



LIVING THE WORD

**God's Word @ Home
Family Faith Formation
2020-2021**



Family Guide

Sample Lesson

April 11, 2021

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Sunday, April 11, 2021
2nd Sunday after Easter
Year B

He Is Risen

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-31

Key Verse:

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.
– John 20:18

The Point:

Jesus rises from the dead and brings words of peace to his disciples.

Liturgical Color:

White

Gospel Summary

The Easter account in the Gospel of John begins simply, with Mary finding the tomb empty and runs to tell the other disciples. Peter and “the other disciple” (John) race to the tomb. Although John arrives first, it is impetuous Peter who enters and finds the discarded burial wrappings. While the men return to spread the word, Mary encounters angels and the risen Lord. Jesus speaks her name and her eyes are opened to recognize him. Next, Jesus appears in a locked room to his disciples. Then, we hear the story of Thomas, who had to experience Jesus for himself to believe in his resurrection.

Jesus rises from the dead and brings words of peace to his disciples. Jesus has risen from the dead, and begins to appear to his friends, beginning with the grieving Mary. His first word to her is to speak her name, an intimate gesture that cuts through her grief. When he appears to the disciples, they are hiding in fear behind a locked door. Jesus words to them bring peace. The disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit and begin to spread the story of the resurrected Jesus.



Activities & Supplies

Introduction

Great News

Share the best news you have heard.

5 min.

- None

Learning the Word

Extraordinary News

Create a news story.

15 min.

- Bibles
- Paper
- Pens or pencils
- Optional: video-recording device

Activities

Peace Be with You

Jesus brings us peace.

10 min.

- Internet-connected device

Jesus Calls Us by Name

Add fingerprints to personalize a name drawing.

10 min.

- Paper
- Markers
- Pencils
- Ink pads
- Hand wipes

Prayer

5 min.

- The Word @ Home take-home sheet



God's Word @ Home

Introduction

Great News

5 min.

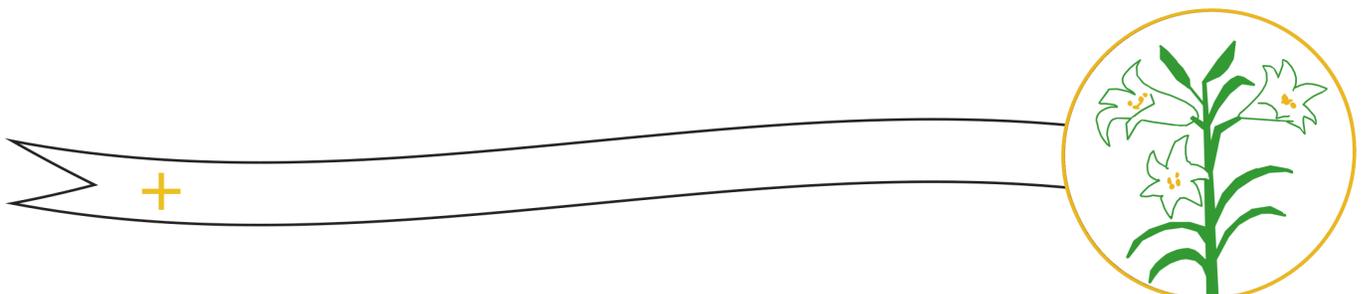
Share the best news you have heard.

Supplies:

- None

Instructions:

1. Today we are telling the best news ever: Jesus has risen from the dead! What an amazing story! This story begins with people telling the news to others. What is the best news that you have ever received? We will take turns sharing the best news we have ever heard with each other.



Learning the Word

Extraordinary News

15 min.

Create a news story.

Supplies:

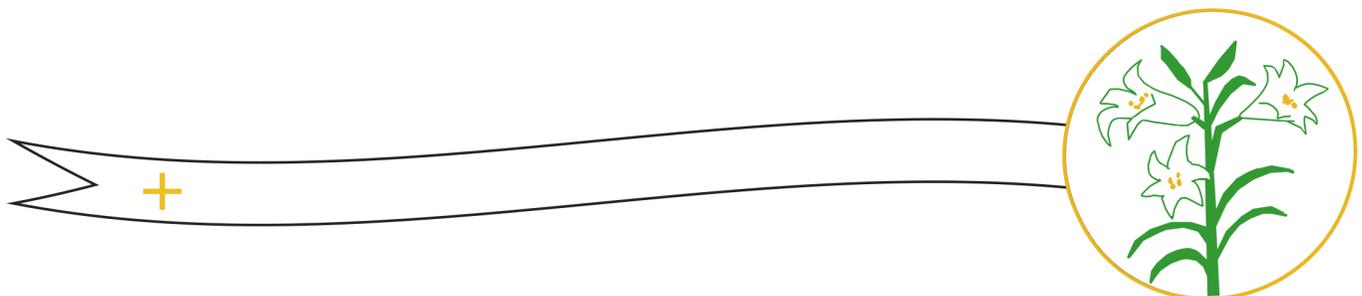
- Bibles
- Paper
- Pens or pencils
- Optional: video-recording devices

