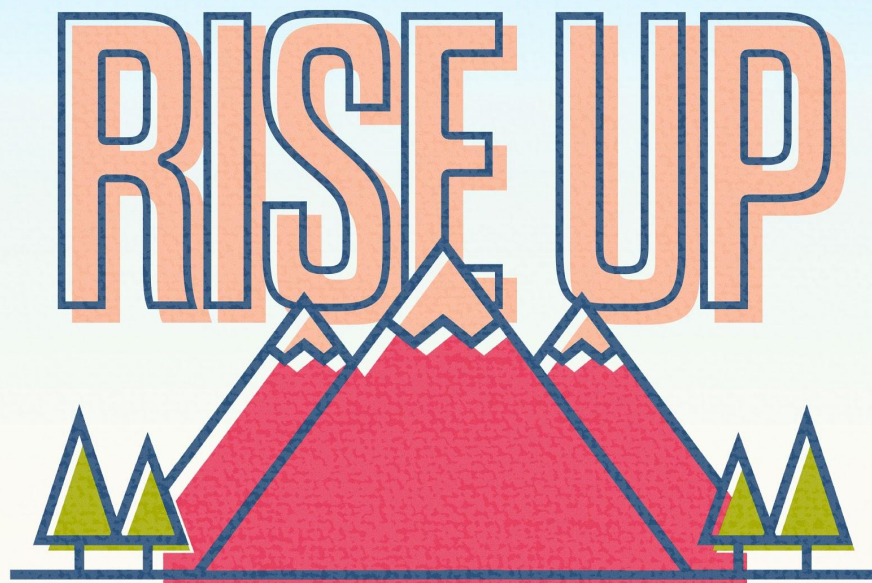




First Church Springdale



Bible Lesson Booklet

April

**Opening**

Jesus overcame death.

Read & Reason

- Read Mark 16:1-8
- Today's Bible story talks about the day Jesus rose from the grave. Jesus is alive!
 - Three women went to the place where Jesus was buried when the Sabbath was over. When they arrived at the tomb, the stone that served as a door to the front of the tomb was not there! When the women went inside the tomb, they saw someone dressed in a white robe sitting inside. That was definitely not what they were expecting!
 - We do a lot of fun stuff at Easter like egg hunts, but we have to remember that Easter is about so much more! Easter is all about remembering what Jesus did for us. Jesus died on the cross and rose again from the dead so you and I can have a relationship with God!

Memory Verse

If you declare with your mouth,
"Jesus is Lord," and believe in
your heart that God raised him
from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

**Discuss & Journal**

- Read Acts 10:42. What two things does this verse tell us to do with the message of Jesus?
- Where can you share the message of Jesus?
- What ways can you share the message of Jesus?

Activity

INSTRUCTIONS: Grab a small piece of paper (or post-it note) and something to write with. Think of a friend or a family member that you want to tell about Jesus. Write their name on the paper and place it where you will see it each day this week. During the week, pray over this person.

Now that you have written that name down, what can you do about it? How can you tell this person about Jesus?

Closing Prayer

- *Jesus, thank you for what you did on the cross, for giving your life so that we can have a relationship with God! Thank you for overcoming death and giving all of us this good news that we can share with others. Amen.*

**Opening**

Jesus connects us to each other.

Read & Reason

- After Jesus came back to life, the disciples who hadn't seen Jesus yet were a little skeptical. They were together eating, praying, and just spending time together.
- INSTRUCTIONS: Read John 20:19-31.
- Jesus' appearance helped calm the disciples' fears. They were convinced and believed that the Jesus who died was now Jesus who lives! They were brought together to see Jesus so they could be united and tell everyone about it!
- INSTRUCTIONS: Read I John 1:1-4
- John, the writer of this book, was one of Jesus' disciples.
- He wrote about what he saw and heard about Jesus. He wanted everyone who read these verses to be connected with Jesus in the same way the disciples were after Jesus rose again.
- Let's imagine you were one of the disciples Jesus appeared to. How would you share your story to others?

Memory Verse

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Romans 10:9

**Discuss & Journal**

- For Thomas to believe, what did Jesus show Thomas?
- Read 1 John 1:3. What do you think it means to have fellowship with God?
- Fellowship is one way to say we are connecting with others. What are some ways we connect with others in general?

