

# MD KIDS Preschool CURRICULUM

## Week 26: The Crucifixion (from Luke 24:27-40)

### **To the Teacher:**

This story seems pretty straightforward at first and may be easy for the kids to follow, but it might become difficult for them to understand the message that it is conveying. This week, pray that God will open the minds of the children, as He did for the disciples, and help them to understand the truth of His Word.

**Big Idea and Missio Basic:** Jesus' death and resurrection only make sense because of Scripture and Scripture only makes sense because of Jesus.

**Starter Ideas:** You may choose to set up all or some of these activity centers for the children to play with or do as they arrive. Help children with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

1. **Binocular Play:** For this activity you will need binoculars and several copies of a printed verse. Tape the copies of Luke 24:45, "Then [Jesus] opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures." on the walls of the classroom. Allow students (2-3 volunteers, or more if you have multiple binoculars) to take turns with a pair of binoculars locating Jesus' name in the verse. Explain how the story today is about Jesus helping His followers to see how the whole Story talks about Him.
2. **Free Play:** Allow the kids to play with the classroom toys. (dolls, basketball, cars, tea party set, dress up, etc)
3. **Coloring Page:** Set out coloring pages and crayons.

**Circle Time:** When all the kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one center, walk around the room and have each child follow you around the circle until you have a line with everyone in it. Lead them to the circle for prayer time. (Like playing follow the leader.)

**Welcome Song:** (To the tune of "Are You Sleeping?")

**Welcome, [Name]**

**Welcome, [Name]**

**Hear God's Word**

**Hear God's Word**

**We can trust in Jesus.**

**We can trust in Jesus.**

**Welcome, friends.**

## **Welcome, friends.**

Repeat until every kid and adult has been welcomed.

**Jesus taught us to share peace. We share peace in a special way by repeating Jesus' special words. Jesus used these words of peace when the disciples were scared. Jesus said, "Peace be with you." We share the peace of Jesus. During worship we can say, "Peace be with you."**

Make sure kids are sitting in a circle on the floor. Kneel down in front of each person/kid and share God's peace by shaking their hand and saying, "Peace be with you." Remember to honor those kids who do not want to be touched! **Let's all say Jesus' words of peace. "Peace be with you."** Repeat a few times before moving on to prayer.

### **Prayer Time:**

**Praying for Others:** Ask the kids if they have anything that they would like to have prayed for. Share requests and then have someone pray for them. Remind the kids to pray for friends throughout the week.

**Praying Together:** (*touch your nose for 'smell', your ears for 'hear', etc.*)

*God, help us use our **ears** to **hear** you, our **eyes** to **see** you, and our **brains** to **understand** your word. Thank you Jesus that you live in a body like ours.*

**Dear Jesus, thank you so much for giving us your Word and showing us how it points to You. Please give us the courage to share this truth with others. Amen.**

### **Discussion to introduce the Story:**

Have you ever had to solve a problem that seemed really difficult but once you knew the answer it seemed so obvious and simple?

**Story:** from Luke 24:27-40 [*READ*]

It was the day that Jesus had risen from the grave, but very few people had seen Him alive. Two of His followers were leaving Jerusalem, walking to a town called Emmaus. They were talking about how Jesus had been crucified when Jesus Himself came up beside them, but they weren't able to recognize Him.

He asked them what they were talking about. They both looked sad and asked Jesus if He was the only person in Jerusalem that had not heard what happened. Jesus asked what they were talking about. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a very powerful prophet, but the chief priests and rulers gave Him to the Romans to be crucified. We had hoped that He was going to be our Savior. This is the third day since that happened."

Then they told Jesus, "On top of that, some of the women who are a part of our group told us something surprising today. They went to His tomb but His body was gone and they said they saw a vision of angels who said that Jesus is alive! Some of the other people in our group went to the tomb and found it just like the women had said, Jesus was gone!"

Jesus said to them, "You guys are so foolish and must not believe what the prophets said. Don't you know that the Savior had to suffer those things in order to do His work?" Then Jesus started telling them about the whole Jewish Bible, from beginning to end, explaining to them everything that it said about Him.

When they arrived at Emmaus Jesus pretended that He was going to keep walking but the two men begged Him to stay with them that night since it was almost dark. Jesus agreed, then they went into the house and sat at the table to eat. Then Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them. As soon as He did that both of the men were able to recognize Jesus and then He disappeared!

They turned to each other and exclaimed, "This is why we were so excited when He was talking to us on the road and explaining the Scriptures to us!" Then they jumped up and ran back to Jerusalem as fast as they could. When the two men found Jesus' disciples, they were discussing how Simon had seen Jesus alive. The two men told the disciples what they had seen. As they were talking, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group and said, "Peace be with you."

They were all scared, they thought Jesus was a ghost. Jesus asked why they were scared. He told them to look at His wounds from being crucified and to touch Him. He said, "A ghost doesn't have skin and bones like you see that I have." They were so happy and excited they couldn't believe it was true! Jesus asked them for food, and when they gave Him a fish He sat and ate it in front of them. Jesus said to them, "This is what I told you had to happen while I was still with you, all of the things that were written about me in Scripture had to come true." Then He opened up their minds so that they could understand the Scriptures."

#### *[Questions to Ponder]*

- What city were Jesus' followers coming from? What town were they going to?
- What did Jesus talk to His followers about? (*How the Scriptures pointed to Him*)
- Why didn't His followers know they were talking to Jesus? (*He kept them from recognizing Him*)

- Why didn't Jesus want them to recognize Him at first? (*He wanted to share with them how Scripture was about Him*)
- When were Jesus' followers able to recognize Jesus? (*After He prayed and broke the bread*)
- What happened after they recognized Jesus? (*He disappeared*)
- Where did Jesus' followers go after Jesus disappeared? (*To the disciples in Jerusalem*)
- What happened after Jesus' followers told the disciples about seeing Jesus? (*Jesus appeared in the room*)
- What happened at the end of the story? (*Jesus told them how Scripture predicted His death and He opened their minds so that they could understand the Scriptures*)
- Point out that Jesus described several times in the story how the Scriptures told about Him, His death, and His resurrection.

**Snack Time: Let's take a big stretch!** Pause for kids to stretch and get the wiggles out. Clean the table for snack time. Help the kids wash hands together before delving into today's snack. Sing songs while you wash hands. You can give them each a wipe or a squirt of hand sanitizer. Have the children have a seat at the table. Today's snack is veggie straws. Make sure none of the kids have an allergy to them. Begin passing out the napkins, goldfish or veggie straws, and cups of water.

**BLESS Activity:** \*For kids to do during the week\*

**Speak:** Pick someone you know who does not follow Jesus and tell them about Him this week.

**Optional Playground Time:** If you have extra time please feel free to take the kids to the playground. Please be mindful that preschool class playground time does not start until 12PM.

**Closing Prayer:**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for your word, The Bible.**

**Thank you for sending Jesus in a real body so we can get to know you.**

**Help us to trust that your word is true.**

**Thank you God, Jesus and Holy Spirit.**