

# WEEK 5

## LESSON GUIDE



### BIG IDEA

Jesus died and rose again!

### BIBLE

**Jesus is Alive!** John 20:1–18; 1 John 1:1–2:2

In the dark, a world of neon colors comes to life. Whether it's the soft green of glow-in-the-dark stars or the bright colors of bioluminescent creatures, light can break through the darkness. When the world needed some light, God sent Jesus because he glows in the dark, and he can teach us how to shine with God's light, too! In this five-week series through the Gospels, we'll follow Jesus' life leading up to Easter to see some of the ways he can shine bright in our lives. As we explore, we'll see **Jesus is the light in the darkness**. We'll also learn how **we can choose Jesus** and know **God hears our cries** while celebrating how **Jesus died and rose again!**

Happy Easter everyone! Everything we've talked about this month has been building up to today. We learned that we can shine God's light by choosing Jesus, the true light in all the darkness. God hears our cries from our darkest moments, and even when all hope seems lost, it never is with God. Today's story will *glow* your mind!

### QUESTION | "What do you love about Easter?"

- **What are some of your favorite things about Easter?**
- **Do you have a favorite Easter candy or food?**
- **What kinds of activities do you do around Easter time?**
- **What does Easter have to do with Jesus?**
- Let's learn more about our story today and see if what we think we know is true!

### BIBLE STORY | Watch the Bible Story from the online lesson from **John 20:1-18**.

### DISCUSSION

- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**
  - **What do you think Mary, Peter, and John expected to see at the tomb?** *They expected to see Jesus' body laid inside the tomb.*
  - **What did they see instead?** *They saw an empty tomb, the stone rolled away, and strips of linen lying there.*
  - **When did Mary realize that Jesus was alive again?** *After she saw Jesus in person, she realized he was alive.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
  - **Try telling the Easter story of Jesus in your own words.**
  - **Who can you share this story with to spread the light of Jesus?**

## BIG IDEA | Jesus died and rose again!

### SCRIPTURE | 1 John 1:1–2:2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the passage aloud. Then turn out the lights and have kids sit in a half-circle around a lantern or a flashlight facing up.
- Sin is everywhere, just like darkness is everywhere. Anytime we go to a place without light, we are in darkness. Anytime we make choices without God, we are in sin. Sin is choices that hurt us or others, or actions that harm our relationship with God or others.
- This passage tells us that when we sin, we walk away from God and instead walk with darkness. *(Instruct kids to take one step at a time away from the light.)*
- It's so easy to sin . . . we have to work hard to keep from disobeying God like that. This Scripture also tells us that if and when we do sin, we have hope — Jesus! *(Turn on all the lights.)*
- Because Jesus paid the price for sin, we can seek God's forgiveness and walk in the light once more. **It's not just about what Jesus did — it's also about what Jesus does now. He still fights for us and leads the way to God. He can only do that because Jesus died and rose again!**

### PRAYER

- God, thank you so much for always being close to us. Even when we feel far away from you, you are always near. Your love is never-ending and the light we need in dark times. Help us to keep walking in the light of Jesus. We celebrate that Jesus is alive today! Amen.

### ACTIVITY OPTION #1 | ACTIVITY | Ball Toss and Catch

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Using glow sticks, create lines across from each other with a gap in between. Find a partner and have each one of you stand behind each of the glow lines. Take turns throwing the ball to each other at the first, set distance. Once you have successfully thrown and caught the ball, move the glow sticks further away from each other to make the toss and catch more challenging.

- Today's Bible story is AWESOME!! There is no story like it! Since you have caught this story, shine the light of Jesus and toss that knowledge to others so they can believe in Him too!

### 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).



**BIG IDEA:** Jesus died and rose again!  
**BIBLE: Jesus is Alive!** John 20:1-18; 1 John 1:1-2:2

"THE LORD  
IS MY LIGHT  
AND MY  
SALVATION  
WHOM SHALL  
I FEAR?"

PSALM 27:14 (NIV)