



NORTHVIEW
STUDENTS
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

April 9-10, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

Gospel – Week 4 (Resurrection)

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

The Gospel says Jesus is alive!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Mark 16:1-18
1 Corinthians 15:3-6, 14, 15, 17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

"The Impossible Shot"

It's March Madness! That means it's time for The Impossible Shot. Set up a small basketball hoop in your room and give students a chance to make it. Remember – it's supposed to be difficult! You can let everyone go if you have a smaller group, or you can allow first-time guests and the ones who brought them to go or choose students (or a group) at random. The prize needs to be BIG!

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

If you could be the best astronaut in the world or the best deep-sea diver in the world, which would you choose and why?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

ACTIVITIES

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

Gospel – Week 4 (Resurrection)
April 9-10, 2022

We are ready for our final week of our Gospel series. Our Northview Students team is hopeful that we have done a good job explaining to you the importance of the Gospel and why it's basically the entirety of true Christianity. We hope the Lego blocks have helped you understand it as well. By the way, you can keep those after today!

The final part of this series and the Gospel (which means "good news" and is the most important part of Christianity) is resurrection. This is such an important word in the Christian faith. The word resurrection means, "to rise, wake up, or literally stand up again." After Jesus was executed on the cross, the Scriptures tell us that he came back to life or resurrected from the dead. It is the most famous miracle in human history. Let's actually read about it together as we start this message. You can find the resurrection story in all four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) in the new Testament, but we are going to read Mark's account. Let's read Mark 16:1-8...

*"When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. **He has risen! He is not here.** See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you. Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid."*

This is a fascinating story – let me give you some context. There are many people all over the world who are skeptical that this actually happened. It's more of a legend or a myth than actual history. However, the Gospels are eyewitness accounts – meaning they were written with eyewitnesses or people who knew them telling the stories. Notice how it said Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and Salome came to the tomb and the angel told them to go tell Peter...? Well, Peter is the one who told this story to Mark who recorded it in writing and is now being read by us today 2000 years later! How crazy is that?!

THE MESSAGE

The second thing is this – the eyewitness testimony of women was not considered credible. This society was mistreating women and yet women were the first to see the empty tomb, see Jesus face-to-face in John and Matthew’s account, and told the disciples about Him being raised from the dead. If you were going to make all of this up and act like it was true, nobody would have believed it because they wouldn’t have trusted the woman’s story. The only reason you include details like this is IF IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED! So, two morals to the story: Jesus is alive and...boys...girls are always right!! Ha! In all seriousness, this event sparked the birth of Christianity. It is the final component of the Gospel and will be the focus of our **THP (Take Home Point today)**. Here it is!

The Gospel says Jesus is alive!

Without this final piece of the Gospel, the resurrection, there would be no Christianity. No resurrection, no Christianity. There’s no way Jesus could have been the Messiah, the Son of God, if he was dead. God doesn’t die. The resurrection proved that Jesus Christ really was who He said he was! God in human form! In the New Testament, Paul writes this in 1 Corinthians 15:3-6 – *“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than FIVE HUNDRED of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.”*

Jesus appeared to all of these people to show that He had risen from the dead. Can you imagine what those people thought when they saw Him? As if he had never been crucified or died? What a powerful story! That’s why the resurrection is so important, guys – if Jesus hadn’t done that, then he would have just been an honorable man who died as a martyr. In fact, later in that same chapter of 1 Corinthians 15, Paul says this in verses 14, 15, and 17: *“And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God...And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile (which means useless or pointless); you are still in your sins.”*

Wow...if Jesus didn’t raise from the dead, there would be no Christianity and our faith would be useless. It would be pointless. We would be liars. That means Christianity is true or a complete lie – and nothing else in between. In other words, if you hear someone say, “I believe Jesus was a good teacher or a good person” that’s not enough. He was either God or a liar/lunatic. Nothing else.

Ok, let’s grab our Lego blocks and finish this illustration! Grab your three blocks and put God at the top, Jesus in the middle, and Us on the bottom. This is the last step. When Jesus rose from the dead, it brought us back into relationship with God. He is the bridge (or block) that connects us back to God. We can’t have a relationship with God without accepting his gift of forgiveness (through his death on the cross) and believing that He was raised from the dead.

THE MESSAGE

Here's the thing: the Scriptures also teach us that Jesus is coming back and will establish his kingdom here on earth...and everything that is wrong with the world will be made right. Not only that, we, too, will be resurrected! We will be made new, made perfect, and worship God for eternity and forever be in relationship with Him because of what Jesus has done.

There is a powerful illustration of this in *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*. Aslan, the Jesus figure, is executed by the White Witch. Susan and Lucy, two sisters, go and visit the place where Aslan was killed. What happens next echoes the most incredible miracle in human history...

(Teacher's Note: Show "Aslan Resurrection" message clip)

The scene where Aslan breathes on all of the creatures and then they come back to life – it's a great illustration of the resurrection we will experience. The reason we will experience is because Jesus was resurrected – and He is alive forever! I don't know where you are at in your faith journey, but if you ever want to explore Christianity or think about making the decision to become a Christian and follow Jesus for the rest of your life...you need to start with the resurrection. Did it really happen? We believe it did.

Maybe you're here today and over the course of this "Gospel" series, you've been giving some thought to taking that first step in becoming a Christian. If that's you today, I want to spend some time in prayer and then give you that opportunity.

(Teacher's Note: Move into Gospel Presentation)

As we wrap up this series today, I want to encourage you to use these Lego blocks to remind you of the Gospel. Use this little tool to remind you of the most important part of Christianity and as a way to share your faith with another person. Someone might come up and ask you, "What is Christianity all about?" and you can explain it to them! You never know how God can use you! Let's recap all four of our THPs of this series:

- 1) The Gospel says God is our perfect Creator
- 2) The Gospel says sin separates us from God
- 3) The Gospel says we are saved by grace
- 4) The Gospel says Jesus is alive!

The Gospel is GOOD NEWS! Let's pray as we close out.

CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

Leaders Note: Make sure everyone in your group has their Lego Blocks!

What was the THP today and why was that important during the message?

What do you think about the phrase “No resurrection...no Christianity”? Why is the resurrection the most important piece?

How would you explain the last part of the Gospel (according to our THP) using your Lego blocks? Why is the resurrection of Jesus so important to the Gospel?

Here's the big challenge of the day: will someone volunteer to explain all four aspects of the Gospel (Creation, Sin, Salvation, and Resurrection) in your own words using your Lego blocks? Feel free to use the THPs we reviewed at the end of the message to help you!

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Be specific.

How can this group pray for you this week?

FINAL THOUGHTS

Students can keep their Lego blocks this week! Encourage them to keep using this as a tool to remind them of what Christianity is all about: the Gospel! Make sure to also congratulate those students who made first-time decisions for Christ today!

Once you're finished with your discussion, close your group in prayer!

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

Lego blocks and hand-outs
Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)
Playlister material

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Lego blocks and hand-outs

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

AppleTV with the Playlister app or simply access the Playlister material on the Northview Church website: www.northviewchurch.us

