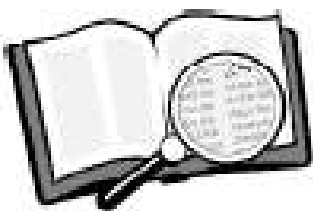
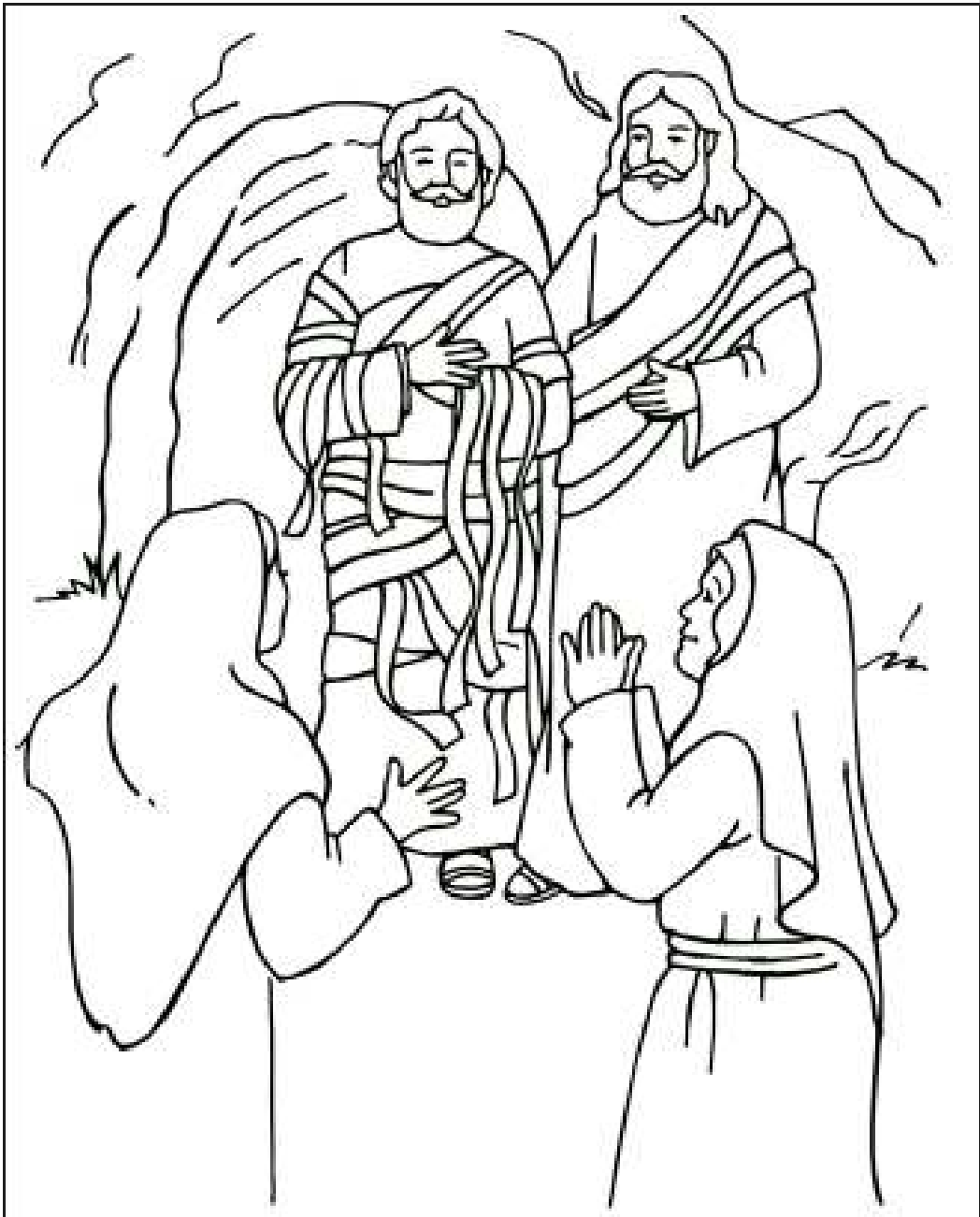


Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

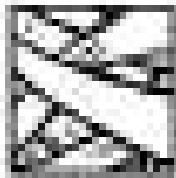
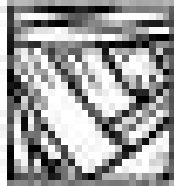
A man named Lazarus, who lived in Bethany, got sick and died. He was the brother of Mary and Martha. All three of them were the Jesus' friends. Before Lazarus died, Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus telling him that Lazarus was very sick. Jesus didn't come soon enough, and Lazarus died. After four days, Jesus came. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, in the sight of everybody. Everyone was amazed.



