



**LATE ELEMENTARY**

**LEADER GUIDE  
FALL 2024**

**GODS  
WORD**

**FOR LIFE  
kids**

# GOD'S WORD



FOR LIFE

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Late Elementary Leader Guide

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ANS stands for All Nations Sunday

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# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Is there a family devotional for Late Elementary students?

Family devotional activities are now included as part of the Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages. For each lesson, in addition to two pages of learning activities, this resource also includes two pages of daily devotions to be done at home as a family. Because each lesson now has four pages, this resource has increased to fifty-six pages. To promote discipleship in the home, send each student home with all four pages (two pages front and back) at the end of every lesson. Then encourage families to revisit the lesson throughout the week with these daily Q&A discussions .

## How should I use this curriculum for a smaller church or a smaller class size?

Tailor every option and idea to fit your specific resources and teaching methods. If you only have a few students, some ideas intended for larger groups should not be considered for your lesson plan. Other ideas, though, even if written for a larger group, can be creatively adapted for use in smaller class sizes.

To filter out excess activities, develop an outline focusing only on the options you plan to use. If you feel overwhelmed by the amount of material in the Leader Guide, consider buying the digital version and then working from the Microsoft Word documents provided. This allows you to edit and delete activities to specifically meet your classroom's needs.

For Bible stories calling for multiple actors, consider using dolls or action figures to act out the story. Assign certain figures to students and let them help you tell the story. After the Bible lesson, let students retell the story using the figures.

## How should I use this curriculum if I have forty-five minutes or less to teach?

For teachers with shorter teaching times, here is an example of how to assemble an effective lesson plan.

- Be prepared. Do all prep work before class, including developing a lesson plan, allotting time to each section.
- *5 minutes:* Connect with students, get their attention, and go. Use an intro video, lesson-oriented discussion, or action song to engage students and to introduce the Truth about God (TAG). Have a helper take attendance and collect offering as a primary teacher engages students. This section should take no more than five minutes at the beginning of the teaching time.
- *10 minutes:* Once you have students' attention, immediately enter into an Opening Option. Choose one activity or meld the activities that will resonate with your students, but take only ten minutes or less. Your goal in this time is to further expound on the TAG while gaining momentum toward telling the Bible story.
- *15 minutes:* Keeping tight control of the discussion, use the Lesson Lead-In to transition to the Bible Lesson. Knowing you have limited time, these two parts of the lesson should be well rehearsed and take no longer than fifteen minutes.
- *12 minutes:* With the Bible story told, apply the lesson using an Application Option. Choose one activity or meld the activities. Your goal is to lead students into God's presence so they can evaluate how this Bible story should impact their lives moving forward.
- *3 minutes:* At the end of every teaching session, be intentional about helping students find time for personal reflection at an altar of prayer.

The Leader Guide intentionally provides a lot of options. You will not be able to do all the activities. Use the available possibilities to construct the best possible lesson with your students, resources, teaching methods, and teaching time in mind.

## What is a whole-church curriculum?

God's Word for Life is a discipleship program intended to lead the entire church from toddlers to adults into God's presence and His Word for lifelong transformation. The adult, youth, and children's levels all start from the same biblical text but then have different age-appropriate applications. Daily devotionals for every age level equip the church to study Scripture daily.

If your entire church has not bought in to the God's Word for Life program, this Late Elementary curriculum can still be used on its own.

## LEGEND

<b>DR</b> Digital Resource in Resource Kit	<b>RK</b> Resource Kit
<b>LG</b> Leader Guide	<b>QL</b> Video Quick Links document
<b>MW</b> Memory Work	<b>TAG</b> Truth about God
	<b>TML</b> Truth for My Life

### How do I purchase and download my digital resources?

The Leader Guide can be purchased in print or digital versions separately for \$9.99, or together for \$12.99. The digital version comes with a PDF of the guide, as well as a Microsoft Word document for each lesson.

The Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages can be purchased in a print or digital version for \$5.49. The digital version comes with a PDF of the resource.

For the Resource Kit (\$29.99), the kit's digital material **DR** is included with your purchase of the print version. It includes access to videos, songs, lyrics, sound effects, and many more resources. If you are not accessing the digital materials provided with your Resource Kit, you are missing out on a ton of valuable materials.

After purchasing your materials, download your digital resources using one of the following options:

- *Option 1:* If you purchase online, download your digital resources immediately from the order confirmation screen.
- *Option 2:* An email is sent to the purchaser with a link to the purchased digital content. This email can be forwarded to any teachers who will be using the purchased materials.
- *Option 3:* Provide teachers with access (email and password) to the purchaser's account on the PPH website. On the website, go to "Your Account" and click the appropriate links in the Order History.
- *Option 4:* To access the Resource Kit's digital resources, in addition to the three options above, a download code is provided on the kit's cover sheet. To use this code, visit <https://pentecostalpublishing.com/downloads> and follow the instructions.

