Read Mark 15 from the CEV Bible. The Mark (Wild Bible) video narrations are straight from Mark's gospel.

- **Bible time for younger children (K/P and Year 1)** – you may prefer to use the storytelling images. Choose the images from Mark 15 that will help you tell the story well, without undue stress on little children. Easter is very hard for all children who already love and care for King Jesus.
<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/wildbiblegoodfridayimages>
- **Bible time for older children (Years 2-6)** - Show the Wild Bible Videos from the end of Mark 14 and through Mark 15
<https://www.max7.org/en/library/wildstoriesaboutjesus/58616a60-1bd4-4a73-aa44-77950fdda254>

Five short videos walk children through Mark 15 and the arrest, trial, crucifixion and death of Jesus. Preview these and select the ones you want to show. Each one can be shown and then briefly discussed to help children process the story. Use the questions below for older children.

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-14-32to38>

- *What was happening to Jesus?*
- *Can you remember who Jesus took with Him to pray?*
- *What is Jesus so sad about?*

In the Garden before the Arrest - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-14-39to44>

- *What is happening to the disciples?*
- *Who is Judas and what does he do?*

Jesus is Arrested - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-14-45to52>

- *What has happened?*
- *Who seems to be in charge at the moment?*

Jesus is Crucified - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-15-22to32>

- How much of this story do you recognise because you've heard it before?
- What surprises or shocks you about this?

The Death of Jesus - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-15-33to39>

- How much of this part of Jesus' story do you recognise because you've heard it before?
- What surprises or shocks you about all of this?

Bible Story Engagement (all ages)

Print out the images from <http://www.max7.org/en/resource/wildbiblegoodfridayimages>



Give them to the children and ask them to put the story in order.

Ask the children:

- Using the pictures to help you, how much of Jesus' story can you remember?
- What questions do you have about this story?
- Why do you think Good Friday is called 'good'?
- What new things have you discovered about Easter?

Activities/Craft

- **Older Kids' Puzzle** – Jesus died so we could live forever with Him
<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/18b1a27d-8803-4db1-88ce-a368adaa379d>
- **Younger Kids' Colour and Numbers** – Christ takes our sin and gives us His goodness
<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/408fdbd4-8974-4ddd-add5-862ae0d5635e>

Pot up a seed to grow (all ages)

Choose a fast sprouting vegetable seed (pumpkin, squash, lettuce, peas, beans) for the children to plant in a pot. While potting, talk about burying a seed in the ground for something good to grow. Good Friday seems like a dark and sad time, but remember, Jesus has LIFE in Him, so more good is coming!

- *How is Jesus similar to a seed?*
- *How are they very different?*

Paper cross to fold and tear

This will help children to talk about Jesus and Easter with their friends -

<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/paperfoldingcross>

Prayer time: (all ages)

- Invite the children to hold onto a circle of rope, yarn or string with both hands.
- Invite the children to share their prayer points: thanks, worries, needs.
- Ask if any children want to pray for those prayer needs.
- Pray together – thanking Jesus for His great love in dying on the cross for us.

Challenge and farewell (all ages)

Give every family an Easter ChatMat to take home and play at meal times. (ChatMat is at the end of this document).

Easter Sunday Lesson

Preparation

- Print out the Easter Impossible Challenge as a take-home challenge.
- Select crafts to print and prepare.
- Bring an Easter food to share with the children at prayer time.

Welcome (all ages)

Welcome the children saying “Jesus is alive!”

Invite the children to share about their Easter holidays so far. Has your seed sprouted yet?

A leader shares a story about a big surprise they have had.

- **Ask:** *I wonder what big surprises you have had?*
- **Say:** *We’re going to look at the story of Jesus. Even though He died on Good Friday, His story isn’t finished!*

Songs and Music (all ages)

Choose a couple of songs to sing with the children. If your children don’t like to sing, play some music during the games below.

Games (all ages)

Cross the river

Equipment: Timer

Players stand on one side of a play area which is at least 15m by 15 m. This is the river. If the group is bigger, make the area wider.

Round 1: One player runs to the other side of the play area and takes another person with them by holding their hand. The first player leaves that player there and then runs back and takes another person across. Continue one person at a time. How long does it take for everyone to be taken across?

Round 2: The game starts the same way. But each player who is taken across the river can return and get another person, until everyone is going back to get people again and again.

Time how long it takes for everyone to be taken across and compare it to round 1.

Stuck in the Mud

Play a game of **stuck in the mud** as you did on Good Friday. Then reset and play with a slight modification – when a child is rescued, THEY can become a rescuer too. When the game starts, only one child or leader is the **tagger**. They must run around and try and tag others. When someone is tagged, they must stand still with their legs apart so the **rescuer** can crawl through their legs. The rescuer cannot be tagged, and as soon as a player is rescued, they become an **untaggable rescuer**! The game ends when everyone is free except the **tagger**. Time the game to see how fast everyone can be rescued. Play again and see if you can beat your time!