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?"

John 11-25:26



Which is the missing piece?



Lesson 15

Lazarus Raises from the Dead

Bible Text: John 11:1-44

Key Verse: John 11:25-26

Purpose: The children will find out that Jesus has power over death.

Please note!

Plan suitable activities for your group of children. The following activities can be adapted depending on the group's size, age, ability, the amount of time available, etc.

I. Lesson

Before working on the coloring page, tell the children about the death and resurrection of Lazarus, using questions, answers and narration.

Suggestion: The children should read the biblical text with intonation.

1. Preliminary Questions:

- Have you ever been to a funeral?
- What happens at a funeral?
- What color of the clothes do people wear at a funeral? (Black)
- What does the black color mean? (People are sad.)
- Why do people die? (Because they committed sin, they disobeyed God. Read about Adam and Eve.)

2. The Bible Story:

Today we are going to a funeral. I know this is not a pleasant thing to do, but this is part of our daily life.

We are in Bethany, a village close by Jerusalem (almost 3.2 km). Here Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, a friend of Jesus, was very sick and died. Jesus got the message that Lazarus was sick before he died. But Jesus didn't hurry to come and heal him. It was not because he did not love Lazarus. Rather he wanted to perform a miracle. So Lazarus died. Jesus knew that he was dead, because he said to his disciples: "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but now I will go and wake him up." The disciples thought that he was talking about the good night's rest and said to him: "Lord, if he is sleeping, that means he is getting better." Then Jesus told them plainly: "Lazarus is dead."

So when he arrived in Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. That does not sound really nice, does it? When the two sisters saw Jesus, they started to cry. Jesus wept too, not because he did not have power over death, but because he could feel the women's pain. Isn't it written in the Bible that when others are happy we have to be happy with them, and when they are sad we are to share their sorrow?

Then Martha said to Jesus: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." But Jesus told her: "Your brother will rise again." What would you say when hearing something like that? Maybe you would say the same thing Martha said: "Yes, when everyone else rises, on resurrection day." But Jesus answered: "I am the resurrection and the life." This means

that he overcomes death. Didn't he rise again from the dead? But Martha did not really understand what Jesus meant, so they all went to Lazarus' grave.

There, Jesus told to the people who were standing nearby to roll the stone aside. Martha got scared and said: "He has been dead for four days." But Jesus responded: "Didn't I tell you that you will see God's glory if you believe?" After they rolled the stone aside, Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed, thanking the Lord. Then Jesus told Lazarus to come out. And Lazarus came out of the tomb. Everyone was amazed.

Important things to remember!

- Jesus knew about Lazarus' problem.
- Jesus did not arrive on time because he had a plan: Through this miracle, the people believed in Him.
- Jesus is the resurrection and the life. With him there is no death.
- Jesus wept together with the two sisters to show them that he understood their pain.
- Jesus says that only by having faith can we see God's glory and miracles.
- Jesus works through prayer.
- Jesus is praying for the faith of the people.
- Jesus performed this miracle because he is the Lord.

II. Activities

1. The Key Verse

- a. Read the key verse out loud.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
John 11:25-26.

- b. Explain the key verse:

I am the resurrection and the life – With Jesus there is no death. He was raised from the dead.

He who believes in me will live, even though he dies- For those who believe in Jesus, the death of the body is a door to eternal life.

Whoever lives and believes in me will never die - Jesus is talking about our soul which will live in the presence of God forever. In order for this to happen you must believe in Him.

Do you believe this? – Do you believe in Jesus?

- c. Help the children memorize the verse.

2. Review questions for the children

- Why didn't Jesus come on time?
- What did Jesus say to Martha regarding Lazarus' death?

- What does Jesus do at the grave?
- Could Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead?

III. Conclusion

Jesus knows all your problems. If he does not answer your prayers as you wish, he has a better plan for you and others. Jesus knows how you feel. He wants to encourage you. Jesus wants you to trust him, even if he does not answer as you wish. Jesus can perform miracles so that you and the others will believe in Him. Do you believe in Jesus?