

This month we will be learning about the Trinity. John 16: 5-15 tells us of a very sad time for the Disciples. They had not really come to grips that Jesus was going to leave them. He told them that they would suffer persecution. He told them that He was going to send The Counselor to them. He also told them what the purpose and ministry of The Counselor would be.

Read and memorize the title and location of The Work of The Holy Spirit. John 16: 5-15. Use the following reading schedule and talk about what the different parts mean.

Day 1: Read verses 1-4 Day 2: Read verses 5-7 Day 3: Read verses 8-11 Day 4: 12-15

Activity: The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to people so they can help them minister to other people. This month choose one person each week who serves at your church. Write a letter or do something special for them. You could write a note thanking your Sunday School teachers or other people who serve in your church.

Read and Memorize **Genesis 1:31** this week.

1. This is an amazing passage. Read Genesis 1:1 and 2. The Bible starts off with , "In the Beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth." He created it from nothing. That is amazing.
2. Read verse 2 to see which person of the Trinity was involved in creating the world.
3. There was a third person of the trinity who helped. Read John 1:1-3. The "Word" is Jesus. This is a deep passage for kids, and they will accept it for face value. The passage says that the Word was with God and was God.
4. You can find the different days of the Creation in Genesis 1: 1-27. Light: verses 1:3-5, water below and water in the sky: verses 6-8, Earth, sea, and vegetation: Verses 9-13, Sun, moon, and stars: verses 14-19, Birds and sea creatures: verses 20-23, Land animals and Humans: Verses 24-27
5. What does our verse say that God thought or saw after He finished His Creation?

Read and Memorize **1 Corinthians 3:16** this week.

1. Have your kids draw a picture of a temple. Let them draw whatever they want. Tell them that a temple is a place of worship. They may draw your church.
2. In 1 Corinthians 3:16, Paul is talking about the Church being the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. It is all Christian Churches worldwide. In this passage he is specifically talking to the Church in Corinth. They, as a church of believers, are the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.
3. People make up the Church. How should the God's people live and glorify Him so that we are worthy of being called His temple? What are some ways that we glorify Him? What are some ways that we do not glorify Him? What are some things we can do together as a family to help our church be more like the Temple of the Holy Spirit?

Read and memorize **Luke 2:52** this week.

This is one of the few passages that tells us about Jesus' childhood. Jesus grew in three ways.

1. **Wisdom.** Jesus was fully God and yet fully man. Jesus had to learn, just as we have to learn. He had to learn to be wise in His actions. Just like we have to learn to be wise in our actions. Read James 1:5. How do we get wisdom? Read James 3:17. What are the 8 ways that we can show we are wise? Do you see those ways in Jesus? Name one of the ways you can show more wisdom.
2. **Jesus grew in stature.** Jesus grew up and matured from a baby to an adult just like we do. He was not a superman and He had to subject Himself to his parents and teachers just like we do.
3. **Jesus grew in favor with God and with man.** This word means "in grace". Jesus did not need to have God's favor. Jesus learned about God in the temple. He had to study and obey the scriptures like we do today. Jesus was well liked by those who knew Him. He treated people with respect and Kindness. How can you grow in the grace of God? How can you grow in favor with your friends?

This month we will be celebrating and learning about the death and resurrection of Jesus. Everything we believe about God and Jesus is based upon the Resurrection of Jesus. We will be learning about the last week of Jesus life from the books of Matthew and Luke.

Read and memorize the Key Passage title and location for The Resurrection of Jesus found in Matthew 28.

Activities: Next week, April 10-17, we are going to be making a Resurrection Egg in just one egg. You could make some extras and give them to your friends. You can use them to tell the Easter story to your friends who may not know about Jesus. You will need the following Items: A large empty plastic Easter Egg, a leaf, a dime, a cracker, a small artificial flower, a feather, John 3:16 written out on a piece of paper, a cross, 3 small nails, a crown of thorns woven from a weed or wire, cocktail sword or a toothpick, 1 flat rock and piece of white cloth.