Debrief questions:

- *Did you like the game?*
- *How did you feel when you were waiting to be rescued from the mud?*
- *How did it feel to be an **untaggable rescuer**?*

Bible Time (all ages)

Decide which videos you will show from Wild Bible Videos - Mark 16:1-7 and 8-21. There are a couple of versions, so you can decide which parts of Mark 16 you want to include.

<https://www.max7.org/en/library/wildstoriesaboutjesus/58616a60-1bd4-4a73-aa44-77950fdda254>

1. **Jesus is alive** – <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-16-1to7>
2. **The Risen Jesus appears to his disciples** (Mark 16: 12-16 and 19-20) - <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/wild-mark-16-12to16and19-20>
 - OR search for the Wild Bible - **The Risen Jesus appears to his disciples** (Mark 16: 8-20)

Bible Engagement (all ages)

- *Who tells the disciples that Jesus is alive? Hint – there's more than one messenger and one of them IS Jesus.*
- *How do Jesus' followers react?*
- *What does Jesus say that His followers can do?*
- *Where is Jesus now?*
- *What happens after Jesus is taken up into heaven?*

Leader shares – this is what Jesus' followers said about Him after He was raised to life – In Hebrews 2:9 (CEV) “Because of God’s wonderful kindness, Jesus died for everyone. And now that Jesus has suffered and died, he is crowned with glory and honour!”. In Hebrews 2:14 (CEV) the same follower said, “That is why Jesus became one of us. He died to destroy the devil, who had power over death.”

Crafts (all ages)

Choose from the crafts listed below to suit your children.

Make a Book

Here are 10 stories from Jesus' life in the Gospel of Mark – kids can staple, colour in and find their favourite stories. <http://www.max7.org/en/resource/tengreatstoriesfrommark>

Chocolate – Empty Tombs

Make a fun food craft with hollow Easter Eggs <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/2927f91a-e392-49fb-a1de-d39477bab1d8>

Colouring activities

Young readers – numbers and colouring sheet.

<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/21355535-e032-4253-9495-267c1003c328>

Older children - colouring puzzle sheet.

<http://www.max7.org/en/resource/b4e8ec54-8e52-449f-81f6-583b90a5f034>

Prayer time: (all ages)

- Invite the children to sit down with something special to eat. Ask them if they would like to share their praise points about Jesus and new life with Him forever. Invite them to share any thanks, worries, or needs.
- Ask if any children want to pray for those prayer needs, praise points etc.
- Pray together – thanking Jesus for His great love, bring all the prayer and praise requests to Him.

Challenge and Farewell (all ages)

Offer the **Easter Impossible Challenge** card to every child to try at home and challenge their friends and family. <https://www.max7.org/en/resource/impossibleeasterchallenge>

1 Retell the Easter story in ten words or less

2 What do you think is the most important thing about Easter?

3 Read Luke, chapter 23. People feel very differently about Jesus. Who do you think he is?

4 What have you learned from the last two years?

5 If you could ask Jesus to help you, what would you ask Him to do in your life?

6 Read about Jesus' trial and betrayal in Luke, chapter 22. What would you have done in this situation?

7 In Luke, chapter 24, there is a *miraculous* story. Jesus is *alive!* If you had been there, how would you have felt about Jesus' resurrection?

8 Why do we celebrate Easter?

9 What is your favourite Easter tradition?

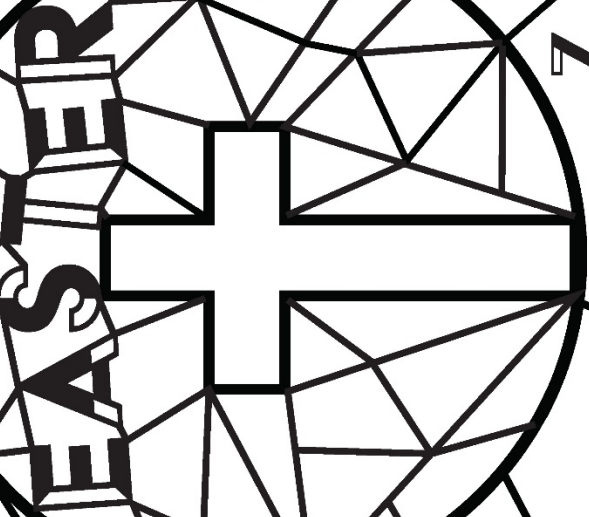
10 In the Easter story, which person do you relate to the most? Why did you choose them?

11 Why is Jesus called "the lamb"? (John 1:29-34)

12 Jesus said he came to **SAVE** the people of the world because he **LOVES** us. How has he shown his love?

CHAT MATTERS

Roll two dice to select your question



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Read together

Activities

Sketches!

Draw a symbol of Easter, people have to guess what part of the story it is from.

Hiding game

1 person pretend to be an Easter Egg. Everyone else has to hunt for you and hide with you when they find you. Last person to find the Easter Egg becomes the next Egg!

Describe a movie or story where someone returns unexpectedly. What happens to their friends and family?

Make some festive Easter Bread*.

*recipes in Support docs.
(Greek and Russian recipes)

**Tomb Guards (broken robots/sleeping lions)
Everyone lays really still on the floor.
The person who can be completely still for the longest, wins.**



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BACK CHAT