Preparation:

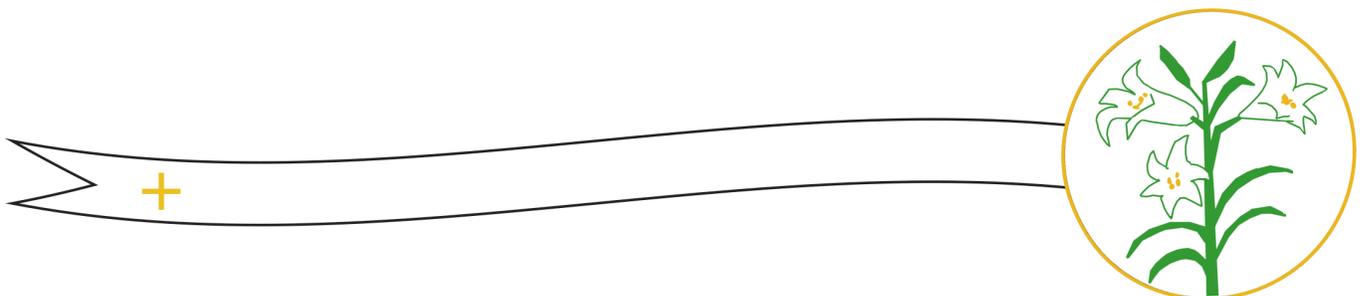
1. You can divide the story as written here for individuals to create or your family can create the newscast together, having individuals play the various roles.

Instructions:

1. **What an incredible story we are hearing today! But you know what is sad? Sometimes we get so used to hearing these amazing stories that we forget to be amazed. So today, we are going to take ourselves out of our current lives and pretend that we are eyewitnesses to the resurrection. We are right there with the women as they enter the tomb and try to figure out what is going on; we are there as Peter and John run to the tomb and find it empty; we are there as Jesus gently speaks Mary's name; and we are there when Jesus appears to the disciples and Thomas.**
2. Create newscasts for each section of today's story as below:
 - a. John 20:1-10. The Discovery
 - b. John 20:11-13. Mary and the Angels
 - c. John 20:14-18. Jesus Calls Mary
 - d. John 20:19-25. Jesus and the Locked Room
 - e. John 20:26-31. Thomas Gets Proof



3. Read through the passages, assign characters (including a reporter), and rehearse.
4. You can present your family's news reports live, perhaps video recording them. If you choose to make video news reports, you can show them immediately or edit them into one cohesive report to show next week.



Activity

Peace Be with You

10 min.

Jesus brings us peace.

Supplies:

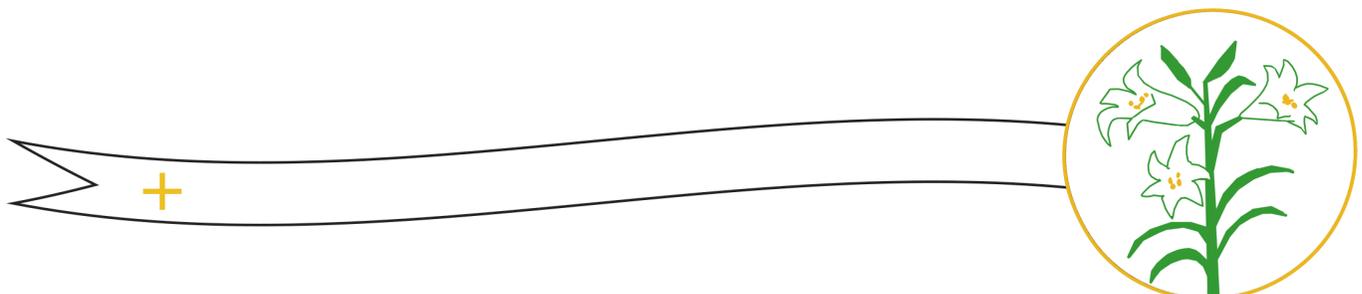
- Internet-connected device

Instructions:

1. Search online to learn the ASL signs for “Peace be with you.” There are a number of videos on YouTube.

Instructions:

1. **When Jesus appears to the disciples, they are frightened. They are locked up in a room, hiding, unsure of what will happen next. When Jesus shows up, does he scold them for their fear? No. He wishes them peace. He calms their hearts with words of peace.**
2. **It is important to help others find peace. What are some things that you can do that can bring peace to another person? Allow thoughts.**
3. **Today, we are going to learn how to say “Peace be with you” in American Sign Language. We can use this with our friends and family to quietly remind them that Jesus is with them, and Jesus brings them peace.**
4. Share the ASL for “Peace be with you.” Practice multiple times.



Activity

Jesus Calls Us by Name

10 min.

