



UNBELIEVABLE

JESUS' RESURRECTION APPEARANCES

IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM

JESUS APPEARS TO DISCIPLES

BIBLE PASSAGE

John 20:19; Luke 24:37-43 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does the unbelievable.

FOCUS VERSE

"Stop doubting and believe." John 20:27 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Charades Cards | Spinner Template | Straw (or 6" Wooden Craft Dowels, Pipe Cleaners) | Glue Sticks or Tape | Crayons | Scissors |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What is your favorite color?
- What is your favorite game?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Many kids will go through their entire lives without knowing why we worship unless we teach them. Don't leave your students to figure it out on their own. Say, "Did you know the Bible says we have been created to worship God? Isaiah 43:21 says that God formed each of us for Himself so that we would praise Him. We are designed for worship!"

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather the children, and ask for a volunteer to pray.



ENCOURAGE DIFFERENT CHILDREN TO PRAY AT THE START OF EACH CLASS. REMIND THE KIDS THAT GOD LOVES HEARING FROM EACH OF THEM.

SAMPLE PRAYER: "Jesus, thank You for being with us every single day—even when we don't think about it. Thank You for everyone you've brought here to learn. Help us know You a little bit better by the end of this class. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

Review previous units using the weekly puzzle pieces.

BACKGROUND: Say, “I can’t believe how much we’ve learned about Jesus already! Remember when we read about the supernatural miracles of Jesus (Unit 1)? What about the weeks when we talked about Jesus’ Parables (Unit 2)? Isn’t God good to teach us His truth in stories we can understand? Then, we discussed how Jesus loves our hearts and will make them pure if we let Him (Unit 3). Finally, last month, we studied the Biggest Announcement that Jesus had risen from the dead (Unit 4)!”

“This month we have another exciting series called UNBELIEVABLE. Does anyone know what the word ‘unbelievable’ means? Unbelievable means something that is so incredible and so surprising that it’s hard, almost impossible, to believe! Let’s put up our first Unbelievable puzzle piece.”

TRANSITION: Say, “Let’s play a game before reading our first unbelievable story!”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Charade Cards |

Say, “Today we are going to play Charades! But here is the catch: All of the charades will be about something from our story. Let’s play!”

GAME GOAL: To act out a word or phrase without speaking in order to get your team to guess the word correctly.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Divide into two teams.
- Divide the charade cards equally between the teams.
- Team 1 - choose an actor.
- Team 2 - Show team 1’s actor the phrase on a card they have chosen without the rest of team 1 seeing the phrase.
- Set a timer to 2 minutes.
- Team 1’s actor must now act out the phrase for his own team in the time frame given.
- If team 1 correctly guesses the clue, they score 1 point. If they don’t - no score!
- Team 2’s turn - Team 1 hands a clue card to the chosen actor of team 2.
- Continue the game giving each team a turn to act - alternating sides and a different actor each time.

MODIFICATION: You can also play this game in a non-competitive way with you, the teacher, giving each actor their card, and by having the large group guess together.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job with our game! Let’s see what Charades has to do with our story.”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, “The story we will be reading is called, *Jesus Appears to His Disciples*. Remember last month when we learned that Jesus died, but then came back to life? Well in today’s story, the disciples have heard that Jesus is alive, but they haven’t seen Him yet. This story is going to sound unbelievable! Who’s ready to

hear it?" Read John 20:19 and Luke 24:37-42 (ICB).



KEEP THE CHARADE CARDS OUT AND REFER TO THEM WHILE READING THE STORY.

19 It was the first day of the week. That evening Jesus' followers were together. The doors were locked, because they were afraid of the Jews. Then Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you!" 37 They were fearful and terrified. They thought they were seeing a ghost. 38 But Jesus said, "Why are you troubled? Why do you doubt what you see? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me. You can see that I have a living body; a ghost does not have a body like this." 40 After Jesus said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 The followers were amazed and very happy. They still could not believe it. Jesus said to them, "Do you have any food here?" 42 They gave him a piece of cooked fish. 43 While the followers watched, Jesus took the fish and ate it.

Say, "What an unbelievable story! Jesus must've shocked His followers that day."

