

Lesson 123: Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

[John 11:1-4](#)

Youtube Link for Teachers: <https://youtu.be/Np8WpX83K5M>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/XWY-4K44YNA>

Worship Theme: Jesus has power over death.

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)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. He's Alive <https://youtu.be/NGQXTg3Uogg>
2. Jesus Rose Again <https://youtu.be/WTL3xf69YEY>
3. I Know That <https://youtu.be/ywt-KvGIQcE>

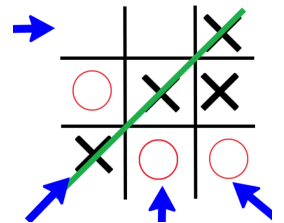
Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: "Tic-Tac-Toe"

Material need: chalk or whiteboard marker

1. Divide the children into 2 groups.
2. Select a leader from each group to come to the board (or they can play on the ground with chalk).
3. They will each take turns to put "O" or "X" in a tic-tac-toe box until one person makes a straight "O" or "X" (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal). Whoever makes a straight line wins the game.
4. Play the game until everyone has a turn.
5. After the game, explain to the children that even if we are winner or loser, we all need to be saved from death. Jesus saves us from death because Jesus has power over death.



Introduction:

Have you ever seen a dead person come back to life? How would you feel if you went to a funeral and the person who is dead suddenly rises up and walks toward you? Would you be happy that the person came back to life? Would you be scared because it could be a ghost? Today, we will learn about how Jesus brings a dead man back to life!

Bible Story:

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in Bethany who got really sick. Mary and Martha, Lazarus' two sisters, sent an urgent message to Jesus telling him that Lazarus was sick. Because Jesus was their good friend, they were sure he would come and heal Lazarus.

But when Jesus heard about Lazarus, he was reported to have said, "Lazarus' sickness will not end in death. It will bring glory to God. Men will know that I am the Son of God." Jesus stayed where he was for the next two days and didn't go to Bethany.

Two days later, Jesus was overheard telling his disciples, "Let's go to Bethany and see Lazarus who is sleeping." The disciples said that they don't need to go because Lazarus will get better if he is just sleeping. But Jesus announced, "Lazarus is dead. This is another chance for you to believe in me. Let's go."

When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had been dead for four days. Martha and Mary blamed Jesus for not coming to help his brother and for letting him die. Jesus told Martha that Lazarus will live again. But she thought he meant the resurrection at the last day. But Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die" (John 11:25-26).

Jesus went to the place where Lazarus was buried. Crowds of people had gathered there. Jesus saw everyone crying because they loved Lazarus. Jesus cried, too. Then Jesus told them to roll the stone away and open the grave. But Martha said that the smell will be horrible

because he's been dead for many days! But Jesus insisted. It took several people to roll the stone away.

Jesus was heard talking to God, then in a loud voice, he said, "Lazarus, come out!" The crowd was amazed when the dead man, still wrapped in the cloths he had been buried in, came out of the grave! Many people put their faith in Jesus because he had remarkable power - the power over death!

We learn from the story of Lazarus that Jesus has power over physical death. The Bible also tells us that Jesus has power over spiritual death. People are dead spiritually because of the sin in their lives. The Bible says that Jesus died for our sins. He took the punishment we deserved. When we believe in Jesus and put our faith in him, Jesus comes to live inside us and makes us spiritually alive. Jesus is powerful! He has power over death!

Questions to discuss:

1. What is the name of the man who died? (Lazarus)
2. Why didn't Jesus go when he heard the news Lazarus was sick? (Because Jesus knew God had a bigger plan - to bring him back from life; so Jesus waited)
3. Why did Martha try to stop Jesus from opening the grave? (Because she was afraid of the smell of the dead body because Lazarus had been in the tomb for 4 days)
4. How did Jesus bring Lazarus back to life? (He called him to walk out of the tomb)
5. How do we help people who are spiritually dead? (By helping them to believe that Jesus died for their sins)
6. Do you believe that Jesus has the power over death? (Let the children answer)

Game: "The Cross of Christ"

Material need: Pictures of the cross

1. Give each child 5 pictures of the cross.
2. All children need to go around and play rock paper scissor with each other. When they win, they will take 1 cross from their partner.
3. The first child to collect 12 crosses will win the game.
4. After the game, explain to the children that the cross is just a symbol of God, and our faith in Christ is the key to give us overcome death and receive eternal life.