Activity

INSTRUCTIONS: Practice our memory verse for this month. If you are a visual learner, consider drawing it in a picture. If you are an auditory learner, try creating a rap or song. For kinesthetic learners, try making a dance or motions to go along with the words. Whichever way you choose, be sure to work on it!

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, thank you for always helping us to build our faith and confidence in you. Thank you for connecting us all to help us in our faith. When things aren't easy to believe, you give us each other as a reminder that you are still here with us. Thank you for helping us rise up together. Amen.*

**Opening**

Jesus gives encouragement.

Read & Reason

INSTRUCTIONS: Read John 21:1-17

- Right before Jesus was crucified on the cross Peter denied he was a follower of Him three different times! He was probably afraid that he might be captured like Jesus was, so he told people he had no idea who Jesus is. Jesus had told Peter that this would happen. Even though Peter said he would never turn his back on Jesus, he did – just as Jesus predicted.
- Peter's heart was broken. He was so excited that Jesus had risen from the dead, but he hadn't gotten the chance to talk to Jesus about what happened yet. One day, the disciples were out fishing. A lot of time had passed but they weren't catching anything — nothing seemed to be going right! Then, someone appeared and told them to cast the net on the other side of the boat. The net filled with a bunch of fish! The disciples realized it was Jesus on the shore, and Peter was so excited, Peter jumped out of the boat and swam to shore to see Jesus. When Peter got to shore, Jesus invited Peter to sit and eat. The other disciples followed after they brought the boat to shore. Jesus simply asked Peter if he loved Jesus. Of course Peter did! Jesus gave Peter a mission to take care of Jesus' followers everywhere.
- It didn't matter what Peter had done. Jesus wanted Peter to know that he was forgiven and chosen to do something special for God!

Memory Verse

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Romans 10:9



Discuss & Journal

- What did Jesus ask Peter when he made it back to shore and talked with him?
- Read Psalm 4:1. What can you do to find mercy and encouragement from God?
- When are some times you need encouragement? Where can you find it?

Activity

INSTRUCTIONS: Make a motivational poster: Write your name in the middle of a piece of paper. Around your name paste photos or images that inspire and encourage you. Write encouraging scripture (such as Philippians 4:13) or quotes to help lift you up. Add quotes that friends and family members have said about you. Post it where you will see it each day and be encouraged.

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, thank you for encouraging us. You show us mercy and love even when we don't deserve it. Help us to show each other mercy. We want to be encouraging and loving like you. Amen.*

**Opening**

We are stronger with Jesus.

Read & Reason

INSTRUCTIONS: Read Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:3-11.

- Do you feel like you're ready to go make disciples out of other people?
- In today's Bible passage, Jesus says that we will get the power to do that. Do you remember what (or who) will help us make disciples?
- Even though Jesus went back up to heaven, he promised to send a Helper who will be with us to do what God wants us to do. That Helper is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the power and strength to tell others about Jesus.
- We might not be able to see Jesus right now, but Jesus promised us that he would always be with us wherever we go.

Memory Verse

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Discuss & Journal

- What did Jesus tell us to go and do?
- Read Acts 1:8. What was going to happen once people received the Holy Spirit?
- What are some strengths Jesus has given you?
- How can we go and make disciples like Jesus told us to do?

Activity

INSTRUCTIONS: Journal Activity:

Read Galatians 5:22-26. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with the fruits of the Spirit. What do you need Jesus to give you the strength to do in this season?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear Jesus, give us strength to do what you have asked us to do in our lives, especially when things are difficult. Remind us that you are always with us and we are stronger than we know because of that. We love you! Amen.*

Journal

We have been called to go and make disciples. This can seem challenging, but it is the most important thing we do aside from our salvation. The world can keep us so distracted that we don't allow ourselves the time to pour into others. It can also seem intimidating to go around to complete strangers and share the good news. Making disciples of others can start with small, simple steps such as inviting someone new to sit with you at lunch or calling to check in on your grandma. You also don't have to seek out new people to save. There is a good chance someone you know doesn't know about the Life-Changing love of Jesus Christ. If you don't know where to start- start with a prayer and let the Holy Spirit be your guide.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal green lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

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