

# Surprise Visitor: Jesus Walks with His Friends

#11

**Big Idea:** Jesus' sad friends became happy when they knew that Jesus was alive again!

**Bible Text:** Luke 24:13-35

## Pray for Wisdom

*Dear Lord, I rejoice in Your saving work within me—regardless of my external circumstances. You bring joy into trials and You offer hope in hardship.*

*Open the hearts and minds of these children as they respond to those who might be going through a difficult time. Help them bring Your joy to another.*

*All these things I ask in Your Son's name, amen.*

## Supply Checklist

### Welcome & Worship Time:

- ☐ variety of large shoes and boots

### Bible Time:

- ☐ Bible teaching picture #11
- ☐ student activity pages 41-44
- ☐ stickers from sticker page
- ☐ snacks

### Disciple Time:

- ☐ Dee-Cy-Paul picture #11
- ☐ puppets (optional)
- ☐ multi-cultural World Colors paper or skin-colored construction paper, scissors, pattern of boy and girl, crayons or markers

### Add'l "Learn by Doing" Activities:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

## Children will:



- Know** • Jesus told two of His sad friends Bible stories as they walked along the road together.
- Feel** • Eager to make someone happy who is sad.
- Do** • Help make someone happy again who is sad happy again.

## Lesson Summary

The news of Jesus' crucifixion had spread far and wide, and Jesus' many followers were brokenhearted. He had touched the lives of thousands of people—five thousand in one day alone had received a miracle meal of loaves and fishes. So Jesus' unexpected death was the talk of the region.

On Sunday, two of Jesus' followers were walking home to Emmaus, about seven miles outside Jerusalem. They were engrossed in conversation about the tragic events of the past few days when a stranger joined them and began walking beside them. God prevented the two from recognizing the stranger, who was Jesus Himself, risen from the dead.

When Jesus asked them what they were talking about, they were amazed that He seemed not to know of the events. They explained about the wonderful Teacher who they had thought was the Messiah, but the religious leaders had arrested and crucified Him. Then, that very morning, some women had come back from Jesus' tomb with an amazing report that Jesus was alive!

Jesus listened quietly as they talked, and then explained that all these things had happened according to the predictions in the Scriptures. He quoted passages from Moses and all the prophets that explained about Himself. When they arrived at Emmaus, the two travelers invited Jesus to stay with them. He broke bread with them, and suddenly they realized it was Jesus! And just as suddenly, Jesus disappeared.

The two were so excited that they turned around and walked right back to Jerusalem. They couldn't wait to tell the rest of the disciples what had happened! Their sadness had turned to joy!

The lives of preschool children are filled with sad moments that turn to happy moments. They feel sad when their parents leave, and happy when they return. They feel sad to have dangerous items taken out of their hands, and they feel happy to be given safer, more appropriate alternatives. They will understand the theme of sadness turned into joy.



## Greet Each Child

Welcome each child warmly.

Encourage children to present their offerings to the Lord as they arrive.

## Learn by Doing

Enjoy the suggested activity below or refer to the *Additional "Learn by Doing" Activities* on page 69 for alternate ideas to introduce this lesson.

### Shoe Collection

*You will need: a variety of large shoes and boots (hiking boots, cowboy boots, ski boots, fisherman waders, high-top sneakers, etc.)*

Bring in as many different kinds of large, heavy shoes and boots as you can find. (You can find second-hand shoes and boots at a local thrift store.) The children will have fun trying them on especially if they are extra large and heavy. As they begin to tire from walking around with heavy boots on their feet tell them the story today is about two of Jesus' friends who walked seven miles from the town of Jerusalem to a town called Emmaus and back again in one day!

## Sing with Joy

Move the children from the initial learning activity to the worship time with a favorite song. Select one below or use a preschool songbook or recording.

- *Oh, Be Careful Little FEET* (traditional)
- *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* (traditional)
- *Jesus Loves Even Me* (traditional)
- *Hallelu, Hallelu* (traditional)

## Rehearse the Verse

Consider using a puppet to teach the memory verse. Children will enjoy seeing a puppet in the classroom and will follow the puppet's direction in reciting the verse. Perhaps the puppet could be wearing a pair of the shoes or boots for the *Learn by Doing Activity* on this page. The puppet could pretend to be tired and need the children to help learn the Scripture verse.

