

LOWER ELEM Flight Plan

March 22nd



Lesson	Jesus Raised Lazarus
Bible Passage	John 11
Story Point	Jesus has power over death.
Key Passage	“He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” Colossians 1:13-14
Big Picture Q & A	<p>How does God care for His creation?</p> <p>God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.</p>



Unwrap Laz
 INSTRUCTIONS: Feed the picture through Lazarus' binding (beginning from nose to finish).

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
 JOHN 11:25 "Whoever hears My voice and believes in Me shall never die."

VERSE MEMORY
 "Who does never die?"
 "The resurrection and the life!"
 "Who says 'I believe' but does not believe in the middle of his heart?"
 "Who has turned the will and does not desire to change?"

VERSE MEMORY QUESTIONS
 • How does Jesus never die?
 • How does Jesus never change?
 • How does Jesus never turn away from us?
 • How does Jesus never let us go in the middle of our heart?
 • How does Jesus turn the will and does not desire to change?

VERSE MEMORY
 "Who does never die?"
 "The resurrection and the life!"
 "Who says 'I believe' but does not believe in the middle of his heart?"
 "Who has turned the will and does not desire to change?"

DOWNLOAD THE UNWRAP LAZ APP

leader bible study

Jesus received word that His friend Lazarus was sick. Lazarus was the brother of Mary and Martha. They lived in the town of Bethany, which was about two miles away from Jerusalem. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus, likely expecting Him to come right away.

Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus; yet He stayed where He was, and Lazarus died. Why would Jesus do such a thing? Jesus said that Lazarus' sickness was "for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it" (John 11:4). He said that He was glad He wasn't there when Lazarus died so that the disciples may believe. (John 11:15) Jesus' timing is always perfect, and He acts—or doesn't act—so that God will be glorified.

By the time Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. Martha went to meet Jesus. She said to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn't have died." Jesus had shown His power to heal people who were sick. Even still, she believed He could do a miracle.

Jesus told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). Jesus is the source of life—eternal life that cannot be destroyed by death. Believers do not need to fear death because physical death is not the end. (See John 11:25-26.) Jesus endured death for us so that when we die and are absent from our physical bodies, our souls are with the Lord. (See 2 Cor. 5:8.)

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. His messiahship was clearly on display, and it was Jesus' claims to be the Son of God that would lead to His death on the cross. Jesus interrupted Lazarus's funeral knowing His would soon follow.

Emphasize to kids that when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

March Focus: The Kingdom to Come



MAR 1st: Kingdom Parables *Matthew 13*

Story point: God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything.



MAR 8th: Three Parables *Luke 15*

Story Point: Jesus came to seek and save the lost.



MAR 15th: Jesus' Hard Teachings *John 6*

Story Point: Many people misunderstood Jesus' teachings.



MAR 22nd: Jesus Raised Lazarus *John 11*

Story Point: Jesus has power over death.



MAR 29th: The Last Supper/Palm Sunday!

Story Point: Jesus commanded His disciples to remember His sacrifice .



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co-Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co-pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?
- How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?
- What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?
- In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPO and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

Prompt kids to share about a time they heard a friend was sick. Did they visit or send a get-well card? If you were sick, what would you want your friends to do?

Big Picture Question

When Jesus was on earth, He taught people about God and His kingdom. God's kingdom is wherever God is ruling. He is ruling over us now, but one day His kingdom will come fully when Jesus returns. As you listen to today's Bible story, think about our big picture question and answer: ***How does God care for His creation? God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.***

Key Passage

Show the key passage poster. Lead the boys and girls to read together **Colossians 1:13-14** • Our key passage reminds us that God's kingdom is better than this world. Apart from Jesus, we are in darkness and are slaves to sin. When we trust in Jesus, He invites us into His kingdom. He forgives our sin and gives us life with Him forever.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

Jesus spent time teaching people about God and His kingdom. He told parables, or stories, to show people that God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything. Jesus' stories also teach us that Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Not everyone accepted Jesus' teachings, though. Many people misunderstood Jesus' teaching and thought Jesus was someone He was not. Today, we will get a better picture of who Jesus is by hearing about something amazing Jesus did for one of His friends. Our story is called "Jesus Raised Lazarus."

Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **John 11** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

I wonder if Jesus' disciples felt confused when they learned that Lazarus had died. Jesus said that Lazarus' sickness wouldn't end in death. Was Jesus wrong? Jesus is never wrong, and everything He says is perfect and true. Lazarus' sickness didn't end in death because Jesus has power over death!

What happened with Lazarus is just a small picture of what life in God's eternal kingdom is like. Everyone who has faith in Jesus will live with God forever. God's perfect design never included death. Sin brought death and destruction into the world, but God's perfect plan would defeat death. Although we all will face physical death someday, we can be sure that Jesus' death and resurrection made the way for us to be resurrected, too. When Jesus returns, He will resurrect us, and everyone who has faith in Him will live with God forever. We will live even if we die.

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.

Our life with God starts as soon as we trust in Jesus. We gain hope, joy, and peace. And beyond that, even after our physical bodies die we will be alive with God in heaven. When Jesus returns, He will raise us from the dead forever and fix everything sin has broken.



Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: JESUS HAS POWER OVER DEATH.

Jesus and Lazarus were friends. One day, Lazarus got sick. Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus. "Lord, Your friend Lazarus is sick," they said. Jesus stayed where He was for two more days. Then Jesus said, "Let's go back to Judea." By the time Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been in a tomb for four days. Martha said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. Do you believe this?"

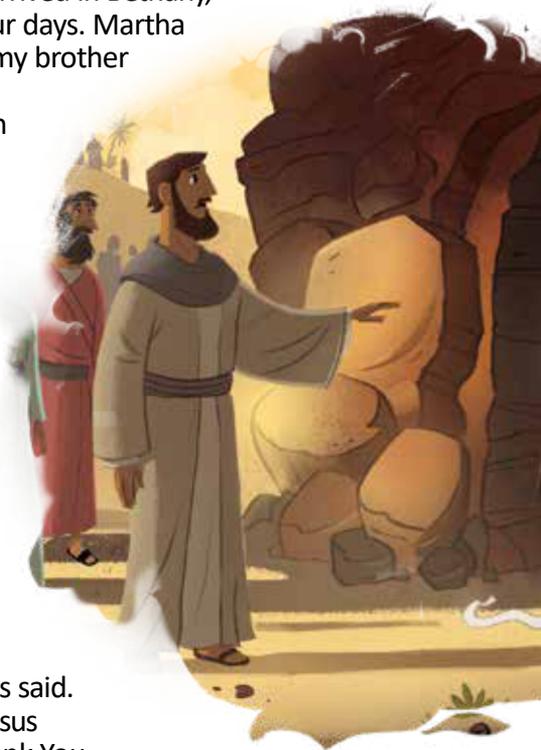
"Yes, Lord," Martha said. "I believe You are the Messiah, the Son of God."

Martha went back to her house. She told Mary that Jesus wanted to see her. Mary fell at Jesus' feet and said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died!" Mary was crying. Jesus wept too.

Mary led Jesus to the tomb where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave, and a huge stone covered the opening. "Remove the stone," Jesus said.

So the stone was moved aside. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank You that You heard Me." Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!"

Lazarus came out of the tomb, wrapped in linen and cloth. Jesus said, "Unwrap him and let him go."



Christ Connection: When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He showed that He has power over death. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives eternal life to those who trust in Him.

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help kids find John 11. Select a reader to read John 11:25-26. Consider displaying the New Testament Israel Map to point out Bethany. Lead the group to discuss:

1. **How long had Lazarus been in the tomb when Jesus arrived in Bethany?** (four days, John 11:17)
2. **Who did Martha say Jesus is?** (the Messiah, the Son of God; John 11:27)
3. **What happened when Jesus told Lazarus to come out?** (Lazarus obeyed, John 11:44)
4. **How can we know Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God?** Guide kids to think about what Jesus said about Himself, what others said about Jesus, and what Jesus' actions communicated. Remind the kids that only God has power over death. Jesus is God the Son, and we can trust what the Bible says about Him.
5. **What does it mean to live even if you die?** Direct kids to think about the new life we receive through Jesus. Help the kids think through both the abundant life we receive as soon as we become Christians and the resurrection and eternal life we are promised in the future. Eternal life starts right away.



