



THE BIGGEST ANNOUNCEMENT

JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS!

IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM

JESUS IS RISEN: EASTER

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 28:1-8 (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 | Plastic Eggs (Optional) | Charade Picture Cards | Scissors | Timer (Optional) |
Construction Paper | Tape | Crayons | Stickers (Optional) |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- If you could visit any animal in the world, which one would it be? Why?
- What is your favorite thing to do with your family?



TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS FROM THE MOMENT THE CHILDREN WALK INTO THE ROOM.

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

1 Chronicles 16:23 says, “Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day.” Remind your students that as we worship, we are proclaiming how grateful we are that God sent His Son to die for us. Before moving on, take a moment to discuss what it means to “proclaim.” When we proclaim, we announce something, or we tell something boldly (or loudly and proudly). Now, proclaim how good God is as you sing!”

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather the children in a group for prayer.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, we are so thankful for Your Son, Jesus! We celebrate You and thank You for loving us unconditionally. Help us fall more in love with You today! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

Use the weekly puzzle pieces to review previous lessons.

BACKGROUND: Say, “This month we’re learning about ‘The BIGGEST Announcement!’ And today, we’re going to talk about the best announcement of all! Remember: An announcement is an important message one person shares with others. It’s often a message shared with lots of people.”

- Ask, “Can someone tell me about a time when you heard an announcement?”

“Do you remember last Sunday when we talked about Holy Week—the week leading up to Jesus’ death? We heard some wonderful and terrible things, didn’t we? But now, we get to celebrate the biggest announcement God ever made! Let’s put up our puzzle piece for this week!”

TRANSITION: Say, “Before I tell you what that announcement is, we need to get ready for our story by playing a game!”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Plastic Eggs (Optional—15 per class) | Charade Picture Cards | Scissors | Timer (Optional) |

Say, “Who likes the game Charades?! Great! Charades is a game about figuring out what a person is acting out. Then we get to announce what we think they’re doing loudly!”

GAME GOAL: The class will work together to try and guess what each person is acting out.



HAVE AN ADULT ACT OUT THE FIRST CARD TO HELP THE CHILDREN UNDERSTAND. ALSO, BEFORE YOU BEGIN, EXPLAIN THAT IT’S OK IF NO ONE UNDERSTANDS WHAT THEY’RE ACTING OUT. (CHILDREN THIS AGE GET THEIR FEELINGS HURT EASILY.) BE CLEAR ABOUT THE FACT THAT THIS IS A GAME WITH NO WINNER.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Fill each egg (optional) with one charade picture card.
- Invite the children, one at a time, to open an egg and act out the action phrases on the charade card.
- The class will try to guess and announce what the person is acting out.
- Once guessed correctly, choose another volunteer and repeat the process.

MODIFICATION: It may be helpful to use a timer and give each “actor” a time limit. We recommend no more than 2 minutes per card.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great! You all are awesome at making announcements! It looks like you’re ready to hear the biggest announcement. Let’s listen to find out what it is!”

LEARN – 10 MINUTES

Say, "Today we will be learning about the BIGGEST announcement in the history of all announcements! Last week, we ended Holy Week in a very sad way. Jesus died on the cross, and His body was placed in a tomb. Today's story takes place just three days later! Let's read!" Read Matthew 28:1-8 (ICB).

At dawn on the first day, Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 At that time there was a strong earthquake. An angel of the Lord came down from heaven. The angel went to the tomb and rolled the stone away from the entrance. Then he sat on the stone. 3 He was shining as bright as lightning. His clothes were white as snow. 4 The soldiers guarding the tomb were very frightened of the angel. They shook with fear and then became like dead men. 5 The angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus, the one who was killed on the cross. 6 But he is not here. He has risen from death as he said he would. Come and see the place where his body was. 7 And go quickly and tell his followers. Say to them: 'Jesus has risen from death. He is going into Galilee. He will be there before you. You will see him there...'" 8 The women left the tomb quickly. They were afraid, but they were also very happy. They ran to tell Jesus' followers what had happened.

Say, "This is a story we should celebrate!"

- Ask, "Can someone tell me why this story has the BIGGEST announcement of all?"

"Yes! This is the BEST announcement because it tells us Jesus is alive! The angel said, 'He has risen from death.' What great news!"