### How do I access the videos marked with a **QL** in the lesson?

In the lessons, a **QL** icon means a clickable hyperlink is provided in a Video Quick Links document for easy access. Please note that videos are not essential to the lessons but are provided as a fun way to interact with students. We understand some classrooms may not have the technology available to show videos. The Leader Guide provides plenty of content to teach a lesson without showing videos.

After purchasing a Resource Kit and then downloading the digital resources (see instructions above), one of the first files is the Video Quick Links PDF that is specific to the Late Elementary level. Simply open the Video Quick Links document, find the video referenced in the lesson, and click on the icon below the title. If you have internet access, your electronic device should take you to the appropriate web page.

Videos on **vimeo** are produced for God's Word for Life by Pentecostal Resources Group. If your classroom has internet access, Vimeo videos can be livestreamed without fear of commercial interference or uncomfortable video suggestions. Your purchase of the Resource Kit gives you rights to download this Vimeo material. If you prefer to download these videos:

1. Use the Video Quick Links document to go to the Vimeo page.
2. Select the title of the video you want to download.
3. An option to Download or Share the video should appear at the bottom of the screen.

When the Video Quick Links document sends you to websites other than Vimeo (e.g., YouTube, Pinterest), this material was not produced for God's Word for Life but could be fun or helpful in teaching the lesson. Given the transient nature of online publications, it is possible a web address may no longer be active or may have been altered since the print date of this publication. Teachers and leaders should review the terms of service of any website before using it.

# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Does God's Word for Life have a Facebook group for teachers?

Yes, join our Facebook group:

### God's Word for Life Kids Community

Interact with editors and over 5,000 teachers across all levels. Get decorating ideas, post pictures of your class, and share what God is doing in your church.

Facebook: God's Word for Life Kids Community



## How do I know which level of God's Word for Life to use for my students?

For children, God's Word for Life is broken down into five levels: Little Learners, Kindergarten, Early Elementary, Late Elementary, and MOVE! kids' church. While a recommended age is provided, each level is distinguished by the style of teaching. For children ages 5–12, the relevant levels include the following:

- **Kindergarten** is for children currently in preschool or kindergarten. These children have been introduced to a classroom setting, but they still require large amounts of playtime. This level's content is a mix of being student- and teacher-driven.
- **Early Elementary** is for children who have entered elementary school. Because these students' thinking skills are still largely concrete and literal, the Truth for My Life applications focus on the here and now, with some introduction to abstract thinking. The content is teacher-driven, with a focus on hands-on activities, games, and object lessons.
- **Late Elementary** is for older elementary students who will eventually be transitioning into youth level. As children mature, they develop the ability to think abstractly and comprehend deeper meanings. In this level, the content is teacher-driven, with a focus on discussion and hands-on application.
- **MOVE!** is written for classes containing a wide range of ages from 5–12. If your church places all children in one classroom or gymnasium, small or large, MOVE! is designed for you.

If your students are younger (grades 1–3), but they do not seem challenged by the material being covered in Early Elementary and are able to grasp deeper concepts, consider switching to Late Elementary. If your students are older (grades 4–6), but they do not seem to be grasping the deeper concepts of the Late Elementary material, consider switching to Early Elementary. If you have a wide range of ages, consider the MOVE! kids' church curriculum.

## What resources do I need to teach Late Elementary level?

- **Leader Guide (LG):** This 112-page guide provides the lesson content for leaders and teachers to present in Sunday school, home school, or any teaching environment. The LG is available in both print and digital formats.
- **Devotional and Activity Pages:** For each lesson, every student needs an activity page. Each lesson's two pages of activities can be done during class time or at home. In addition, each lesson has a two-page *God's Word for Families* devotional to send home with students. The Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages are available in both print and digital formats.
- **Resource Kit (RK):** This packet provides essential supplements to make the lesson come alive. Some lessons require materials only found in the Resource Kit. It is also available in both print and digital formats.

## What does DR mean in the lesson?

A **DR** icon means this item is provided as a digital resource in the Resource Kit. To access this material, a Resource Kit must be purchased separately from the Leader Guide, and then the digital resources must be downloaded. The downloads come as zipped files that require a computer. (Smartphones [and some tablets] cannot open zipped folders without specialized apps.) To download the **DR** material, follow the instructions above.