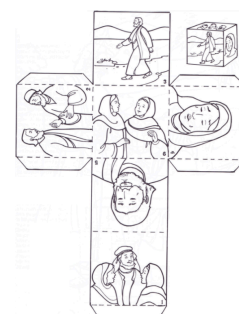
Memory Verse:

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)

Craft: "Lazarus in the Box"

Materials Needed: Print craft sheet, crayons, scissors

1. Color the box and cut it out. Cut out Lazarus as well.
2. Fold it and glue it together to make a box and put Lazarus in the box.
3. Use the Lazarus Box to retell the story of Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life:
 - Side 1 - Jesus was a friend to Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.
 - Side 2 - A messenger came to tell Jesus that Lazarus was very sick.
 - Side 3 - After 3 days, Jesus travelled to see Lazarus.
 - Side 4 - Martha was crying and told Jesus Lazarus was dead.
 - Side 5 - Jesus was sad because his friends were sad. Jesus called Lazarus to come out and he came back to life (open the box and pull Lazarus out)
 - Side 6 - Mary and Martha were very happy that Lazarus was alive again!

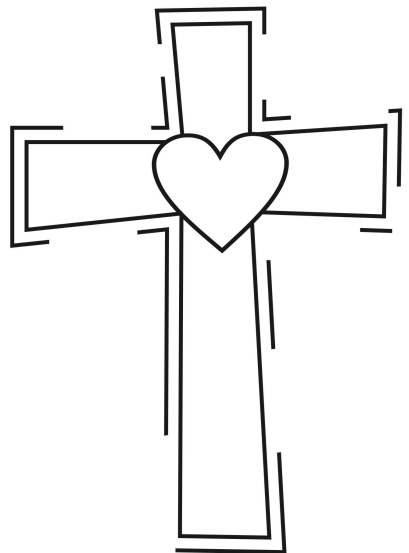
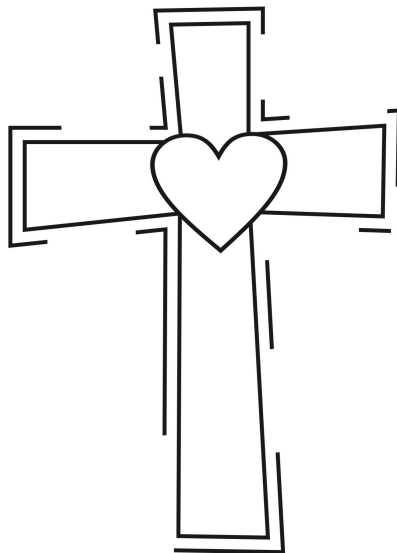
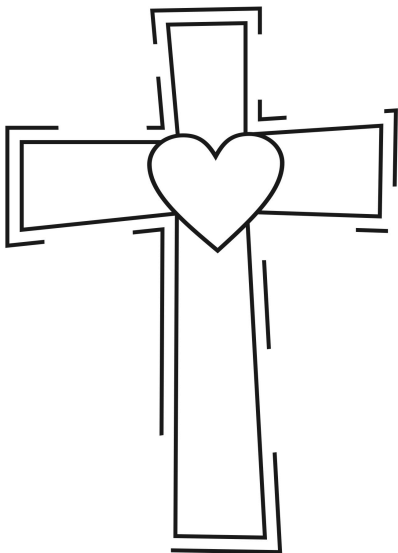
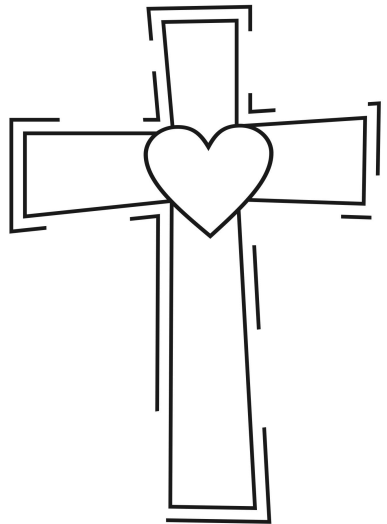
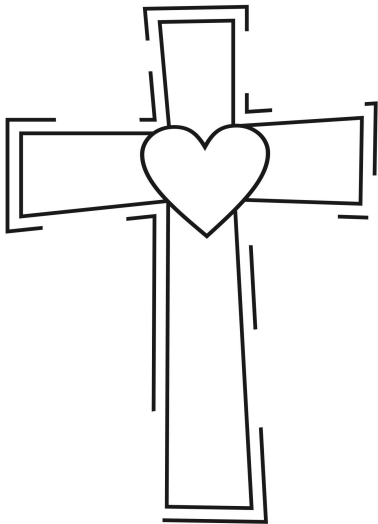
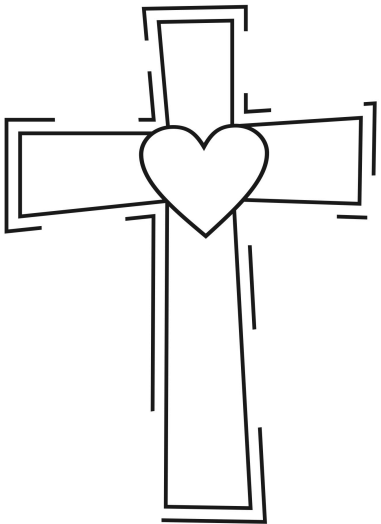
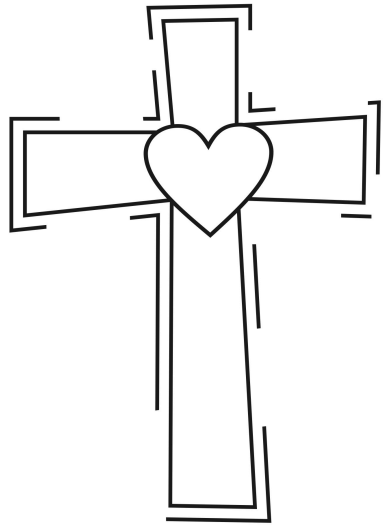
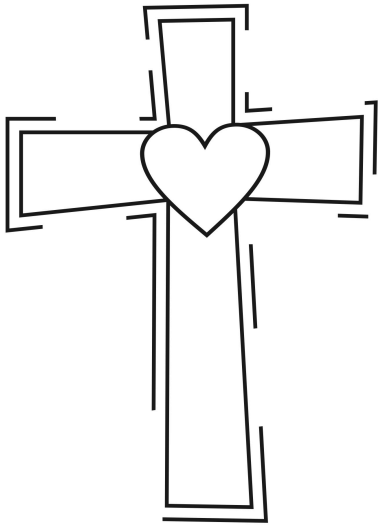
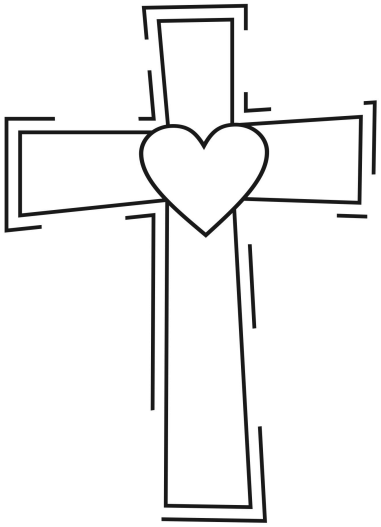
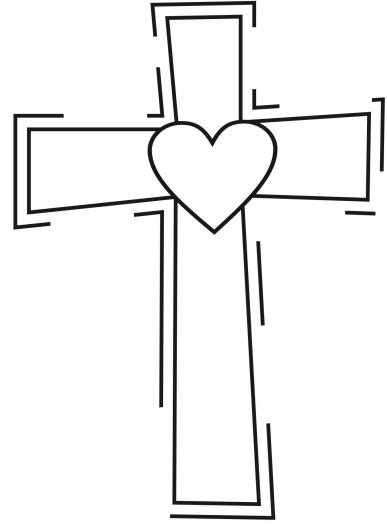
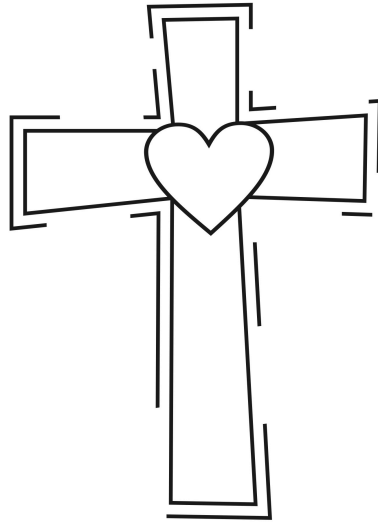
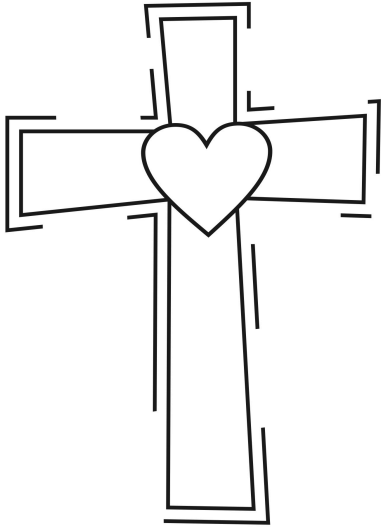


