

MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

Week 22: The Sadducees Doubt (from Luke 20:27-40)

To the Teacher:

My kids have asked me, “Will there be video games in the new earth?” Their focus, like mine often is, was on what this life can offer here and now. This passage shows us the Sadducee worldview focused primarily on this life, and doubted a resurrection would even occur. Jesus wanted them (*and us*) to know true life happens in and because of the resurrection. There is a lot in this text that can potentially be confusing (*marriage, angels, etc.*). Keep the lesson focused on the big idea that resurrected life is what Jesus wants us to look to.

- **Big Idea:** Resurrection through Jesus changes everything!
- **Question:** What is your most important relationship? Is it with your mom, your dad, a friend? Today’s story is about how life with Jesus is better than even the most important relationships on earth!
- **Starter:** ‘Wake Up’
This game is a take on freeze dance. The kids will lay down and pretend to sleep when the music is quiet, but when you turn the music on they get up and dance. Tell the kids today’s story is about being brought to life!
- **Story:** from Luke 20:27-40
[READ]
A group of people called the Sadducees, who did not believe in the resurrection, came up and questioned Jesus: “Moses wrote the Law and taught us about many things, including marriage. You teach the Law, so let’s see if you agree with Moses. Say there was once a woman whose husband died before they had any children. So, she married another man, but he also died. She ended up marrying seven men who all died and she never had any children with them! Finally, the woman died too. If they are resurrected, whose wife will the woman be? For all seven had married her.”

Jesus told them, “People may marry in this life, and for some, that seems like one of the most important things. But those who are raised to new life in the resurrection do not worry about marriage, for they can no longer die like the angels! The relationship that really matters is that they are children of God forever. You ask this question because you think there are things in this world more important than life in God’s kingdom, and because you doubt I can raise people from the dead.

Even Moses, who you trust, talked about the dead being raised. When he saw the Lord in the burning bush he called the Lord *'the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob'*. Now, you think those men are dead, but God is not the God of the dead, He is the God of the living. So even though those men died, there must be a resurrection to new life if Moses said God is their God!"

Some of the scribes, whose job it was to write down and study the Law of Moses, heard Jesus and said, "Teacher, you have spoken well." And the Sadducees no longer dared to ask him anything.

[Things to Point Out]

- The Sadducees didn't believe in a resurrection...
 - ▶ So, they came up with a crazy scenario that wouldn't normally happen to try to prove resurrection didn't fit with their way of life.
 - ▶ Instead, Jesus proved it was their view of life that didn't fit.
- Jesus isn't saying marriage or other relationships aren't important (remember, God created unity between man and woman) but that there is something even greater to look forward to - our union with Him
- The Sadducees were people trying to serve God - they just missed the good news of the resurrection. Pray we don't miss it too!

• **Prayer:**

God, we believe Jesus was dead but came back to life by Your Spirit. And we believe through Jesus we can come back to life forever with You too. Help us to love this truth more than anything else in this world! Amen.

• **Craft:**

- Use the attached page simply as a coloring sheet or you can help kids use glue to decorate it with glitter, beads, sequins, etc.
- Or do something like this to talk about the resurrection of Jesus:

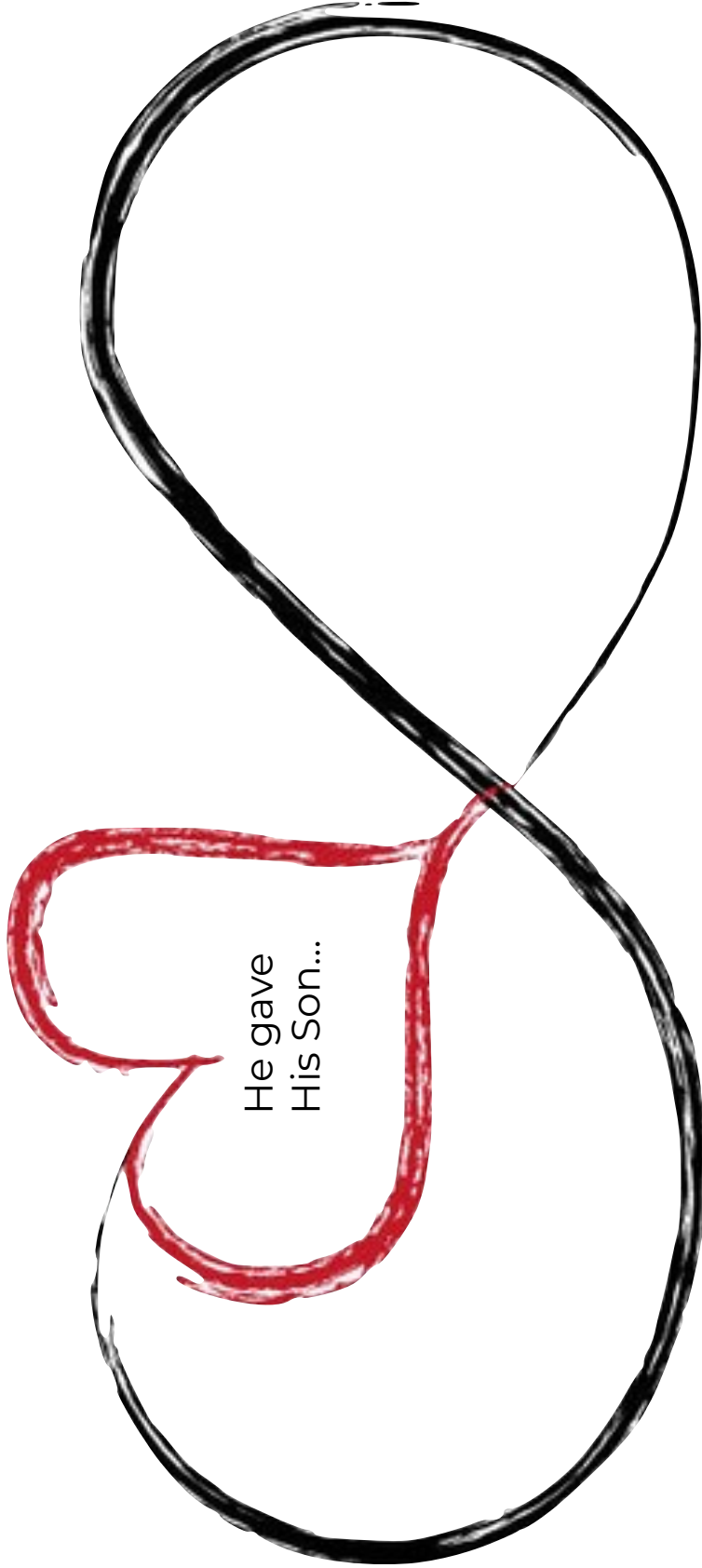


• **BLESS Activity:**

For kids to do during the week

Sabbath: Jesus' resurrection brings us hope, joy, and rest. Ask your family to take some time this week to celebrate together that Jesus gives us new life. What are ways you can celebrate, play, or rest together?

In God's love...



He gave
His Son...

so we could live forever!
John 3:16