Lesson Memory Verse: Luke 24:27.

*"Jesus explained Bible stories to His friends."*

Monthly Memory Verse: Matthew 28:6.

*"The angel said, 'Jesus isn't in the grave! He's alive!'"*

Quarter Memory Verse: Matthew 28:6.

*"The angel said, 'Jesus isn't in the grave! He's alive!'"*

## Seek God's Blessing

Talk with God about your time together with the children today, about the Bible story, and about any special needs.

As you pray, use meaningful and simple words from your heart. The children will learn to pray by listening to you.



## Tell the Truth

*Open your Bible to the passage and place it on your lap. Show Bible teaching picture #11 as you tell or read the story. (The Bible story is printed on page 68 and on the back of the teaching picture.)*

The story "Surprise Visitor" is based on Luke 24:13-35. It captures the interest and attention of older preschool children. If you

are teaching younger preschoolers, you may want to use the shorter *Summary/Review*.

Each time you do the refrain, let the children repeat it after you're done. Remember, the truth about Jesus will bring people joy! If we only know part of the story about Jesus we will never be truly happy. If we don't know that he died for us and rose again we can't put our hope in him. We have to know the whole story.

## Complete Page 42

Distribute student page 42.

Place the appropriate stickers on the picture as you reinforce the Bible story.

## Talk and Snack

Consider serving trail mix (peanuts, sunflower seeds, raisins, dried fruits, dates, or coconut). Perhaps you could also provide juice sip packs or small individual water bottles. Tell the children people often eat these snacks when they go hiking. It is fun to imagine Jesus and His two disciples munching on something similar as they walked from Jerusalem to the town of Emmaus.

While you eat, talk about the Bible story. These questions will help you get started.

- Why were the two disciples so sad?
- Who did they see while they were walking down the road?
- Did the man tell them stories from the Bible?
- What happened when they were eating supper?

## Wash Up

Allow time for your children to clean up and use the rest room.

## Play and Move

Play "Follow the Leader" (teacher) around the room using many possible way we can use our legs and feet. Ideas include: walk on

## Additional "Learn by Doing" Activities

All three *Learn by Doing* sections in this lesson include a suggested learning activity. However, you may want to substitute one or more of the activities below to capture the specific interests and needs of your children.

Select activities based on the age of your children, their learning style preferences, and their developmental needs.

(See pages 80-81 for more information about adapting these activities for *Learning Centers*.)

### Coloring Page

(for all preschoolers)

Provide copies of the reproducible Bible story picture for this lesson (#11) for children to color. (See page 94 of this *Teacher Guide*.)

### Take a Hike

(for all preschoolers)

If weather permits, gather all the children together and go on a LONG walk around the building. Talk about all the things Jesus and His disciples might have seen on the road to Emmaus. Make believe along the way that the children are the disciples walking seven miles to the town of Emmaus and then seven miles back to Jerusalem in one day.

### Whispering Game

(for all preschoolers)

Instruct the children to sit close together in a circle. Whisper in the ear of the first student, "Jesus is alive!" and have that person whisper in the ear of the next and so on completely around the circle. At the end of the game have all the children yell, "Jesus is alive!"

### Act it Out

(for older preschoolers)

You will need: Bible time costumes (See page 81).

Allow the children to reenact the Bible story as you tell it again. Children can take the parts of the two disciples and Jesus. You may want the whole class to act out the story at the same time.

### Build a Road

(for all preschoolers)

You will need carpet squares or pillowcases.

Encourage the children to build a road like the one the two disciples were walking on from Jerusalem to Emmaus. As they walk along their road, remind them that another man joined them and began telling them Bible stories about Jesus. Encourage them to share the Bible stories they know with each other.

### Play Dough Faces

(for all preschoolers)

You will need: fresh play dough and several popsicle sticks

Give each child some play dough to make faces. They can flatten it into a circle and then with the sticks make eyes, nose and mouth. They can also roll dough into different-sized ropes to use for the face, eyes, nose, and mouth. Encourage them to make happy faces because they know that Jesus is alive again!

### Jesus is Alive Bookmark

(for all preschoolers)

You will need: construction paper, smiley face stickers (optional), scissors, crayons or markers.

