

Bible background

John 19; John 20:1-18; Luke 24:1-12

Aim of lesson

To show that Jesus died and was raised from the dead.

Preparation required

Bearing in mind the children in your class, decide how you are going to tell the story. You could decide not to do the lesson if you think it might be too upsetting.

You will need a tissue box, card, paper fastener, one tissue per model (possibly pipe cleaners or tissue/material to make figures).

Suggested outline of lesson

1. Briefly tell the children about the events leading up to the crucifixion, stressing the fact that Jesus had the power to save himself but he obeyed God, his Father.
2. Explain how Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took Jesus' body to a new tomb in a garden, taking spices with them. You will need to explain about the way they treated the body with the aloes and myrrh and wrapped it in strips of linen as was their custom. Describe the way the face would be covered with a separate cloth and the hands and feet bandaged.
3. Describe the tomb and how the stone closed the entrance. You can use a model already made to show them if you like.
4. Tell the children how Mary Magdalene came with the other women while it was still dark early on the first day of the week, bringing spices and perfumes, and the scene which met them.
5. Talk about the scene they found inside the tomb; the napkin lying apart from the linen clothes, and the message the angels gave them.
6. Tell them how Mary mistook Jesus for the gardener - so he looked just like any ordinary human being!
7. Make the model either one each or one for the class, and depending on numbers and time you can add figures.

Alternative activities

1. Make sad/happy faces on masks and use them while recapping the story.
2. Make tray gardens with clay or Plasticine tombs. Use white paper or cloth for grave clothes.
3. Make a collage picture of the empty tomb in the garden.

Relevance to the children's lives

The fact that Jesus is alive should make us happy and thankful to God

Prayer

'Thank you, God, for raising Jesus from the dead.'

Verse

'He is not here, he is risen.' Luke 24:6.