

WEEK 2 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

Jesus is the light in the darkness.

BIBLE

The Last Supper: Mark 14:12–26; John 3:16–21

Whether it's a rocket car powered by soda and mints or a tornado in a water bottle, there's so much in our world that can fill us with awe. The world of STEM is full of things that look like little miracles, but they're nothing compared to the miracles God can perform. In this four-week series, kids will take a look at some of the miracles that Jesus performed during his ministry. Through stories showing the power of Jesus, they'll no doubt go, Wow! Jesus **has the power to heal, to calm our fears, to provide, and to save.**

Welcome, everyone! It's great to see you all here shining God's light! As we continue the story of Jesus this Easter season, let's keep our focus on the light. Light is easier to spot the darker it is, and today's story is about some serious darkness.

QUESTION | "What is darkness?"

- **Can you think of a time you were somewhere that was so dark that it was hard for you to see?**
- **What makes darkness scary?**
- A lot of people are uncomfortable in the dark. Every little sound and shadow on the wall makes us think that something frightening might be lurking . . . because we can't see all too well.
- Sometimes darkness is necessary, like when it helps us sleep, but the darkness we are going to talk about today is not that kind. It's the kind that happens when God's light is nowhere to be found. Let's find out more from our Bible story!

BIBLE STORY | Watch the Bible Story from the online lesson from **Mark 14:12-26.**

DISCUSSION

- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**
 - **What were Jesus and his disciples doing in today's Bible story?** *They were sharing a meal for Passover, the Festival of Unleavened Bread.*
 - **What did Jesus say that was surprising to his disciples?** *Jesus said that one of the disciples at that table would betray him.*
 - **What did the bread and the cup mean?** *They stood for Jesus' body and blood. It was meant as a way for them to remember Jesus after he died.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
 - **When things start to feel dark — when you feel frightened or lost — what do you normally do?**
 - **What does it mean for Jesus to be your light in any kind of darkness?**
 - **Who else in your life needs to know about the light of Jesus?**

BIG IDEA | **Jesus is the light in the darkness.**

SCRIPTURE | John 3:16–21

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read John 3:16-21.*
- Here's the thing with light. We need it to help us find our way when it's dark. But sometimes, it can feel too bright. Like if you looked directly at the light or the sun (which you should not do because it can damage your eyes).
- Jesus was — and is — such a bright light. The brightest. And like Jesus said in this passage, light exposes wrongdoings, so some people avoid the light. Or they try so hard to come close to the light but find it easier to stay in darkness.
- We've all been there. **For example, can you think of a time you tried to be kind toward someone but in an instant, you immediately said something you regretted later?** I know I have!
- But God loves us so much that Jesus didn't come to punish all of us but to save us and bring us into the light. We can see this in how Jesus didn't single out the disciple who would betray him. We can see this in how he comforted people and how he helped people know God. Jesus continued to shine God's light in all kinds of darkness and invited everyone to draw near to him.
- **Jesus is the light in the darkness.**

PRAYER

- Thank you, God, for sending Jesus. Thank you for his light shining in our lives and reminding each of us that your light is always with us. Even when things seem dark, your light shines bright! Amen.

ACTIVITY OPTION #1 | Luminary Lights

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *At home, find a paper bag, battery-powered tea light, neon markers, paper punchers (whatever fun designs you have like hearts, stars, or happy faces). Punch holes and draw designs all around your bag, including writing out the Big Idea or memory verse. Once you are done, open the bag, and place the light inside to create a paper luminary.*
- Place your new luminary creations somewhere where you can always see, especially on days that feel dark, to remember that **Jesus is the light in the darkness.**

ACTIVITY #2 | Bible Story or Memory Verse Printable

Print either or both the Bible Story and Memory Verse Printable. This will help remind you of the Big Idea for today and also our monthly memory verse.

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 27:1a (NIV)

- **"The Lord is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear?"**

INSTRUCTIONS: Watch the video from the online lesson page and practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL).



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"THE LORD
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PSALM 27:14 (NIV)