



THE BIGGEST ANNOUNCEMENT

JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS!

IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM

ROAD TO EMMAUS

BIBLE PASSAGE

Luke 24:13-20, 22-24, 30-33 (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 | News Cards | Road to Emmaus Game Board | 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 THE CHILDREN ARE STRUGGLING TO KNOW WHAT TO SAY IN GROUP PRAYERS, BEGIN TEACHING THEM “THE LORD’S PRAYER.” CHRIST USED IT TO TEACH HIS DISCIPLES TO PRAY AND IT LAYS A GREAT FOUNDATION FOR OUR CHILDREN.

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 previous lessons using the weekly puzzle pieces.

BACKGROUND: Say, "This month we've focused on **telling the Good News** that Jesus has risen! We do this by making a big announcement! Who can remind us of what an announcement is? It's something one person tells others."

- Ask, "Who can give me an example of something we might announce?" (Examples could include that a child's grandparent is coming to visit, or their mother is having a baby, or they had a birthday this week.)

"Three weeks ago, we talked about Holy Week—the last week of Jesus' life. Then two weeks ago, we heard about an angel's announcement that Jesus has risen! Finally, last week, we learned about Mary seeing Jesus at the tomb. We've heard great announcements! Well, today we have one more announcement to talk about, and it's a great one! But first, who wants to hang up our last puzzle piece for this month?"

TRANSITION: Say, "Are you ready to play a game about announcements?"

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | "Telephone" News Cards |

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

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

HOW TO PLAY:

- Have everyone 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 card to the class to see if it matches the last message.
- 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 that Jesus had risen from the dead, but they didn't believe it because they hadn't seen Jesus for themselves."

- Ask, "Have you ever felt like it's hard to believe in something you can't see?"

“Sometimes, it is hard to believe in something we can’t see with our eyes. Let’s find out what our story teaches us about trusting God!” Read Luke 24:13-20, 22-24, 30-33 (ICB).



THIS IS A LONGER STORY—TO KEEP CHILDREN ENGAGED READ WITH LOTS OF EXPRESSION AND HAVE YOUR STUDENTS ACT OUT WHAT THE TWO MEN WERE FEELING AT DIFFERENT POINTS IN THE STORY. FOR EXAMPLE, AFTER VERSE 17, ASK YOUR STUDENTS TO SHOW YOU THEIR BEST SAD FACE.

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 surprised these men must have been after seeing Jesus alive? They had big news to share, didn’t they? They couldn’t wait to **tell the Good News of Jesus.**”

- Ask, “What happened after the two men saw Jesus?”

“That’s right! The disciples left to go and **tell the Good News** because after they saw Jesus, they believed! Our job as followers of Jesus is to share this Good News with everyone: Jesus is alive, and He has risen 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. Who can remember why the two men were sad?

Response: The men were sad because Jesus had died.

2. What announcement did the two men share with the disciples after they had seen Jesus?

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

3. What do you think is the most surprising thing in this story?

Response: Answers will vary.

4. What can help you believe in Jesus even though you can't see Him?

Response: The Bible tells us about Jesus, and we know the Bible is true.

5. 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 resurrection. They were the first people to **tell the Good News!**

6. What do we learn about God in this story?

Response: God loves us, God is alive, God is patient with his followers, God wants us to believe in Him.

TRANSITION: Say, "Awesome job! 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!" (Make it clear that Emmaus is the name of a city, not a person's name.)

- 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.



(HELPFUL HINT) TO MAKE THE BOARD GAMES MORE "OFFICIAL," LAMINATE THEM WHEN THE STUDENTS ARE FINISHED. THESE BOARD GAMES WOULD ALSO MAKE A GOOD REVIEW ACTIVITY.

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 get to practice this memory verse. Does anyone remember our verse?" 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 great to keep as a secret. It needs to be announced!" Use this time to encourage children to share prayer requests.



MAKE SURE YOU ARE PRAYING FOR ALL NEEDS THAT ARE MENTIONED. NO PRAYER REQUEST IS TOO SMALL! EVERY SINGLE ONE MATTERS TO GOD!

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 Telephone.

**WOW!
Jesus is
alive!**

**The angel
had good
news.**

**Jesus was
loved and
hated.**

**Mary saw
Jesus
alive.**

**Jesus
died on
the cross**

**Jesus is
the BEST
announcement.**



