



# THE BIGGEST ANNOUNCEMENT

**JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS!**

**IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM**

# ROAD TO EMMAUS

## BIBLE PASSAGE

Luke 24:13-20, 22-24, 30-34 (ICB)

## BIG IDEA

Tell the Good News!

## FOCUS VERSE

“Go everywhere in the world. Tell the Good News to everyone.” Mark 16:15 (ICB)

## LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | “Telephone” News Cards | “Road to Emmaus” Gameboard | Game Pieces | Crayons  
| Dice |

## GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What is your favorite thing to do outside?
- Who is your hero?

## WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Consider starting your worship time with a “Call to Worship.” A “Call to Worship” is a statement, Scripture, or prayer that helps us focus our minds and hearts on worship. It can be as simple as proclaiming a Bible verse like Psalm 150:6: “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.” You may find that adding a regular “Call to Worship” provides a natural transition from unstructured to structured time.

## PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather the children together for prayer. Encourage more than one child to pray for the day.



IF CHILDREN DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO PRAY FOR, HAVE THEM START BY PRAISING GOD FOR WHO HE IS—HE IS GOOD, HE IS FAITHFUL, HE IS COMPASSIONATE, HE IS GENTLE, HE IS POWERFUL, ETC.

**SAMPLE PRAYER:** “Jesus, we are amazed by how great You are! You are our King, our Provider, and our Savior. Create in us an excitement for learning about You. We love you! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

## REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

Review the previous lessons using the weekly puzzle pieces.

**BACKGROUND:** Say, "This month we've focused on **telling the Good News**. And the Good News is proclaimed to us through a series of announcements throughout the Bible. Can someone remind us what an announcement is? An announcement is an important message one person shares with others. It's often a message shared with lots of people. In the first week, we talked about Holy Week."

- Ask, "Does anyone remember the events of Holy Week?" (Palm Sunday, Foot Washing, Communion, Prayer in the Garden, Trial, and Crucifixion).

"Then in the second week, we discussed the angel's announcement that Jesus had risen. Finally, last week, we read about Jesus appearing to Mary at the tomb. What a great month it's been! Can I have a volunteer to put up our puzzle piece?"

**TRANSITION:** Say, "Let's play a game before we read our story!"

## ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

**MATERIALS:** | "Telephone" News Cards |

Say, "Today we're going to play a game to see how good we are at hearing news and correctly passing it on. Has anyone played "Telephone" before? Great! Let's do it!"

**GAME GOAL:** To speak clearly and pass along the "news" to your neighbor.

### HOW TO PLAY:

- Gather everyone to sit in a circle.
- Using the News Cards, the teacher will start the game of Telephone by whispering the "news" on one of the cards to the student on their right.
- Each child will continue to pass on the "news" by whispering it to their neighbor until the message has made it around the circle.
- The last person will announce the "news" to the group.
- The teacher will read the actual News Card to the class to see if it matched.
- Repeat the process.

**CHALLENGE:** Once the news has been whispered, the child cannot repeat it even if their neighbor says they didn't hear it.

**TRANSITION:** Say, "Wow! It's hard to pass along news this way, isn't it? Let's read our story about some news that is too great to be whispered!"

## LEARN — 10 MINUTES

Say, "The two people we are going to read about today heard the Good News that Jesus had risen from the dead, but they didn't believe it because they hadn't seen Jesus themselves."

- Ask, "Have you ever felt like it was hard to believe in the Good News because you can't see Jesus?"

"It can be difficult to believe in things we can't see, but let's find out what our story teaches us about trusting God!" Read Luke 24:13-20, 22-24, 30-34 (ICB).



FOR TODAY'S LONGER PASSAGE, HAVE THE CHILDREN ACT IT OUT AS YOU READ.

13 That same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a town named Emmaus... 14 They were talking about everything that had happened. 15 While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself came near and began walking with them. 16 (They were not allowed to recognize Jesus.) 17 Then he said, "What are these things you are talking about while you walk?" The two followers stopped. Their faces were very sad. 18 The one named Cleopas answered, "You must be the only one in Jerusalem who does not know what just happened there." 19 Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about?" The followers said, "It is about Jesus of Nazareth. He said and did many powerful things. 20 Our leaders... gave him up to be judged and killed. They nailed him to a cross. 22 And today some women among us told us some amazing things. Early this morning they went to the tomb, 23 but they did not find his body there. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels. The angels said that Jesus was alive! 24 So some of our group went to the tomb, too. They found it just as the women said, but they did not see Jesus." 30 Jesus sat down with them and took some bread. He gave thanks for the food and divided it. Then he gave it to them. 31 And then, they were allowed to recognize Jesus. But when they saw who he was, he disappeared. 32 They said to each other, "When Jesus talked to us on the road, it felt like a [good] fire burning in us." 33 So the two followers got up at once and went back to Jerusalem. There they found the 11 apostles and others gathered. 34 They were saying, "The Lord really has risen from death! He showed himself to Simon."