Before class cut 2 x 7-inch bookmarks out of construction paper. Print "Jesus Is Alive" across the top of each bookmark. Let the children decorate their bookmarks with smiley face stickers or draw happy faces with crayons or

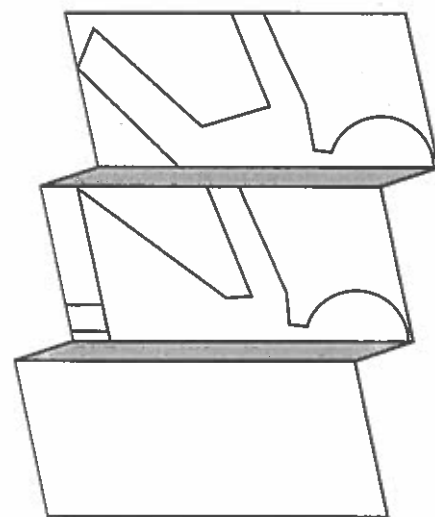
markers. Instruct them to give their bookmarks to someone who is sad and let them know that Jesus' friends were happy to learn that He was alive again. We should also be happy.

### Happy/Sad Paper Dolls

(suggested activity for Dee-Cy-Paul story, page 70; for all preschoolers)

You will need: Multi-cultural World Colors paper or skin-colored construction paper, scissors, pattern of boy and girl (see below), crayons or markers.

Before class, fold a piece of paper eight times, accordion-style. Trace a pattern of either a boy or a girl along the fold of the top segment and cut along the outline through all the layers at once. Open the paper and you will have four paper dolls. Each child can have a set of either boys or girls or both if you'd like. Let the children draw sad faces on their paper dolls on one side and happy faces on the other. Allow them to play with their paper dolls making them happy when they are sad.



See *Learning Centers* on pages 80-81 for ideas that can be used as additional "Learn by Doing" activities.

## Jesus Surprises His Friends - Luke 24:13-35

### Parent Partners

**Lesson Focus:** The Bible showed that Jesus would die and come back to life.

**Ways to reinforce this truth with your child:**

#### ASK:

- Who did they see while they were walking down the road?
- Why were the two disciples so sad?
- What did the man talk with them about?
- What happened when they were eating supper?

#### ACT:

- Read the Bible story together (or read the summary on the front of this page).
- Lesson Bible Verse: **Luke 24:27**  
**"Jesus explained Bible stories to His friends."**
- Take a hike with your child. As you walk, tell Bible stories. Ask questions to stimulate conversation.

# Secret Visitor

Jesus Surprises His friends  
Luke 24:13-35

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Bible showed that Jesus would die and come back to life.**

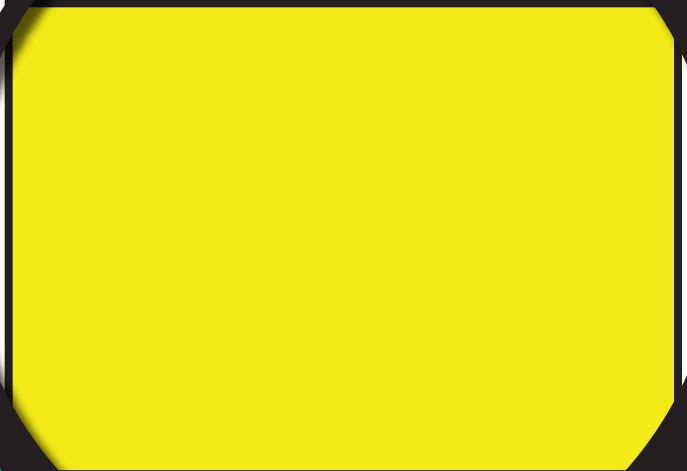
Two disciples with sad faces walked slowly down the road. Another Man came up and asked, "What are you talking about?"

"Jesus was crucified three days ago," explained one disciple. "This morning friends told us He's alive again!"

"That's just what the Bible says!" replied the Visitor. As they walked, He told them what the Scriptures said about Jesus.

Later on, the Visitor joined the two disciples for dinner. When He prayed, they suddenly realized it was Jesus! Then He disappeared!

"Jesus is alive!" the disciples exclaimed. They ran to tell their friends.



# The Road To Emmaus

Luke 24:13-25



WE can find encouragement in the promises of God's word



***#11—Jesus Walks with His Friends***

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