- Ask, "Who can name one unbelievable thing from the story we just read?"

"We get to serve and worship a God who does the unbelievable! Jesus doesn't have to follow our rules or do what we expect. He is bigger and better than that! **Jesus does the unbelievable.**"

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's move on to our discussion time!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Discuss the story: Say, "Alright, let's talk about the Bible story."

1. Who does the unbelievable?

Response: Jesus.

2. Why did the disciples lock the door?

Response: They were afraid Jesus' enemies might try to kill them too.

3. Why did they think Jesus was a ghost?

Response: They didn't believe Jesus was alive, so when they saw Him, they were surprised. Jesus seemed like a ghost because He suddenly appeared in the room without using the door.

4. Why do you think Jesus asked His followers to touch His hands and His feet?

Response: Jesus was proving He was really there and that He wasn't a ghost. He wanted them to feel the nail holes in His hands and His feet, so they would know He was the same Jesus, but that He had risen from the dead.

5. Why do you think this story is important for us?

Response: Answers will vary.

6. Why do you think Jesus came back to see His disciples?

Response: Jesus loved His disciples, and He went to great lengths to make sure they knew He was alive. Jesus also loves us. Because He came to the disciples and showed them He was alive, they told others. We know about Jesus, in part, because their stories are recorded in God's Word.

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

Response: God wants a relationship with us, God brings peace, God is alive, God does unbelievable acts, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job answering those questions! **Jesus truly does unbelievable things**, doesn't He? Let's do an activity to help us remember our story."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Spinner Template | Straw (or 6" Wooden Craft Dowels, Pipe Cleaners) | Glue Sticks or Tape | Crayons | Scissors |

Say, "We get to make a craft from the story we just learned! We are going to make something called a Story Spinner. Who's ready to see how to do that?" Craft created by *Connectible*.

- Give each child one spinner template and one straw.
- Have the children cut along the outside of the spinner template. (Note: Do not cut the middle line separating the disciples and Jesus).
- Color the spinner template. Then fold it together on the middle line so that both images are facing out.
- Glue or tape the straw in the bottom middle of the inside of the fold.
- Finally, glue or tape the spinner closed around the straw.
- **FINAL PRODUCT:** The children will quickly spin the straw to see Jesus appear and disappear from the disciples' view.

TRANSITION: Say, "Your crafts look awesome! Now we can share the unbelievable story of Jesus appearing to his followers through a locked door. Remember, **Jesus does the unbelievable!**"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "I have good news for you: We have a brand-new verse for this month, and I think you'll be able to remember it easily: The verse only has 4 words. But it's powerful!"

Tell the children that this verse contains words Jesus spoke to His followers when He appeared to them. Read it one time through, do the actions, and then invite everyone to do it with you.

"Stop doubting (Extend your left hand, palm upward. Sharply bring the side of your right hand down to your left palm in a "chopping" motion) and believe (point to both of your temples)." John 20:27 (NIV) (hold your hands like a book)



OUR ACTION FOR “STOP DOUBTING” IS THE SAME AS THE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE MOTION FOR “STOP.” FOR A VISUAL, GOOGLE THE SIGN.

CHALLENGE: Have the children say the verse at different speeds. You can even have a competition to see who can say it the slowest, the fastest, or with the best accent!

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “Can you believe that we get to have a relationship with our Heavenly Father (God) who does unbelievable things?! **Jesus did the unbelievable** in the disciple’s lives, and He wants to do the unbelievable in our lives too. Who would like to pray for us before we go?” Take prayer requests.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “*Jesus, we love You! You are amazing, powerful, and unbelievable. You deserve all of our praise and worship! Help us see how unbelievable You are every day. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*”

RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, play another game of charades or complete unfinished crafts. You could also have the children retell the Bible story to a partner. Don’t forget to hand out the monthly Parent Guide!

GUIDE EXPLANATION:

1. Provides engaging questions and activities for family discipleship.
2. Reviews what the children are learning each week.

CHARADE CARDS

Directions: Cut the charade cards out. Fold the cards in half and place them in a small bin.

GHOST	DOOR
NAIL	PEACE
BODY	FISH
COOK	HANDS
FEET	LOCK



