GOD AND ME Lesson Twenty-Seven



MY RESPONSE...

THE LOVE OF THE CROSS



JESUS CHOSE THE CROSS BECAUSE HE LOVES US!

HIS RESURRECTION GIVES US THE **POWER** TO CHOOSE TO LOVE HIM!

"The message of the cross seems foolish to those who are lost and dying.

But it is God's power to us who are being saved."

1 Corinthians 1:18

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the true knowledge of Him."

Ephesians 1:17

In The Last 6 Lessons We Have Discovered That: In the Old Testament

GOD SAID, "I AM WHO I AM"



Exodus Chapter 3

God said to Moses, "I AM who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites:

'I am has sent me to you."

"This is my name forever,

the name you shall call me

from generation to generation."

This is the first time in the Bible when God calls Himself, "I AM"

In the New Testament Jesus calls Himself God



JESUS IS THE TRUE VINE:

By Attaching Ourselves to Christ, We Become Like Him and Bear Good Fruit That Will Honor God!

JESUS IS THE WAY, TRUTH, LIFE:

He is the Source of All Truth And Knowledge About God!

JESUS IS THE DOOR:

Following Jesus Keeps Me Safe!

JESUS IS THE GOOD BREAD

From Heaven That Keeps Our Spirits Going Forever!

JESUS IS THE LIGHT:

Following Jesus Out Of Darkness Is The Best Way to Live!

JESUS IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

He is Committed to Caring And Watching Over Those Who Are His!

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE:

Death Is Not the Final Word for Those in Christ!

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE ON EASTER?

Today we are going to talk about a BIG BIBLE WORD: RESURRECTION

Do you know what RESURRECTION means?

<u>Resurrection</u> means to rise from the dead or come back to life! If we saw someone do that today, it might be a seem a little bit strange. But 2000 years ago, Jesus did just that! His friends discovered that His body was missing from His tomb, and they thought someone had stolen His body, but they would soon find that Jesus had risen!



What does the Bible have to say about the Resurrection of Jesus?

We will use some objects to help us remember this true story about Jesus.

OBJECT #1



Can you guess what this rope represents?

People accused Jesus of having done bad things, but it's important to know that Jesus NEVER did anything wrong! They decided that they would have Jesus killed. So, they arrested Him and "bound Him." Bound means that they tied His hands with rope. (There were no handcuffs back then!) So, this rope represents Jesus being falsely accused (lied about) and bound.

Matthew 27:1-2 tells us "Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed.

So they bound Him, led Him away and handed Him over to Pilate the governor."



What do you think this cross represents?

We've talked about this one a lot.
We have learned that Jesus chose to die on the cross because He loves us.

Remember? The Cross = God's Love!

Here's another BIG BIBLE WORD: CRUCIFY

The Bible tells us that the people decided to <u>crucify</u> Jesus. <u>Crucify</u> means that they took Jesus, hung Him from a big cross, and they left Him there to die. When we see the cross, we remember that Jesus died for OUR sins (He had NO sin) because He loves us that much!!!

John 19:16-18 tells us, "Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified Him, and with Him two others—
one on each side and Jesus in the middle."

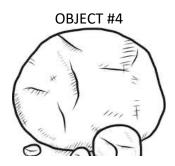




Any ideas what this cloth represents?

This cloth represents the wrapping of Jesus' body. His friends carefully cared for His body by wrapping it in linen cloth and laying Him in the tomb.

Mark 15:46 tells us, "So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock."



What do you think the stone represents?

Mark 15:47 says, "Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb."

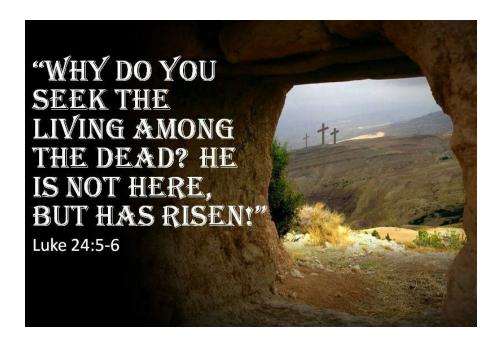
Later, Jesus' followers went to the tomb to visit His body, and they found that the large stone had been rolled away, and Jesus' body was not there! Jesus had been <u>RESURRECTED</u>!!

This is the answer to our very first question: WHAT DO CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE ON EASTER?

