

Just For Leaders

PREPARE

God Helps Me Obey—God Sent Jesus for Me

Read: Luke 23:44–24:12

“In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee.”

Luke 24:5-6a

Reflect: How can you celebrate that Jesus is alive this week?

- A. I can invite a friend to come to church with me.
- B. I can share the difference Jesus makes in my life with someone.
- C. I can confess sin and commit to following God more closely.

Pray: Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to take the punishment I deserve for sin. Thank You that Jesus came back to life, defeated sin and death, and made the way for me to have a relationship with You now and forever. Help me celebrate the truth of who You are and how much You love me every day. I love you so much! Amen.

Prepare: What difference does Jesus dying for sins, defeating death, and coming back to life make in your life and the lives of people around you?

BIBLE STORY

God Sent Jesus for Me

Jesus Is Alive

Matthew 26–28; Mark 15:33–16:8; Luke 23:44–24:12; John 19

BIBLE VERSE

"You are my friends if you do what I command you."

John 15:14

PRAYER

Dear God,

thank You for loving and caring for us. Thank You that we can celebrate Easter because You sent Jesus to make the way to have a relationship with You.

Help us believe the truth of who You are and what You have done. Help us to live our lives by pointing others toward You. We love you so much!

Amen.

TEACH

- **Gather** the children for a Bible story.
- **Lead** them in singing the Bible Transition Song (sung to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb").

Now it's time to hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

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Now it's time to hear God's Word

So let's look in the Bible

- **Give** the baby a Bible board book to hold or show him or her a Bible.

SAY: The Bible is God's Word. God's Word is true. It teaches us that God is Holy!

- **Show** the Bible story picture to the baby and read the talking points to him or her.

Bible Story:

- Jesus taught that He was God's Son.
- Everyone who believed in Him would have a friendship with God.
- Jesus died and was placed in a tomb, but three days later Jesus Christ had risen and is alive.

EXPERIENCE

1. Strong Roots

Encourage the babies to play with the flower pot. Have them count and stack the flowers and go over the colors.

Connect it- *Flowers need roots to stand strong. We need Jesus to help us stand strong. Jesus will help us obey God's word and keep us strong.*

2. Jesus is King

Encourage the babies to place the plush Jesus on the plush donkey to reenact when Jesus rides into Jerusalem.

Connect it- *Jesus is our Savior, and we can celebrate Him. Jesus saved us from our sins.*

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PREPARE

God Helps Me Obey—God Helps Me with My Thoughts

Read: Proverbs 4

*“Get wisdom, get understanding;
do not forget my words or turn away from them.
Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you;
love her, and she will watch over you.”
Proverbs 4:5-6*

Reflect: What would help you trust and follow God’s wisdom?

- A. Spend time learning from God’s Word, the Bible.
- B. Pause and ask myself, “What would God want me to think about right now?”
- C. Let go of worldly ideas and options and focus on God’s truth.

Pray: God, help me with my thoughts this week. Help my mind stay focused on You so I can obey You and turn away from anything that would distract me. Thank You for helping me obey You. I love you Father! Amen.

Prepare: What does it mean to follow God’s wisdom, and what part do our thoughts play in living that way?

BIBLE STORY

God Helps Me with My Thoughts

Wise King Solomon
1 Kings 3:1-15; 2 Chronicles
1:1-13; Proverbs 4

BIBLE VERSE

*"You are my friends if you do what I command you."
John 15:14*

PRAYER

*Dear God thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Please help us all to honor You with our thoughts. Help us focus our thoughts on You so we can live in a way that shows we are set apart and follow You. We love you so much!
Amen.*

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Bible Story:

- Solomon asked God to give him wisdom.
- When you have wisdom, you act and think in ways that honor, obey, and please God.
- God gave Solomon wisdom. God helped Solomon act and think in ways that honored Him.

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PREPARE

God Helps Me Obey—God Helps Me with My Words

Read: James 3

*“Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.”:
James 3:13*

Reflect: Where can you grow in showing wisdom with your words?

- A. I can speak words that encourage, uplift, and build up others.
- B. I can avoid speaking words that hurt, harm, and discourage others.
- C. I can speak the truth in love and kindness.

Pray: God, You have given me the privilege to point others to You and help them grow with my words. Help me honor You with what I say. Thank You for working through me to love and encourage others with what I say. Amen.

Prepare: In your everyday conversations, what helps you honor God and lift others up rather than tear them down?

BIBLE STORY

God Helps Me

with My Words

Words that Honor God
James 3

BIBLE VERSE

*"You are my friends if you do
what I command you."
John 15:14*

PRAYER

*Dear God,
You are so kind to us. Thank You
for inviting us to follow You and
use our words to tell the
world about You!
Help us turn to You and ask for
help so we can use words
that honor You.
We love You
Amen.*

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Bible Story:

- James, a follower of Jesus. He wrote a letter to help other people follow and obey Jesus.
- James wrote that our words should be loving, peaceful, gentle, obedient, and honest.
- God helps us with our words. He can help us honor Him with the words we say.

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PREPARE

God Helps Me Obey—God Helps Me with My Actions

Read: Exodus 12

*"All the Israelites did just what the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron."
Exodus 12:50*

Reflect: Where can you grow in obeying and following God?

- A. Stop a behavior that disobeys God.
- B. Start a habit that obeys and honors God.
- C. Ask someone I trust and admire where I can grow.

Pray: Thank You, God, for giving me a great example of loving, following, and obeying You through Moses and the story of the Pass-over. Help me remember, trust, and obey You. I love you. Amen.

Prepare: When is it easy and when is it difficult to obey God? What can help you when it is difficult?

BIBLE STORY

God Helps Me with My Actions

Moses and Pharaoh
Exodus 3-12

BIBLE VERSE

*"You are my friends if you do what I command you."
John 15:14*

PRAYER

*Dear God,
thank You for the chance to open the Bible and learn about You. Help us to live set apart and live out the truth that we love and follow You. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from sin and give us the best example of how to live. Help us live our lives with actions that help others and honor You.
We love you.
Amen.*

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Bible Story:

- Moses had an important job to do, asking Pharaoh to let God's people go.
- God helped Moses follow Him and know what to say and do.
- God wants us to obey Him all the way.

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