

City LG - April 6-7, 2019

Bible Story: You Raise Me Up (Lazarus Raised) • *John 11:1-45*

Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.

Memory Verse: *"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world."* John 16:33b, Nlrv

CG: Countdown Video

WORSHIP: "Give My All" and "All My Days"

NOTE: Take some time to teach a few of the dance moves to your group.

(Worship Leader Prays)

WELCOME:

Supplies Needed: Bible

"Hi, everyone! Today our story is about my FAVORITE person ever. Can anyone guess who that is? *(Take a few answers.)* Some of those are definitely people I LOVE! But my favorite person in the whole world is Jesus! We get to learn all about Jesus in the Bible.

"A man named John, who spent a lot of time with Jesus, wrote the book of John that we can find in our Bible today. *(Hold up Bible.)* John wrote his book a long, long time ago, when Jesus was walking around on the earth. People followed Jesus everywhere He went. They followed Him around because they wanted to be healed and they wanted to learn more about God.

"Jesus had a friend named Lazarus who lived back home in the town of Bethany. While Jesus was far away, across the Jordan River, Lazarus became very, very sick.

"Lazarus lived with his two sisters, Martha and Mary, who were also Jesus' friends. When Lazarus continued to get sicker and sicker, the sisters began to worry. They sent a message to Jesus to tell Him about their brother. But then something interesting happened. Jesus got the message about Lazarus, but He didn't rush right to his home. He stayed where He was.

"Let's look in the Bible to see exactly what happened."

Open the Bible to John 11:4 (Nlrv) and read.

"When Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory. God's Son will receive glory because of it."

"Jesus stayed where He was for two more days, and then He said to His friends: *"Let us go back to Judea" (John 11:7 Nlrv).*

Open the Bible to John 11:11 (Nlrv) and read.

"He said: *"Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. . . . But I am going there to wake him up."*

"The disciples were probably thinking, 'Oh, that's not that big of a deal, then. He'll be fine. Why would Jesus need to travel all that way just to wake him up?' But Jesus didn't mean that Lazarus was really asleep. He explained to His friends that Lazarus had DIED. What?!?! That's not good! Now what? What could Jesus possibly do now? Let's find out in this week's Bible Story video. Watch this!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:40)

“When Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead, He proved that He really is God’s Son. He proved that He is more powerful than anything—even death!

“So you might be wondering, ‘What does that mean for me?’ Well, think about this. If God is more powerful than death, then He is definitely powerful enough to handle whatever you’re going through. Even when you’re going through something tough and it’s hard to understand, even when life seems dark or scary, you can still trust God no matter what. You can have hope because you know God is with you.

“Here’s what I want you to know.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Whatever happens, remember how powerful God is.

“Let’s pray and thank God for being so strong and powerful.”

Pray: “Dear God, thank You for caring about people who are hurting. And thank You for being bigger and stronger and more powerful than anything we could face. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“Jesus knew we would have tough times. He knew there would be things in life that we don’t understand. He knew that sometimes we would feel lost in the dark. But Jesus told His friends something important that can give US hope, too. It’s our memory verse for this month: John 16:33. Here’s what He said.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

Read the memory verse from the screen.

“In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world, John 16:33b (NirV).

“We can have hope even when life seems dark and scary because we know that Jesus is always with us. “You’ll get to talk about that some more in Small Group, but before we head there, let’s worship God with our offering!”

Offering Time:

“Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else’s life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called ‘Missions of Hope’ to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God’s love for them.”

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

“(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya and is part of a really great place called Mission of Hope International! Here’s a picture of Missions of Hope!”

CG: Missions of Hope JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*).

CG: Offering Video “You Are My Hope” (Runtime: 3:00)

Dismiss to Small Groups