

Parents Connect

Bible Story:
Jesus Is Alive
(John 20:1-18)

Bible Phrase:
"Jesus is alive." (Mark 16:6)

Bible Truth:
Jesus is alive.



God's Unfolding Story



1. God created everything



2. People disobeyed God.



3. God chose a special people.



4. **God sent Jesus to help us.**



5. Jesus began the Church.



6. Jesus is preparing heaven for us.



Unfolding God's Story for Parents

Jesus is Honored— We can all joyfully celebrate the living Christ. Most of our preschoolers do not yet understand resurrection to life or even death, so we can save the details of that discussion for when they are older. But they can rejoice with us that the same Jesus who walked with the disciples is still alive in heaven today.

Talk with your preschooler about a time when you were sad because someone you loved had died.

Say, "This story is about Mary's sadness turning into surprise and joy."

Tell the story.

Ask, "Why do you think Mary was so sad?" (Her friend Jesus had died.)

Ask, "Why was Mary surprised?" (Jesus was alive)

Share and explain the verse and pray, thanking God for making Easter special.

Bible Story

Jesus is Alive
(John 20:1-18)

Early in the morning, Mary Magdalene walked sadly toward a hill outside Jerusalem. Three days before, her friend Jesus had died and was buried. Mary was walking to the tomb where they had placed Jesus' body.

When she arrived at the tomb, the large stone that

had been placed in front of the opening was gone! She looked inside the tomb, but it was empty. Jesus was not there! Mary was very upset. She ran back to find Peter, John and the other disciples.

Seeing Peter and John, she cried, "They have taken Jesus, and I don't know where they have put Him!"

Peter and John ran ahead to the tomb. Mary was right. Jesus was gone! Peter, John and the others went home sadly, but Mary stayed behind.

She stooped down and looked inside the tomb again and began to cry. Then Mary saw two angels sitting in the tomb. They said to her, "Why are you crying?" Mary replied, "Someone took Jesus away, and I don't know where He is."

Mary turned around and saw a Man. She thought it was the gardener. He asked her who she was looking for. She told Him, "Jesus."

Then the Man called her by name, "Mary." Suddenly, Mary recognized it was Jesus! Jesus was alive!

Jesus told Mary to go and tell the others He was alive. Mary ran home to find Peter, John and the other disciples to tell them Jesus was alive! What a wonderful happy day!

Activity Suggestion

Make a Stone to Roll Away

Use a paper cup for a cave, aluminum foil to wad into a round stone and a piece of string to tie to the stone.

Allow your preschooler to color the paper or foam cup brown and green like dirt and grass. Push one end of the string through the foil leaving about 12" on both sides. Tape the string, and then wad the foil into a ball leaving the string extending out both sides. Run one end of the string through a small hole in the bottom of the cup. Now when the cup is on its side the stone can be moved by the string into the cup to close the cave. Pull the other end of the string to "roll the stone away!"

Your preschooler can use a shoebox or other paper to make a background as much as you have time and interest. Talk about the wonderful end to the story that Jesus is ALIVE.