Add fingerprints to personalize a name drawing.

Supplies:

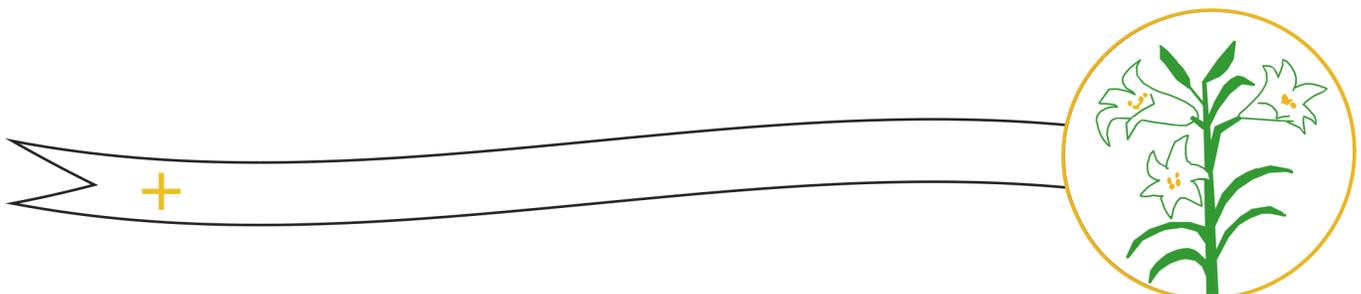
- Paper
- Markers
- Pencils
- Ink pads
- Hand wipes

Preparation:

1. If you have a younger children, you can print each person's name on a sheet of paper prior to meeting. Be sure to make the name an outline as they will fill it in with fingerprints during the activity.

Instructions:

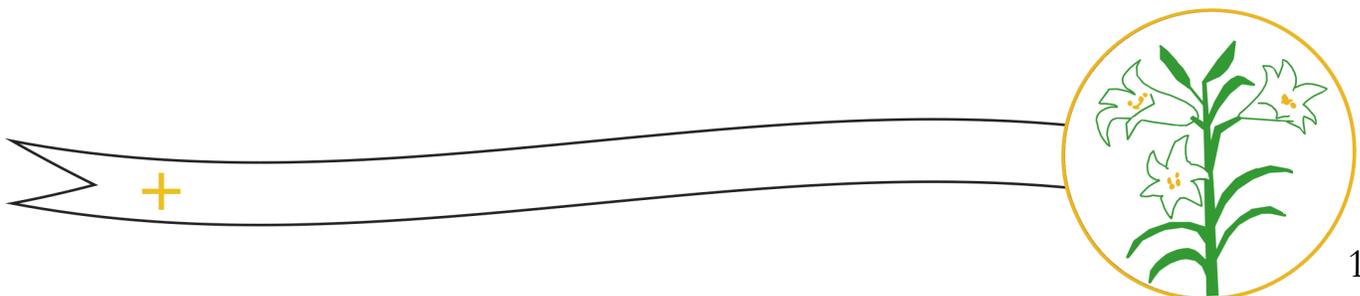
1. **Jesus called Mary by name and she recognized him. Names are very individual, just as each of us are unique. Each of you will write the outline of your name on a piece of construction paper. Then, to make it your very own, you will fill in the outline with your fingerprints. This creation will be uniquely yours, with your special name and your unique fingerprints.** Allow participants to work.
2. If time allows, you can allow them to add faces, hair, etc. to their fingerprints to further personalize them.
3. Distribute hand wipes to clean off ink at the end.



Prayer

Let's close with a prayer: God, thank you for coming to earth as a human in the form of Jesus. Jesus, you are alive! Help us to tell others the good news. Amen.

Remember to use "The Word @ Home" sheet throughout the week as a part of your family devotions!





The Word @ Home

Easter 2

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-31

Prayer of the Week

Jesus, you are alive! Help us to tell others the good news. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday	Read John 20:19-31 Jesus appears to the disciples. What one word would you have said when Jesus appeared in the locked room?
Monday	Read Daniel 3:1-30 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are thrown into the furnace. Act out this story using dolls or stuffed animals. (Do not throw anything into real fire, though.)
Tuesday	Read Daniel 6:1-28 Daniel is thrown into the lions' den. Act out this story using dolls or stuffed animals. (Do not throw anything into a lion's mouth, though.)
Wednesday	Read Mark 12:18-27 Jesus talks about marriage and resurrection. Families are complicated. Draw your family tree.
Thursday	Read 1 John 2:18-25 Do not lie about Jesus. Think of a time you told a lie. Ask Jesus to forgive you.
Friday	Read 1 John 2:26-28 Be steadfast in Christ. What is one thing that leads you away from Jesus?
Saturday	Read Luke 22:24-30 The servant is great. Think of one way to serve someone else this week.



Blessing for the Week

Share this blessing while tracing a cross on each person's forehead or hand with their permission:
Jesus is risen for you. Amen.