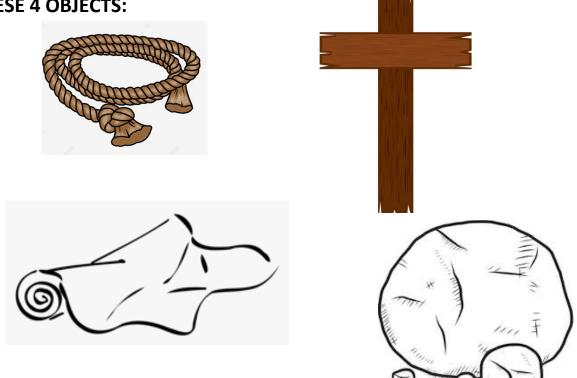
Christians celebrate the fact that Jesus died for us and came back to life on Easter.

JESUS IS ALIVE!

What A Wonderful Celebration!



THESE 4 OBJECTS:



can help us remember what Jesus did for us. By dying on the cross, He took our place and removed our sin which allows each once of us to have a direct relationship with God. His resurrection proves how powerful God is and that we can trust Jesus with our lives, and have the gift of spending forever with God!

> To Learn More About What This Means, Let's Continue Our 7 Weeklong Study from The Gospel of John

It's important for us to learn how to use our Bibles. Using your Bible is something that you will need to know how to do your whole life, so it's so great that you're learning how to do it now! Begin by finding John 11:25

Do you remember the steps to find the Gospel of John?

- 1) Use the Table of Contents to find the books of the Old Testament and New Testament
- 2) Find the Book you are looking for Gospel of John (hint: the New Testament starts with the 4 Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke then
- 3) Turn to the book of John
- 4) Find Chapter 11 (THE BIG BOLD NUMBER 11)
- 5) Find Verse 25 (the tiny number 25)

It will sound something like this:

Jesus said to her, "I AM the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die."

Wow! That's a weird thing to say! How Can You Be Alive After You Die?

Let's read more from the book of John to help us.

Look up **John 3:16-17.**

It will sound something like this:

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."

We found another BIG BIBLE WORD: <u>CONDEMN</u> What Does Condemn Mean?

<u>Condemn</u> means to get us in trouble or to punish us for something we did. So, the Scripture is telling us that Jesus DIDN'T come to get us in trouble, but instead He came to save us from being in trouble so that we could be with Him forever!

So let's circle back to that question-

How Can You Be Alive After You Die?

When we choose to trust and follow Jesus, He does something AMAZING for us! He gets up out of trouble, forgives our sins, and offers us a chance to continue on with our lives, even after our bodies stop working here on earth.

When we are followers of Jesus, we get to live forever with Him!

Can you imagine the most beautiful place that NEVER ends?

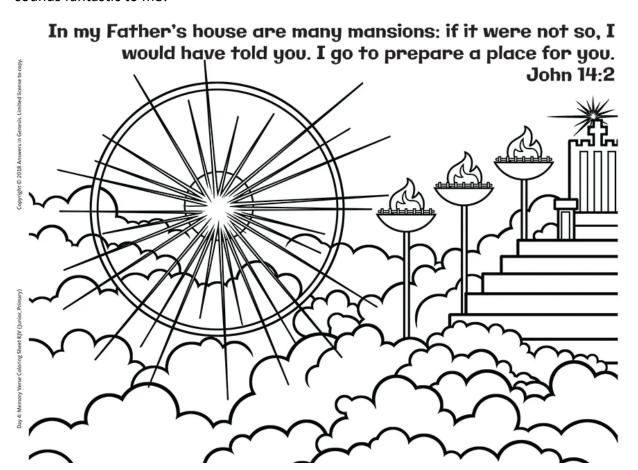
Think of a memory – close your eyes and remember a favorite place you've been in your life. (Maybe it's at the beach, mountains, woods, circus, or theme park...)

Heaven Is Going to Be Infinitely Better Than That Memory!



It's Going to Be A Place Of Pure Joy And Complete Happiness FOREVER!

In Heaven, there is only joy and love. We will get new perfect bodies! We will spend eternity with Jesus – learning about our amazing, good, and infinite Creator! I don't know about you, but that sounds fantastic to me!



This is what Jesus promises to His followers about heaven in John 14:1-4

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be. And you know the way where I am going."

What Is The Way?

JESUS – The WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE JESUS – The RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Do You Think Everyone In The World Knows About God's Love For Them?

Jesus asks us, His followers, to help others know about God's amazing love given to us through Jesus. There are others who are waiting to know that Jesus is the RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.

What Are Some Ways That We Can Share Jesus With Others?

Think About It:

How do you think it felt for Jesus' friends and family to see other people say bad things about Him and decide that He should be crucified?

How does knowing that you can live forever with Jesus make you feel?

Who is one person that you hope to talk to about Jesus' love for them and that He is the way to heaven? Ask God to help you do just that.

