



Vacation Bible School 2020
Grades 1-5
SESSION 4

**JESUS'
RESURRECTION
AND PROMISE**

Jesus was arrested for crimes He did not commit, beaten, and nailed to a cross where He died for the sins of all people. His body was placed in a tomb. A large stone was placed over the opening of the tomb. Guards

stood by the tomb so no one could get in. The followers of Jesus believed their hope was gone.

Early on Sunday morning Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James walked to the tomb. There had been a violent earthquake and an angel of the Lord had come down from heaven. The angel rolled back the stone that had been placed in front of the tomb and sat on it. The angel had

the appearance of lightning and his clothes were as white as snow. The guards who had been placed in front of the tomb to guard Jesus' body were so frightened that they fainted and fell to the ground.

When the women saw the angel they were frightened, but the angel reminded them that Jesus had risen just as He had told them He would. The angel invited the women to come see where Jesus had been and then told them to go and tell Jesus' disciples what they had seen.

Jesus met the women on the way and said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my disciples to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

The women ran to tell the disciples the great news—Jesus is alive! They told the disciples to go to Galilee, where Jesus would meet them. The eleven disciples traveled to the mountain in Galilee where Jesus had directed them to go.

When the disciples saw Jesus, they worshiped Him. Jesus said to the men, "Go and make disciples everywhere. Baptize people and teach them to do everything I have told you." Then Jesus made an amazing promise. He promised to be with them always!

Matthew 28:1-10,16-20

ACTIVITY

Gospel Measure-up

(Bible Skills Activity—10 Minutes)

Prep

- 4 rulers
- Index cards

1. Write each of the following passages on a separate index card: Matthew 27:1-54; Mark 15:1-40; Luke 23:1-48; John 19:1-30.
2. Ask: "Does anyone remember what book of the Bible today's Bible story came from?" (Matthew)
3. Say: "Matthew is one of the four books called the Gospels, found in the New Testament. Does anyone know the other three books that are part of the Gospels?" (Mark, Luke, John)
4. Explain that each of these books covers the birth, life, and death of Jesus, including His crucifixion and resurrection. Each book shares different information about Jesus, depending on the writer and what He saw and was told by people who saw what happened.
5. Form four groups and provide each group a prepared card. Instruct each group to locate the reference on the card in their Bibles. Advise kids to use their rulers to measure the length of the verses, from beginning to end and write the length in centimeters or inches on the other side of the card. Collect the cards.
6. Ask: "Which book do you think has the longest passage about Jesus' death and resurrection? Which book has the shortest account?" Flip each card over and reveal the correct answers.
7. Say: "Each account of Jesus' death and resurrection is an important part of learning more about Jesus. You will learn more about the miracle of Jesus' death and resurrection by reading all four passages.

