

Religion

March 30 – April 3

Monday: Story of Lazarus

Theme: Jesus weeps with his children.

Materials: A small clear bottle with a little water in it, computer, optional Lazarus Coloring Page and crayons

Scripture:

John 11:35

In the book of Psalms, David asked God to put his tears in a bottle. (Psalm 56:8) Do you see this little bottle? I call it "My Tears Bottle." These aren't real tears, it's just water, but it reminds me of the times that I have cried real tears. Now, I don't know that God keeps our tears in a bottle like this one, but I do believe that God sees our tears and hears us when we cry.

Do you ever cry? Of course you do. What is something that makes you cry? (Allow responses.)

I made a list of some things that make us cry.

Raise your hand if you've ever fallen down and hurt yourself so badly that you cried. (Allow responses.)

Raise your hand if you ever have been so sad that you cried. (Allow responses.)

Raise your hand if someone hurt your feelings and you cried. (Allow responses.)

Raise your hand if you've ever cried because someone else was crying. (Allow responses.)

We all cry, don't we? Did you know that Jesus cried? The shortest verse in the entire Bible says, "Jesus wept." I know of at least three things that made Jesus cry.

The Bible tells us that Jesus cried when He prayed for others. It says, "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears." (Hebrews 5:7 NLT)

The Bible also tells us that Jesus cried when He saw people who were missing out on what God wanted for them. Luke tells us that as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it and said, "I wish that even today you would find the way of peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from you." (Luke 19:41-42 NLT)

Another time, the Bible tells us that Jesus cried when friends of His were hurting. Jesus had a friend named Lazarus who became very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus and asked Him to come and heal Lazarus, but when Jesus arrived, Lazarus had already died. The Bible tells us that when

Jesus saw Mary weeping because her brother had died, He cried too. That isn't all that Jesus did; listen to what happened next.

Jesus went with Mary and Martha and some others to visit the grave where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave with a large stone across the entrance. When they arrived at the tomb, Jesus said to some of the men who were with them, "Take away the stone." Then Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus walked out of the grave. I imagine that when she saw that, Mary's tears of sadness turned to tears of joy.

We all cry, and I am glad that we have a Savior who weeps too. I am glad that He loves us so much that He hurts when we are hurting. He feels our pain. He sees our tears and He keeps our tears in a bottle.

Pray: Dear Jesus, it is comforting to know that when we cry, You cry with us. But it is even more comforting to know that You have power over death and the grave and that one day we will be in heaven with You--and then there will be no more tears. In Jesus' name, amen

Watch Lazarus video at <https://safeYouTube.net/w/o9k3>

Student can color optional Lazarus Coloring Page.

Tuesday: Promise Magazine: We Care About Our Friends, March 29

Objective: Students will identify different feelings and recognize that Jesus had feelings, too. We can share our feelings in prayer.

Beginning Prayer: "Dear God, thank you for loving us when we are happy, sad, angry or lonely. We love you too." Amen

Cover activity: **I Have Feelings.** "Tell how a child in the picture may be feeling." Help student be specific about the feeling and why the child may be feeling that way. Ask: Is feeling sad a good feeling? Student may say no. Emphasize that all feelings are good because they tell us what is going on inside of us. It's important to learn what to do with a sad or angry feeling. God gave us our feelings, and they are good.

Pg. 2: Help your child retell the story of Lazarus. Invite your child to show with their faces and bodies how Mary and Martha felt when Lazarus was sick, when they wrote to Jesus, when Lazarus died, when Jesus came, when Jesus called Lazarus back to life. Then invite them to show Jesus' feelings when he heard Lazarus was sick, when Martha told him Lazarus was dead, when Lazarus was alive again. Emphasize that Jesus had feelings just like Martha and Mary. Jesus' feelings were a gift from God just as our feelings are.

Pg. 3: Student can cut off the strip of faces into 6 squares. Read the sentences about feelings. Help the student match the faces to the feelings. Student can glue the faces in the right places.

Pg. 4: Help the student read the sentences and complete the faces with the correct feeling.

Closing Prayer: "Dear Jesus, you felt sad when your friend Lazarus died. You understand all our feelings. Help us bring our feelings to you when we pray. Please hear our prayers for all people who are sick. Thank you for promising to be with us always and for hearing our prayers." -Amen

Wednesday: Watch the Stations of the Cross video <https://safeYouTube.net/w/1z13>

Thursday: Print out the Stations of the Cross-matching cards. Color and cut out the cards. Help your child review the stations and match them.

Friday: Pray a decade of the rosary:

One "Our Father": *Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

Ten "Hail Marys: *Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen.*

One "Glory Be To The Father" :*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*