

**WEEK 3**  
**LESSON GUIDE**

**FULL BLOOM**

**BIG IDEA**

Jesus makes all things new.

**BIBLE**

**Jesus Is Alive:**  
Luke 24:1–12

**ABOUT THIS WEEK**

Once you plant a seed, you'll need to provide the right amount of water, sunlight, and air so that it can bloom into something brand new. This week, we'll hear about how Jesus died, came back to life, and made a way for all of us to bloom and grow with God. He came out of the darkness and brought light into the world because **Jesus makes all things new.**

**WELCOME TIME**

**ACTIVITY | Easter Egg Scoop**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, fill a basket with various small plastic shovels and scoops for preschoolers to use to pick up the Easter eggs they hunt. Spread Easter eggs all over your ministry space. Encourage your kids to collect them only using their scoop or shovel. You can have group collection baskets or let each kid have their own basket or brown paper bag to collect a specific number of eggs with their scoops.
- **Have you ever collected Easter eggs with a scoop before?** This was a new and challenging way for us to collect eggs. Today's Bible story is all about Jesus making things new because he's alive!

**ACTIVITY | Caterpillar Race**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, split your preschoolers into two teams and line them up facing the opposite side of the room, where you've placed two cones. To play, each player will crawl to the cone like a caterpillar. Once they reach the cone, they can spin around once, transforming into a butterfly, and flap their arms to return to their team. You can have the teams race to see which team gets all their caterpillars to become butterflies faster or give both teams ample time to complete the activity.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Set up a pop-up play tunnel or create one by [taping boxes](#) together. As kids crawl through the tunnel, say, "Go on, little caterpillar." Once they come out of the other side, jump up and down with them and say, "Yay, you're a butterfly!"
- **What's your favorite bug to see in the garden?** There are all kinds of bugs and animals in the garden. In the spring, caterpillars change into butterflies. We see all kinds of new life in a garden, especially in the spring when everything is coming alive.
- New life is exactly what we are talking about today. We are celebrating that Jesus is alive!

## STORY TIME

### SCRIPTURE | Jesus Is Alive (Luke 24:1–12)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below. To match the theme, set up a mini garden of real or artificial potted plants in your teaching area. For today's teaching, you will need a large seed from a peach or avocado. As you start teaching, hold up your seed for the kids to see.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Toddlers will have limited comprehension of the Easter story. Impart small, digestible truths that they can remember and repeat throughout the day: Jesus died, Jesus came back to life, Jesus is with me, Jesus loves me.
- **Do you ever wonder what it must be like to grow from a seed?**
  - This is a really big seed, and there's no light inside of it. It's so dark inside of the seed, but it doesn't stay that way.
  - Over time, with the right amount of water, sunlight, and air, the seed begins to open. The shell that once didn't have much going on will eventually begin to sprout, and something brand new will begin to grow from the seed.
- That's like what happened in today's story. Out of the darkness, God did something brand new for the world, and it changed everything.
  - After Jesus prayed in the garden, he was arrested by soldiers and taken away. Even though Jesus didn't do anything wrong, he was punished to die by hanging on a cross. It was awful.
  - After Jesus died, his body was placed inside a tomb, which was kind of like a cave. There was a large stone rolled in front of it.
  - Jesus' friends and family were very sad. But God had something special planned.
- Three days later, some of the women who had followed Jesus visited his tomb.
  - When they got there, they were surprised by what they saw. The big, heavy stone in front of the tomb had been moved. When they walked into the tomb, it was empty. Jesus wasn't there!
  - Where could he have gone? What happened?
- As they looked around, they saw two men in really bright clothing, like having a light shine in your face. The men told the women that Jesus wasn't in the tomb because ... he's alive!
  - Jesus died and came back to life. It was amazing!
  - So, they did what any of us would do when something incredible happens—they went and told their friends.
- This is what Easter is all about. We celebrate the day Jesus was alive again. Because Jesus is alive, we can have a new life with God. The whole world has a chance to become new ... all because of Jesus.

### BIG IDEA | Jesus makes all things new.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For the Big Idea reveal each week, write each word of the Big Idea on flower cutouts ([like these](#) or make your own out of colored paper). Hide these words and a few blank flowers in a bin filled with dirt, sand, or uncooked beans and topped with plastic flowers and bugs. Give kids plastic shovels to dig through the "soil" to uncover the flowers. Once they find a flower that has a word, have them bring it to you to read. Once all the words are found, practice the Big Idea together using the hand motions below.
- Let's see what Big Idea we dug up today!
  - **Jesus** (Right pointer finger on left palm to left pointer finger on right palm.)
  - **makes all things** (Both hands overhead and spread out and down.)
  - **new.** (Spin in a circle.)