Song: Select songs from the list above

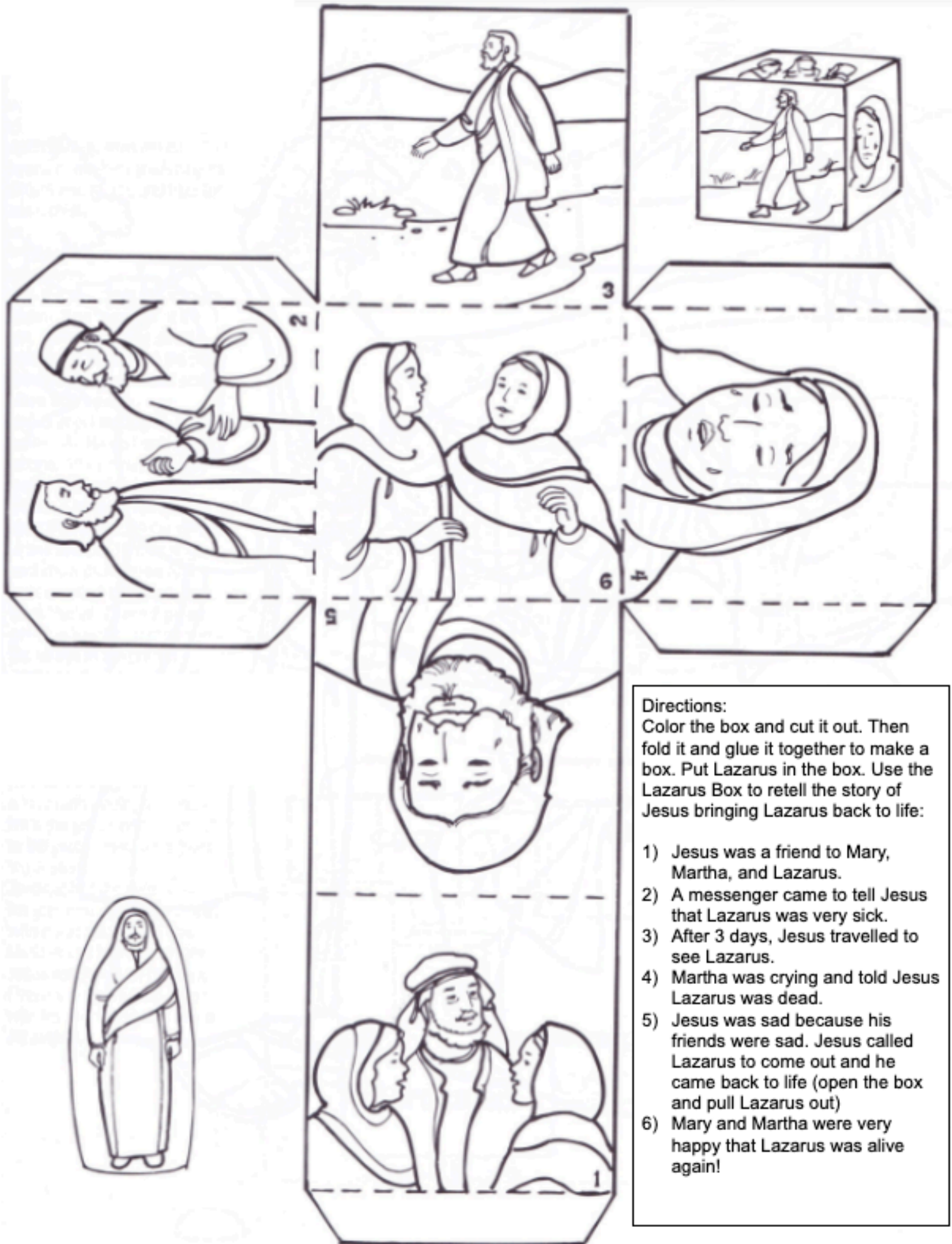
Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Have you ever felt as if you were alive but not really living or thriving? Then you can understand the hopelessness of feeling "dead" inside. But Jesus has made it possible for people to find new life and hope, no matter how low they feel. Through the miracle of raising Lazarus from death, Jesus showed that he can transform us. He can bring us back from hopelessness and despair. Consider how Jesus' gift of eternal life still changes you, and take a moment to thank him for it.



Lazarus in the Box!



Directions:

Color the box and cut it out. Then fold it and glue it together to make a box. Put Lazarus in the box. Use the Lazarus Box to retell the story of Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life:

- 1) Jesus was a friend to Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.
- 2) A messenger came to tell Jesus that Lazarus was very sick.
- 3) After 3 days, Jesus travelled to see Lazarus.
- 4) Martha was crying and told Jesus Lazarus was dead.
- 5) Jesus was sad because his friends were sad. Jesus called Lazarus to come out and he came back to life (open the box and pull Lazarus out)
- 6) Mary and Martha were very happy that Lazarus was alive again!