Read and memorize **Luke 19:10** this week.

1. Why does this verse say that Jesus came to earth?
2. What does it mean to be lost? It means that someone does not know Jesus as their Savior. They have no hope of having a right relationship with God, nor do they have any hope of entering heaven when their life is over. They are lost like someone wandering through the woods looking for help. We are blessed to have the Bible that tells us why Jesus came and what we need to do so that we too will not be lost.

THIS WEEK WE WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT THE EVENTS DURING JESUS' LAST WEEK.

Day 1 of Easter Week: Jesus Enters Jerusalem.

Read Matthew 21:6-11. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people laid their coats on the ground for the donkey to walk on. The people waved palm branches in the air and shouted, "HOSANNA! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna means save now. The people did not know that Jesus would save them from their sins. They thought that Jesus was going to be a king who would save them from their enemy. Did you know that God predicted that Jesus would ride into the Jerusalem almost 600 years before it happened. You can find that in Zechariah 9:9.

Put your leaf in the Easter egg. You can cut the leaf to look like a palm leaf, or you can cut a palm leaf from a piece of construction paper. Go out in your front yard and yell, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Day 2 of Easter Week: Judas Betrays Jesus.

Read Luke 22:1-6. Jesus knew that He was going to have to die so that peoples' sins could be forgiven. He knew that people were going to speak bad about Him and try to kill Him. The religious leaders did not love Jesus. They were jealous because so many people followed Him and loved Him. They were learning about God from Him. One of Jesus' disciples sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. That is equal to 90-400 dollars today, depending on the size of the silver coins. Would you sell Jesus to the bad guys for 400 dollars?

Did you know that when we disobey God and do things that are not pleasing to Him, it is like Judas' betrayal of Jesus?

Put your dime in your Easter Egg and tell God about the times you have disobeyed Him and did things that were wrong on purpose.

Day 3 of Easter Week: Jesus Celebrates Passover with His Disciples.

Read Luke 22:7-23. It is a longer passage. It reminds us that God had a plan almost 5,000 years before Jesus was born. Passover was the time when the Israelites had to kill a spotless lamb and put its blood over the door posts. This was the final plague while the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. This would be a sign to the death angel to pass over their house because the blood of the lamb protected them. Passover is where we get our Lord's Supper. Jesus showed that He was the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world.

Put a piece of a cracker in the Easter Egg to remind you of the time when Jesus celebrated Passover with His disciples. Say, "This is my body which is broken for you."

Day 4 of Easter Week: Jesus Prays in the Garden.

Read Matthew 26:36-39, 46 and 47. Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. The soldiers came to arrest Him. The soldiers did not know which one was Jesus. Judas gave Jesus a kiss on the cheek so they would know. The Disciples wanted to fight the soldiers. Read Matthew 26: 53-54 to see what Jesus told them. Jesus did not have to die for our sins. He chose to do it because He loves us.

Put an artificial flower in your Easter Egg to remind you of the time when Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Take your family outside and pray for someone who does not know Jesus.

Day 5 of Easter Week: Peter Denies Knowing Jesus.

Read Luke 22:55-62. During the Passover meal, Jesus told Peter that he would deny knowing Him. Peter said that he would never do it. Jesus told him that before the rooster crowed 3 times that Peter would deny knowing Him 3 times. Peter did deny knowing Jesus. It made Peter very sad that he said that He did not know who Jesus was.

Put a small feather in your Easter Egg to remind you of the time when Peter said he did not know who Jesus was. Talk about the times that we fail to tell our friends about Jesus. How is not telling our friends about Jesus like Peter saying that He did not know Jesus?

Day 6 of Easter Week: Jesus Dies on the Cross.

For a full account of the crucifixion you can read Matthew 27:27-54. Read John 3:16 together. Jesus did not have to die on the cross. He willingly died for you and for me. Talk about why God sent Jesus to earth.