**VIDEO | Full Bloom, Episode 3**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

**ACTIVITY | Jump Into The Light**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, spread your preschoolers throughout the room. Tell them to start sitting down on the ground. The game will start with the lights off. When you turn the lights on, have the kids jump up and shout out the Big Idea or "Jesus is alive!" Go through the game several times, switching the lights on and off at varying intervals, and end with everyone jumping to some fun Easter music.
- Before Jesus, people were separated from God because of sin. Sin is when we choose to go against God with what we do or say. When Jesus died on the cross, he paid the price so that our sins could go away when we ask God to forgive us. Anyone who believes in Jesus can have the same chance, too!
- God sent us Jesus so that we could know and love God, and nothing could get in the way. **Jesus makes all things new!**

**PRAYER**

- Dear God, thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you for making all things new. We love you and celebrate you! Amen.

**SHARING TIME****SNACK | Easter Egg Surprise**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill jumbo plastic Easter eggs with assorted mini treats for your kids, such as cheddar bunny crackers, jelly beans, M&M's, chocolate eggs, mini marshmallows, and the like. You may want to label the eggs with kids' names to accommodate individual allergies if needed.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Fill the egg with toddler-safe items, such as goldfish crackers, cereal, animal crackers, or even tangerine slices and grapes.
- Look at your empty Easter eggs. There's nothing inside, just like how Jesus' tomb was empty. **Why was the tomb empty?** Because Jesus is alive!
- Nobody thought Jesus could come back to life. But he did it! Jesus makes all things new.

**ACTIVITY | Circle Time**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, have kids seated in a circle. Prepare a bucket with artificial flowers, one for each kid (you can have extra). Go around the circle and have each kid take one flower. Have them put their flower in the air if they know the answer to one of the questions you ask. Once all the questions have been reviewed, place the bucket in the middle of the circle and have kids return the flowers.
- **How did Jesus die?** On a cross.
- **Where did they put Jesus' body when he died?** In a tomb.
- **What did the women find when they arrived at Jesus' tomb?** The stone was rolled away, and the tomb was empty.
- **What news did the men in shining clothes share with the women?** Jesus is alive!
- **Who makes all things new?** Jesus.
- Let's say the Big Idea together: **Jesus makes all things new.**

**ACTIVITY | Coffee Filter Butterfly**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this craft, you will need coffee filters, plastic or paper plates, markers, clothespins or pipe cleaners, and spray bottles filled with water. You may choose to have hair dryers to speed up the drying.

Give each kid one coffee filter on a plate, and have them color it using markers. Afterward, have them spray their coffee filters to have the colors bleed together. Set these out to dry, or use a hair dryer. Afterward, gather the coffee filter in the middle and pinch it with a clothespin or pipe cleaner to create a [butterfly](#).

- Before caterpillars become butterflies, they first go through the chrysalis phase, where they are wrapped up until they're ready to begin their new life as butterflies.
- Our butterflies help us remember that when Jesus came back to life, he gave us all a chance for a new life ... a new life with God! Hang your butterfly up at home so you can celebrate Jesus every day, not just at Easter. **Jesus makes all things new!**

### MEMORY VERSE | 2 Peter 3:18a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words and Scripture reference to the tune of "It's A Small World." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say it using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."**

## PLAY TIME

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.

### ACTIVITY | Watercolor Painting

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, set up a watercolor station with washable watercolor palettes, paintbrushes or sponge brushes, cups of water, and smocks for kids. Cover the tables with tarps or plastic tablecloths. Prepare blank canvases or cardstock paper with a cross made out of painter's tape in the middle. Allow kids to paint however they'd like. Once the paper is mostly dry, peel off the painter's tape for their completed [tape-resist cross artwork](#).

### ACTIVITY | Gardening Sensory Box

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the sensory box from Week 1 containing artificial flowers, plastic shovels, garden gloves, and plastic bugs buried in dirt, coffee beans or grounds, dry beans, or sand. If you'd like to change it up this week, add in Easter-themed items like green crinkle paper or basket filler, plastic eggs, and toy bunnies and chicks.

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