

Date – March 7, 2021

Scripture/Bible Story/Theme

The Resurrection – Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

The Children’s Illustrated Bible – p.p. 276-277

The empty tomb means Jesus is alive

******* I realize that Easter has not happened yet, but with the Spring Break schedule and the Sundays off for Palm Sunday and Easter it was important to get an Easter activity in before our break.**

Workshop Name

Suncatchers – He is Risen

Opening Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you, dear Lord, for sending us Your loving Son, Jesus. Guide us to have this same wonderful love that he had for us, so that we may share that love with others. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen

Objectives

1. Children will retell the story in their own words.
2. Children will locate the story in the Bible.
3. Children will begin to explore the meaning behind Easter and Jesus' death and resurrection.
4. Children will explore some of the common symbols of the resurrection - butterfly, bulb, seed, empty cross.
5. Children will identify some of the key locations in the story: Golgotha, Garden of Gethsemane, Jerusalem.
6. Children will recognize that the resurrection means Jesus is alive today and gives us new life.

Supplies – The supply bag will have several plastic suncatchers, paint and paint brushes. The suncatchers represent nature, animals, and all of God’s creation.

Activity –

Directions from Suncatcher box:

For best results, wash your unstained suncatcher with warm soapy water, rinse and dry prior to painting.

Paint cleans up with soap and water while wet, but is permanent when dry.

The discussion questions can be used either before or after the painting.

Mary Magdalene went to the tomb on the first Easter. What did she find? (stone rolled away, empty tomb)

What was Mary's reaction? (surprise, fear, thought body had been taken away)

Mary went and told Peter and John, and they went to look at the empty tomb. How do you suppose Peter and John felt? (confused)

Why didn't Mary recognize Jesus? (still in shock, hard to imagine he was alive, disbelief)

Jesus had told his disciples many times that he would be killed but on the third day, God would raise him from the dead.

Why were the followers of Jesus surprised to find that Jesus had risen and was alive? (they forgot Jesus' promise or maybe they just didn't understand what Jesus had been saying)

We hear the words "resurrection of Jesus", what does resurrection mean? (literally means "rise again")

This empty tomb scene isn't your typical symbol of Easter. Most symbols of Easter are bright and colorful (think butterflies, flowers).

What is it about the empty tomb that still makes it an important symbol for Easter? (the empty tomb means Jesus is alive!)

The empty tomb and Jesus appearing to his followers, helps us believe in God's power. What does God promise us? (God promises us new life if we believe in)

Reflection/Evaluation

Jesus wants us all to be messengers of his good news. How can you be a messenger in your daily life? Name two things that you can do.

Lord's Prayer