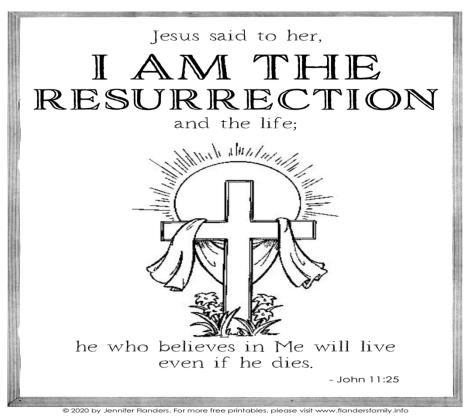
BIG IDEA:

Remember that **Death Is Not The Final Word For Those In Christ.**

When our life here on earth is over, we get to move on to heaven with Jesus.

We have nothing to fear when we have our faith in Jesus!

JESUS PROMISES US THAT WE WILL LIVE WITH HIM FOREVER!



My Response:

I Choose To Believe That:

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life

I Choose To:

Trust Jesus

Live for Him

I Choose To Remember That:

Death Is Not The Final Word For Those In Christ.

TALK TO GOD

Use the ARK model (A: Agree R: Revelation K: Keep) to pray using Scripture.

Jesus said to her, "I AM the resurrection and the life.
The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die."
John 11:25

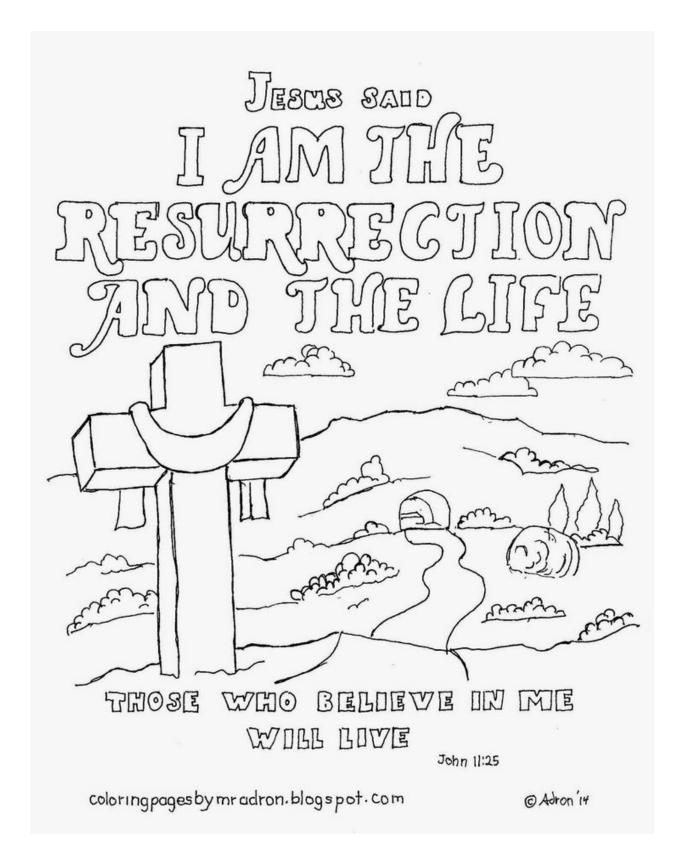
Agree - LORD, I **AGREE** that You are the resurrection and the life. I know that anyone who believes in You will live with You forever, even after they die.

Reveal– Please show me more about what it means that You are the resurrection and the life. Help me to always believe in You even when I don't understand everything that is happening in my life.

Keep– I want to believe in You, Jesus and live with You forever in Your perfect heaven. Thank You, Jesus for dying on the cross to save me from my sins. Thank You for helping me to love You and trust You. Jesus, I'm SO HAPPY THAT YOU ARE ALIVE!!!

Amen

Write or Draw Your Own Prayer Above



TAKE HOME CHALLENGES:

1. This week read one or more of these Scriptures in the Bible.

 Corinthians 1:18
 John 10:7,11
 Luke 24:5-6

 Ephesians 1:17
 John 14:6
 John 3:16-17

 Exodus 3:14-15
 Matthew 27:1-2
 John 14:1-4

John 6:35 John 19:16-18 John 8:12 Mark 15:46-47

2. Memory Verse:

Jesus said to her, "I AM the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die." John 11:25

- 3. Share this workbook with a family member and talk about:
 - a. God is...
 - b. I am...
 - **c. My Response...** (Share your feelings about what you learned together)
- 4. Do the coloring, activity pages, and writing or drawing a prayer suggested in this book.

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