

I Say L.O.V.E

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I SAY L.O.V.E

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to go away? This week a friend of mine shared a song with me that has done exactly that.

The song is not fancy. It only has six words. It is a teacher training video and not a performance for the Grammy Awards. Even so, it is stuck in my mind like glue. Listen a few times and I dare you to forget it.

Everybody needs some love.

Lyrics:

I say L
I say L-O
L-O-V
L-O-V-E

Everybody needs some love. L-O-V-E!

Everybody needs some love. L-O-V-E!

Everybody needs some love. L-O-V-E!

Everybody needs some love.

For more songs and free teaching resources visit [Mission Bible Class](https://missionbibleclass.org)

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The One About the Cross

"Teacher, when you tell stories, do you think sometimes you could tell me the one about the cross. I keep wondering what that cross is about." I will never forget that question from a little boy who attended church and my Bible class for the first time.

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25 Ways to Teach Children About the Resurrection of Jesus

Many teachers are making plans to tell the resurrection story on Easter Sunday. Whether at Easter or any other time here are some ideas that will help you share what is the most important event in the Bible.

"FOR WE KNOW THAT SINCE CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD,

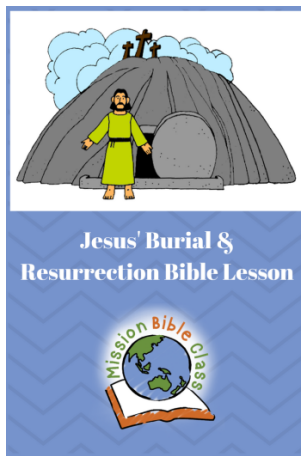
HE CANNOT DIE AGAIN; DEATH NO LONGER HAS MASTERY OVER HIM."

ROMANS 6:9, NIV

1. Learn about the [Burial and Resurrection of Jesus](#) so you will understand the story and feel comfortable sharing it with a child.
2. Gather your family together for quality time and learn about the [Burial and Resurrection in this Family Bible Time lesson](#)
3. Download and view a slideshow and pictures from <http://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-alive/>
4. Sing songs together from the church hymnal about the resurrection. Search for songs on YouTube:
 - Low in the Grave He Lay
 - Christ the Lord is Risen Today
 - Rabboni!
 - He Lives
 - Lord I Lift Your Name on High
5. Visit a mature older Christian and ask them to share why the Resurrection is important to them.
6. Black out the windows of your classroom to make it dark like the tomb. Quietly tell the story of the resurrection by the light of a candle or by torch/flashlight
7. Place a dark cloth over a small table to form a "tomb". Ask someone to be the body inside. Place a cardboard rock at the entrance. Let the children see the body inside and then put the stone in place. "The body" crawls out the back and the children remove the stone to see an empty tomb. Young ones love this obvious re-enactment.
8. Choose words related to the resurrection story and tape them onto stones. Before class begins hide the stones so that children can hunt for them. As the children collect the stone discuss the meaning of the words. Here are some words you might use:
 - Death
 - Burial
 - Resurrection
 - Cross
 - Tomb
 - Forgiveness
9. After telling about the Resurrection [guide a child in praying](#) thanks to God.
10. Read a book about Easter.



11. Use these [instructions for The Story of the Cross](#) to learn a simple way to tell the story using one sheet of paper.
12. Responsive Drawing: Guide older children in reading today's scripture references. Then have them draw about what they have read. Use a blank piece of paper or print this worksheet: [The Burial and Resurrection of Jesus_Drawing Response](#)
13. Responsive Writing: Guide older children in reading today's scripture references. Then have them draw about what they have read. Use a blank piece of paper or print this worksheet: [The Burial and Resurrection of Jesus_Writing Response](#)
14. Ask younger children to draw the story of the resurrection.
15. Make use of plastic eggs on sale at Easter time. Use these [instructions for "Resurrection Eggs"](#) to re-tell the story of the resurrection.



24. Try out some of the ideas on the Pinterest Board: [Life of Christ \(late ministry\)](#)
25. More puzzles and worksheets to print:
- [Worksheets and Puzzles: A printable \(Easter\) booklet containing a number of puzzles at <http://sundayschoolresources.co.uk/activities.php>](#)
 - [A children's sermon and activities at <https://sermons4kids.com/surprise.html>](https://sermons4kids.com/surprise.html)
 - [Wordsearch puzzle \(1\) from <http://www.christiananswers.net/kids/wrdsrch6.html>](http://www.christiananswers.net/kids/wrdsrch6.html)
 - [Wordsearch puzzle \(2\) from <http://www.christiananswers.net/kids/wordsearch-resurrection.html>](http://www.christiananswers.net/kids/wordsearch-resurrection.html)

This post is an update of one published 22 March 2015.

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Oh, Baby!



My Friend Jesus (6 Lessons)

After a long delay between lessons the “My Friend Jesus” series for Babies and Toddlers is now complete. Hopefully, it will help parents and teachers share the story of Jesus with little ones.