Say, "Can you imagine how shocked these men must have been after seeing Jesus alive? They had some big news to share, didn't they? They couldn't wait to **tell the Good News** of Jesus."

- Ask, "The story we just read said the women came back from Jesus' tomb and told the disciples that He had risen. If they had already heard the Good News, why do you think these men were sad?"

"Great answers! It sounds like the disciples didn't believe the women. But after the men saw Jesus, they did believe! Our job as followers of Jesus is to believe the Good News and share it—Jesus is alive, and He rose from the grave!"

**TRANSITION:** Say, "Let's talk more about this story!"

## DISCUSS – 10 MINUTES

Discuss the story: Say, “We have a lot to discuss today. Let’s jump right in!”

**1. What announcement did the two men share with the disciples?**

Response: We saw Jesus! He is alive! He has risen from death!

**2. What was Jesus doing when the two men recognized Him?**

Response: He was praying and “breaking the bread.”

**3. Does Jesus’ act of blessing and breaking the bread remind you of other events these disciples might have experienced or known about?**

Response: This sounds very similar to the Last Supper (Luke 22:19) and the feeding of the 5,000 (Luke 9:16).

**4. How is the story about Mary at the Tomb (from last week) similar to today’s story?**

Response: Jesus is initially unrecognizable to Mary, and the two men on the road to Emmaus; both the men and Mary were very sad until they realized they were seeing the risen Jesus, etc.

**5. What part of today’s story is most surprising to you?**

Response: Answers will vary.

**6. How can this story help us?**

Response: Answers will vary. You could discuss how grateful we are to all of these believers who shared their stories of seeing Jesus after His crucifixion. They were the first people to **tell the Good News!**

**7. What do we learn about God in this story?**

Response: God wants a relationship with us, God is alive, God is patient with his followers, God encounters us personally.

**TRANSITION:** Say, “Awesome! Let’s do an activity to help us remember our story.”

## RESPOND – 15 MINUTES

**MATERIALS:** | “Road to Emmaus” Gameboard | Game Pieces (Counters, Buttons, Pom-Poms, etc.) | Crayons | Dice |

Say, “Today, we will be creating a board game! Has anyone ever tried to make their own board game before? Great! Our board games are going to include an important road. Who knows which road it is? Right! The Road to Emmaus!”

- Allow the children to decorate their “Road to Emmaus” game board.
- Children can play their board games if time permits.

**MODIFICATION:** You can also download virtual dice through your phone’s app store.



TO MAKE THE BOARD GAMES MORE “OFFICIAL,” LAMINATE THEM WHEN THE STUDENTS ARE FINISHED.

**TRANSITION:** Say, “Your board games look great! Now you can take them home and play them with your families as a reminder of our story. They will also help you remember to **tell the Good News.**”

## MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "This is the last week we will practice this month's verse. Who remembers it?" Let the children who have memorized the verse share it with the class.

**"Go everywhere** (point forward) **in the world** (make the shape of the earth with your arms). **Tell the Good News** (put your hands around your mouth) **to everyone** (open your arms wide)." **Mark 16:15 (ICB)**

**CHALLENGE:** If you are looking for ways to get your children excited about memorizing Scripture, talk with your kid's pastor about incorporating the children's learning into the adult service. For example, some churches occasionally have a family service when everyone worships together. During one of those services, you could include one of the songs you sing in class and invite the children to share their memory verse with the congregation.

## REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "We have heard some Good News this month! And Jesus wants us to tell the Good News to everyone! It's too wonderful to keep a secret. It needs to be announced!" Use this time to encourage children to share prayer requests.



**MAKE SURE TO PRAY FOR ALL MENTIONED NEEDS . NO REQUEST IS TOO SMALL! IF THERE ARE LOTS OF REQUESTS, WRITE THEM DOWN. THIS WILL ALSO HELP YOU REMEMBER TO ASK ABOUT**

**SAMPLE PRAYER:** *"God, we are so grateful for the Good News of Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for making Yourself real to us as you did for the men on the road to Emmaus. Help us to know Your love and boldly share it with others. We love you! In Jesus' name, Amen."*

## RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, the children can play their board games or replay the game of "Telephone."

**It was  
shocking to  
see Jesus  
alive.**

**The angel  
appeared  
and had  
good news.**

**Jesus was  
celebrated  
and hated.**

**Mary was  
the first one  
to see Jesus  
alive.**

**An earthquake  
shook the  
ground when  
Jesus died.**

**Jesus is  
the great  
announcement.**





