

LESSON 25

JESUS DIES AND RISES AGAIN

Matthew 26:47 - 28:10

Jesus had spent all his life doing good and helping people. But wicked men hated him and planned to kill him.

One night when Jesus was in a garden with his disciples, soldiers came and took him away. They were very cruel to Jesus, and in the end they took him out to a hill and nailed him to a big pole (your Bible might call it a "stake" or a "cross") stuck in the ground, so everyone could see him.

Soon Jesus died and his friends laid him in a large cave. Then a wonderful thing happened. Three days later, Mary and some other ladies went to where Jesus had been laid. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the doorway of the cave. Jesus' body wasn't there any more. Then they saw two angels, who told them that Jesus was alive again. The ladies were very happy and ran off to tell the disciples. On their way, they met Jesus. God had raised Jesus from the dead, and he would never die again.

After forty days, Jesus went to be with God in heaven, and he is still there now. Soon he will come back to the earth again to set up God's Kingdom.

ACTIVITY

Draw sad faces on the ladies. Use glitter to decorate the angels. Cut out a piece of sandpaper for the large stone. Colour or paint the rest of the illustration.

FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Make a cave out of brown playdough. Have a stone as the entrance.

Tear narrow strips of old sheeting and bind up a doll to show how dead people were wrapped in those days.

Find or draw two pictures to show life and death - a person lying motionless; a person standing smiling.

Talk about insects the children see and what happens when an insect dies.

Use a sandtray to show the soldiers arresting Jesus and later placing him in a cave.

Have children draw two pictures of the faces of Jesus' disciples - when they knew he was dead, and when they heard he was alive again.

God brought Jesus back to life again.

