



UNIT 8, SESSION 2

LAZARUS

JOHN 11

KEY POINTS

Jesus cares about His friends • Nothing is impossible for Jesus. • God's timing might be different than ours.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Is anything impossible for God? No, nothing is impossible for God!

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord is my strength and my shield. Psalm 28:7

PREPARE



Take time to reflect
on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Jesus is our faithful friend. I encourage you to read these Scriptures this week: *John 11*; *Hebrews 13:8*; *Matthew 19:26*. Jesus is a loving friend who cares deeply, works in perfect timing, and always has a plan, even when we don't understand it.

Jesus modeled true friendship in His relationship with Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha. He loved them deeply, cared about their pain, and ultimately revealed God's power through their story.

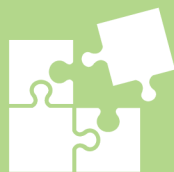
When Lazarus became very sick, Mary and Martha did the right thing: They went to Jesus. Yet, when Jesus heard the news, He did not rush to Lazarus. Instead, He waited. From a human perspective, this feels confusing and even painful. But God's timing is always perfect, even when it doesn't match our expectations. Our perspective is limited. God sees the full picture and is creating something beautiful for His glory.

When Jesus arrived, Martha spoke from her pain, thinking about what *could have been* and what might be someday. Jesus gently reminded her (and us) that He is unchanging and powerful in every moment. Hebrews 13:8 assures us that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Jesus did the impossible. He called Lazarus by name and brought him back to life. This miracle reminds us that nothing is impossible with God and that Jesus knows each of us personally. He calls us by name and offers us true life, both now and forever.

As leaders, we model trust in Jesus for our children. When we demonstrate faith in God's timing, care for others, and confidence in His power, children learn that Jesus is a friend they can always trust.

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me”:

The Lord is my strength and my shield.
Psalm 28:7
(repeat 2x)

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the Bible lesson.

CRAFT: LAZARUS

Pass out the provided Lazarus templates, glue, paper strips, and markers/crayons. Give children time to decorate their Lazarus, then help them glue paper strips over Lazarus like the example below shows.

Review the Bible lesson as you work. Make sure to write each child's name on their craft.



BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Lazarus was very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, took good care of him, but he was not getting any better. They sent a message to tell Jesus that His friend was sick.

Jesus was preaching and told His disciples not to worry. Two days later, He went to Bethany to see Lazarus. Martha ran out to see Jesus. She told Jesus it was too late. Lazarus had died. Jesus told her, "Don't worry, your brother will rise again." Martha did not understand.

Jesus ordered the stone to be removed from the tomb. Jesus prayed and then called out, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus walked out of the cave alive! Everyone was amazed, and many believed in Jesus.

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Lazarus was very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, took good care of him, but he was not getting any better. They were very worried. They sent a message to tell Jesus His friend was sick.

Jesus was away preaching. When the message arrived, He told His disciples not to worry. He stayed there for two more days before going to Bethany to see Lazarus. When He got there, Martha ran out to see Jesus. She told Him that it was too late. Lazarus had died. Jesus told her, "Don't worry, your brother will rise again." Martha did not understand.

Jesus ordered the stone to be removed from the tomb. Jesus prayed and then called out, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus walked out of the cave alive! Everyone was amazed, and many believed in Jesus.

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• God's timing might be different than ours.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. How many days did Jesus wait to go see Lazarus?
4. Is anything impossible for God? No, nothing is impossible for God!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!