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's talk about what Jesus' death and resurrection (coming back to life) does for those who believe in Jesus."

DISCUSS – 15 MINUTES

Say, "We're going to use this time of discussion to think about what Jesus has done for us."



THIS IS A DIFFERENT DISCUSSION TIME THAN NORMAL. USE THIS ACTIVITY TO HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND WHAT JESUS HAS DONE FOR THEM ON THE CROSS.

1. Ask, "Have you ever been put in timeout (or been disciplined)? How did it make you feel?" Reinforce the negative feelings of timeout (sad, upset, ashamed, frustrated, angry, anxious, etc.)
2. Remind the children that we usually get put in timeout because we have done something wrong. When we do something wrong, we get in trouble.
3. We aren't perfect and we never will be.

4. Say, "Timeouts and other punishments will never take away the bad things we do, or make us good enough to be God's children because God is perfect."

5. Say, "But here's the good news! Jesus came to do what we couldn't do. Because He loves us so much, Jesus took our punishment. Jesus, who is perfect, died on a cross for us, and now we can be forgiven. We can be God's children!"

6. Say, "We can be perfect in God's eyes because Jesus took the punishment in our place."

TRANSITION: Say, "It makes me so thankful to think about how much Jesus loves me! Now, we get to **tell the Good News** of what Jesus has done for us to everyone we meet! Let's make something that will help us **tell the Good News!**"

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Construction Paper (Any Color—1 per person) | Tape | Crayons | Stickers (Optional) |

Say, "Today, we are going to make megaphones to **tell the Good News** that Jesus has risen! It's the biggest announcement we could ever share!"

- Give each child one piece of construction paper.
- Instruct them to write their initials somewhere on their paper, and then starting from the corner, have the children roll their paper into a cone shape.
- Tape the megaphone together and write "Jesus is Risen" on the side.
- Children can walk around using their megaphone to announce the Good News that Jesus has risen from the grave.

MEGAPHONE GAME: If there is extra time remaining, play the following game:

- Holding their megaphones, have everyone stand in a circle.
- The phrase the children will be saying is, "Good news! Jesus has risen!"
- Choose one person to be the "starter."
- The "starter" will say the first word into their megaphone from the phrase above: "Good."
- Then, the next person will say the following word in the phrase ("news") while holding their megaphone.
- Repeat until all the words are said.

TRANSITION: Say, "Awesome job, everyone! Let's be people who **tell the Good News!** Who's ready to practice this month's memory verse?"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Our memory verse is about announcing Jesus! We get to **tell the Good News** to others! The biggest news we get to share is that **JESUS HAS RISEN!**"



COMMUNICATE WHY WE MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE. SAY, "WE MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD SO WE DON'T FORGET HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US AND THAT WE CAN ALWAYS TRUST HIM."

"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: Get your kids moving as you memorize! Have each child pick a corner to stand in. Then, recite the verse together. Next, say "Good News!" as a signal for them to run and switch corners. Once everyone finds a new corner, repeat the verse. Continue the process several times as you practice learning the words together.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

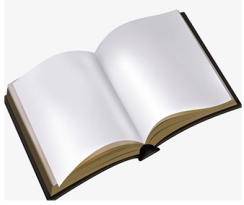
Say, "Jesus has risen, and now we can **tell the Good News!** Don't forget that Jesus paid the highest price—with His life—so we can be saved! We don't deserve it, but Jesus died for our sins because He loves us. Praise Jesus!"

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"Jesus, we are so thankful You died and rose from the dead! You are so loving to rescue us and save us! Touch our hearts to help us understand Your great love. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, you can create additional Charades cards and replay the ENGAGE activity.

CHARADE CARDS

 <p>BRUSHING YOUR TEETH</p>	 <p>BLOWING OUT CANDLES</p>	 <p>DANCING</p>
 <p>TAKING A SHOWER</p>	 <p>READING A BOOK</p>	 <p>EATING AN ICE CREAM CONE</p>
 <p>SWIMMING</p>	 <p>RUNNING</p>	 <p>BUILDING A SANDCASTLE</p>
 <p>OPENING A PRESENT</p>	 <p>COOKING</p>	 <p>SWEEPING THE FLOOR</p>
 <p>PLAYING SOCCER</p>	 <p>CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN</p>	 <p>RIDING A BIKE</p>