1. Write the verse John 3:16 on a slip of paper and put in the Easter Egg.
2. Put the cross in your Easter Egg and tell your children that Jesus died on the cross for our sins.
3. Put the 3 nails in the Easter Egg and talk about how Jesus was nailed to the cross.
4. Talk about the crown of thorns that they put on Jesus' head. Put it in the Easter Egg.
5. Put the cocktail spear in the Easter Egg and talk about the spear and how they pierced Jesus side.
6. Put the rock in the Easter Egg and talk about how the rock was placed over the tomb of Jesus.

Day 7. of Easter Week: The Resurrection of Jesus.

Read Matthew 28:1-10. For three days, Jesus' body laid in the tomb. But on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. Our entire belief and hope in Jesus are based on the fact that He rose from the dead. It proved He is who He said He is. He is God in human form. He can and did save us from our sins. What a blessing to have a God who loves us so much!

Put the white cloth in the Easter Egg to remind us that the tomb was empty when the woman came to the tomb. All that remained was His burial cloth.

Read and memorize **Ephesians 2:8** this week.

1. How does this verse say that we are saved? A good definition of grace is **G**od's **R**iches **A**t **C**hrist's **E**xpense. This means that we do not deserve to have our sins forgiven. God provided the forgiveness because of what Jesus did on the cross.
2. What do we need to do to have our sins forgiven? Can we earn it or work for it? Can we be good enough to have God's forgiveness? The Bible says it is a _____. A gift is something that is given to us because someone loves us not because we deserve it.

Read and memorize **Matthew 28:19-20** this week.

1. Matthew 28 is what we call Jesus' marching orders. It is what He told His disciples to do so others would know about Him.
2. Explain the two things Jesus told His disciples to do. Where did He tell them to go and make disciples? What did He want them to teach people?
3. How long did Jesus say He would be with His disciples... and us?

This month we will be learning how to serve our neighbor in love.

Memorize the Key Passage title and location for The Parable of the Good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-37

Activity: There are many opportunities to minister to those who are different than us. It is easy to be kind to our friends and to our neighbors, but harder to be kind to strangers or people who are different from us. Think of ways you can let someone know that you care or are thinking of them. Think about people in the hospital, jail or in shelters. Maybe a neighbor who you do not know well.

Read and Memorize **Psalm 56:3** this week.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is a story mainly about 2 people who were very different. One was a Jew and, culturally, he wanted nothing to do with the Samaritans. The second is the man who stopped to help when no one else would. He was a Samaritan. What happened to the man who was going from Jerusalem to Jericho?

1. A priest and a Levite did not stop to help him. What excuses do you think these two very religious men had for not helping? The Bible does not say, so have a fun thinking of reasons.
2. Why do you think the Samaritan stopped to help?

Read and Memorize **1 Timothy 4:12** this week.

1. Paul tells Timothy in this verse to not let anyone look down on him because he is young. In what 5 areas does Paul tell Timothy to be an example? How can you be an example to others by what you say and do? The Bible does not tell us, but how might the Good Samaritan set an example by what he said to the man on the side of the road? What does the Bible say he did?
2. Timothy is also told to set an example in love. The Samaritan showed love to the Jewish man even though he knew the Jewish man probably did not like him. How can you show love to someone who may not love you?
3. Timothy is told to be a good example in faithfulness and purity. The Samaritan was faithful in checking on the man. How can you be faithful to those around you?

Read and memorize **James 1:22** this week.

The teacher of the Law knew what he needed to do, but he questioned Jesus.

1. He said, "Who is my neighbor?" In The Parable of the Good Samaritan, who was the hearer and the doer of the word?
2. What do you think it means to be a hearer of the word? What does it mean to be a doer of the word.
3. The Bible says that if we hear the word and choose to do wrong, then we are lying to ourselves. What are some things that we know God would have us do, but we are not doing it? Make a list of things you need to do to have a closer walk with God.
4. How do you feel the teacher of the Law felt after Jesus told him the Parable of the Good Samaritan?