God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

- With Us -Powerful

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Good Friends

Direct the kids to sit in a circle. Select a kid to start by saying one thing about herself that she believes makes her a good friend. Go around the circle, allowing each kid to share something about himself that makes him a good friend. End the game by asking the kids what about Jesus makes Him a good friend.

- Jesus is the best friend we could ever have. Today, we will hear a story about a time when one of Jesus' friends got sick and the friend's sisters asked Jesus to come heal him. Jesus didn't go right away but waited until the friend died! Do you think that something like death can stop Jesus from being a good friend? No way! We'll learn more soon.

Emotions Charades

Invite volunteers to take turns acting out emotions. Challenge the other kids to try and guess what emotion the kid is pretending to feel. Make sure to end the game by acting out sadness.

- Usually you can tell how a person is feeling by looking at facial expressions and actions. In our story today, we will learn about something that made Jesus cry. What do you think might cause Jesus to feel sad and cry?

Wrap Him Up

Form two or more teams of kids. Provide each team with a roll of bathroom tissue. Explain that the teams must select a volunteer to wrap tightly with the bathroom tissue. When you say go, give the teams a few minutes to wrap their volunteer. Ensure no kids have tissue wrapped in a way that could be dangerous, such as around their necks or covering their nose and mouth. At the end, award titles to the teams, such as "Fastest Wrapping," "Neatest Wrapping," or "Most Tissue Used." Allow the wrapped kids a chance to break free.

- In Jesus' day, when a person died, he would be wrapped tightly in cloth. Since the person was dead, no one had to worry about wrapping the person comfortably or making sure he could get out—a dead person wouldn't need to get out!

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, Lazarus came out all wrapped up

and needed help getting unwrapped! It was a true miracle. **Jesus has power over death.** Everyone who has faith in Him will live forever with God. Even after we die, we have hope for the end of time. Jesus will return, raise believers from the dead, and fully set up His kingdom.

Pray for the Sick

Lead a gospel-centered prayer for people who are sick. Then allow each child to share a prayer request. Invite the child who shared or another child to pray about the request. Close by demonstrating more gospel-centered prayer over all the requests shared.

- When **Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead**, He showed that He has power over sickness and death. We can pray for people because only God has the power to save them! Only Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead.

Wrap up Race

- In Bible times, when a person died, his body would be washed, covered with good-smelling spices or oils, wrapped in linen cloth, and buried in a cave or tomb. Lazarus died and had been in a tomb for four days, but that didn't stop Jesus. **Jesus has power over death.** He raised Lazarus from the dead.

Form teams of three to five kids. Instruct each team to choose a volunteer to be wrapped up. Give each team a roll of paper streamers or two rolls of bath tissue.

When you say go, players will wrap their team's volunteer from ankles to head. Kids should use all of the paper, but be sure kids do not cover a player's feet, mouth, or eyes. When all the volunteers are wrapped, prompt the rest of the kids to shout together, "Lazarus, come out!"

Volunteers should break out of the wraps. Assist if needed.

- Like Lazarus was physically dead, we are all spiritually dead apart from Jesus. But Jesus can free us from the power of sin and death. Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead. He gives forgiveness and eternal life to those who trust in Him.

Key Passage Activity

Display the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading Colossians 1:13-14 aloud together. Inflate and tie a balloon.

Challenge kids to tap the balloon, keeping it in the air as they say the key passage together. If the balloon hits the floor, lead kids to say the key passage from the beginning. If kids complete the key passage, add a second balloon.



5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide***.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space—a neighbor’s house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. Even if you don’t know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus’ light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window—Grab a dry erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

You're
ready
for
Sunday!