In this series infants and toddlers are introduced to Jesus and relate to him through various common experiences of childhood (celebration, helping, community, worship and growth). Role-play and sensory activities are used to express a growing relationship and friendship with him.

The first breath Jesus took on this earth was as a fragile newborn infant. The One who would save the world had to have his nappies/diapers changed. He learned to feed himself, crawl and walk. He experienced the human senses of taste, touch, hearing, sight and smell.

Infants and Toddlers can know that Jesus is special, experience affinity with Jesus through role-play and sensory activities. They can learn practices that express friendship, affection, obedience, respect and worship.

Lessons in this Series:

1. Cherished Baby

Expressing love through protection and tender care.

2. Time to Celebrate

The joy of giving, receiving and celebrating.

3. Helper at Home

Being part of a family by sharing responsibilities at home.

4. Worship and Praise

Being part of a community of worshippers.

5. Growing and Learning

The satisfaction of maturing and moving forward.

6. My Friend, Jesus

Comfort, love and affection in a relationship with Jesus.

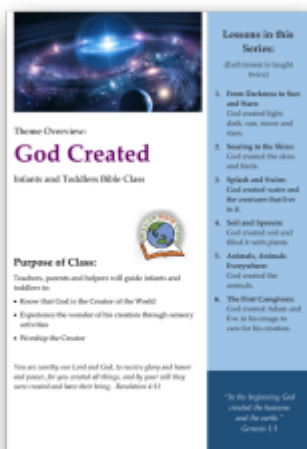


My Friend Jesus
(6 Lessons)

[Download the complete set here.](#)

[Go to the "My Friend Jesus page on this website.](#)

Additional Infant and Toddler Lessons



God Created
(6 Lessons)

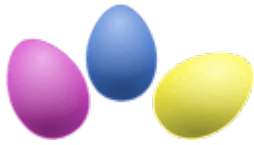


God is With Me
(6 Lessons)

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Unscrambling that Empty Egg



We often speak of emptiness as bad, but sometimes “empty” is good. That is the case of the empty tomb!

Many of us re-tell the resurrection story around Easter time. I thought I would share my favourite teaching tool for telling the Easter story. And, yes, it involves plastic eggs.

I did not come up with this teaching idea, but I have to say I’ve used it over and over through the years. Kids love it, and teachers find it very easy to use. I published a blog post about it in 2012, but I think it is worth posting again.

Here’s what you do:

[\(click here for printable instructions\)](#)

1. Collect 12 plastic eggs and a used egg carton to store them in.
Note that you don’t have to use plastic eggs if they are not available. You can use 12 sacks or boxes or just cover the items with 12 cloths or paper.
2. Use a permanent marker to number the eggs from one to twelve.
3. Collect representative items (listed below) and put them inside the eggs. Place the eggs inside the egg carton.
4. Introduce the story by asking the children how they would feel if they went on an Easter egg hunt and every egg they found was empty. Lead into the lesson by saying sometimes it is GOOD if an egg is empty. Sometimes an empty egg is the best egg of all.
5. Open the egg carton and begin the lesson by opening egg number one.
6. As you open the eggs one at a time you re-tell the story to the children. You might let them guess what each of the items might represent.
7. After you tell the story, distribute the eggs to the children and let them take turns re-telling the story.
8. If you are able and have fewer children, then you might help the children make one of these sets each to take home.

Here’s a list of items inside the eggs:

- Egg #1: A leaf or twig (palm leaf if you have one)
[Triumphal Entry- Matthew 21:1-11](#)
- Egg #2: A cracker or communion cup
[The Last Supper- Luke 22:7-23](#)
- Egg #3: Coins (Judas betrayed Jesus for coins)
[Judas betraying Jesus- Matthew 26:14-16](#)
- Egg #4: Thorns (thorny twigs from a bush)
[Crown of thorns- Matthew 27:27-31](#)
- Egg #5: A cross (made from twigs or paper)
[Jesus carrying the cross- John 19:17](#)
- Egg #6: Nails
[Jesus being nailed to the cross John 19:18; John 20:25-29](#)
- Egg #7: Dice and purple cloth
[Soldiers cast lots for Jesus’ clothes- John 19:23-24](#)
- Egg #8: Black paper or cloth
The darkness [covering the earth- Matthew 27:45](#)
- Egg #9: Small piece of Sponge
The soldier [offered a drink of vinegar on a sponge to Jesus- Matthew 27:46-48](#)
- Egg #10: Thin cloth (white)
[Joseph of Arimathea wrapped Jesus in the cloth- Matthew 27:57-60](#)
- Egg #11: A stone
[The stone that was rolled away- Matthew 28:1-4](#)
- Egg #12: EMPTY!!
[He is not here. Jesus is alive! Matthew 28:5-7](#)

As I said, this idea is not new to me. Some people have also begun to market these so an online search will lead you to those.

I've listed some sites I have seen that explain some other homemade variations.

- [Faithward](#)
- [Gathering Grace Home](#)
- [Youtube Video by "Teach Beside Me"](#)

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