The digital resources **DR** include a variety of tools to help bring your lesson to life.

## Does God’s Word for Life have classroom décor ideas?



Yes. This quarter provides ideas for a Royal Court theme. Look for a digital document in the Resource Kit called “Classroom Decor Ideas” . It provides ideas to decorate your classroom.

Facebook



On Facebook, search for and share your decorating ideas in our group: **God’s Word for Life Kids Community**.

Pinterest

To find the Pinterest page, type “<https://www.pinterest.com/GodsWordforLife/>” (or scan the QR code) to find a page pinned with Royal Court ideas, snacks, and activities.

Please note: If you decorate, look for creative ways to tie the theme to the lesson content. Because not all teachers decorate, decor ideas are not mentioned in the lessons of the Leader Guide. At the end of the “Classroom Decor Ideas” document are suggestions to tie the theme to each lesson.

Every teaching situation is different. While some teaching teams entirely transform their classroom or teaching wing with each quarterly theme, others can only decorate a few bulletin boards, and others need decor that can be put up and taken back down each week. Every teacher has a different style, budget, and need. This curriculum is adaptable for every situation.

## What does God’s Word for Life do to help teachers with students who have special needs?

In conjunction with ABLE Ministry, the digital resources of the Resource Kit for the Kindergarten, Early Elementary, Late Elementary, and MOVE! kids’ church levels provide a special needs supplement to the Leader Guide (LG). Teachers can use this document alongside the LG.

In addition, the digital resources of the Resource Kit provide a Spiritual IEP that has been developed by ABLE Ministry. By working with parents and caregivers to fill out this informational form, teachers can better understand some challenges their students face. This information helps ensure each child receives an appropriate amount of assistance and that the correct accommodations are in place in your classroom.

If you have questions regarding a specific disability or teaching challenge, join the ABLE Ministry UPCI Facebook page to network with Apostolic parents and teachers who specialize in ministering to children with special needs.



ABLE Ministry  
on Facebook



## What is Junior Bible Quizzing?

God’s Word for Life is pleased to partner with UPCI Children’s Ministries to present Junior Bible Quizzing options. The area of study for 2024–2025 is the Gospels. The Resource Kit’s digital resources provides you with three JBQ documents:

- **JBQ Games:** This document provides Bible-quizzing game ideas to play with students.
- **JBQ Quizzes:** This document provides questions to ask during the games. Quiz 1 corresponds with the first set of verses. The content and format of these questions is provided by Terry Marshall, the JBQ Director.
- **JBQ Verses:** Select and print the JBQ Verses you want your students to study. Once you feel they have mastered the assigned verses, send home a new set of JBQ Verses.

For more information on Junior Bible Quizzing, visit the website: [www.najbq.com](http://www.najbq.com).

# 11

## LAZARUS, COME FORTH

*John 11:1-57*

### SERIES AIM

To investigate Jesus' journey to the cross by studying John 11-13.

### SERIES MEMORY VERSES

#### John 12:44-46

"Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness."

### BIBLE LESSON VERSE

#### John 11:25

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."



#### TRUTH ABOUT GOD

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

#### TRUTH FOR MY LIFE

I will live forever because Jesus gives me eternal life.

## SUPPLIES

### EXCITE AND ENGAGE

#### Connect

- Solemn instrumental music, black outfit
- Attendance poster **RKDR**, stickers, Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

#### Video Introduction

- "Expired" **QL**
- "Woman Wakes up in the Coffin at Her Funeral" **QL**

#### Opener

- Table, 3 plastic cups, tape, small ball, timer

#### Opening Option 1

- *Per small group:* Paper, pencil
- Whiteboard and marker

#### Opening Option 2

- Yarn, long rope or hose, marker

### RELATE AND RECEIVE

#### Lesson Lead-In

- Bone Box visual **RKDR**

#### Bible Lesson

- Bibles
- *Optional:* Jesus costume

### APPLY AND ACT

- *Per small group:* Paper, pen or pencil, Bibles
- New Birth poster **RKDR**, timer

#### Application Option 1

- *Per student:* Eternal Promises handout **RKDR**
- New Birth poster **RKDR**

#### Application Option 2

- Prizes in lesser and greater versions (e.g., pennies and quarters; mini and full-size candy bars; tiny and larger bouncy balls)

#### Prayer and Response

- *Per student:* Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Page

Looking for classroom decor ideas? See the Classroom Decor Ideas **DR** provided in your digital resources.



## EXCITE AND ENGAGE

### Connect

#### Preparation

- Play soft, solemn instrumental music to create a somber atmosphere in the classroom.
- Wear all black to greet students.

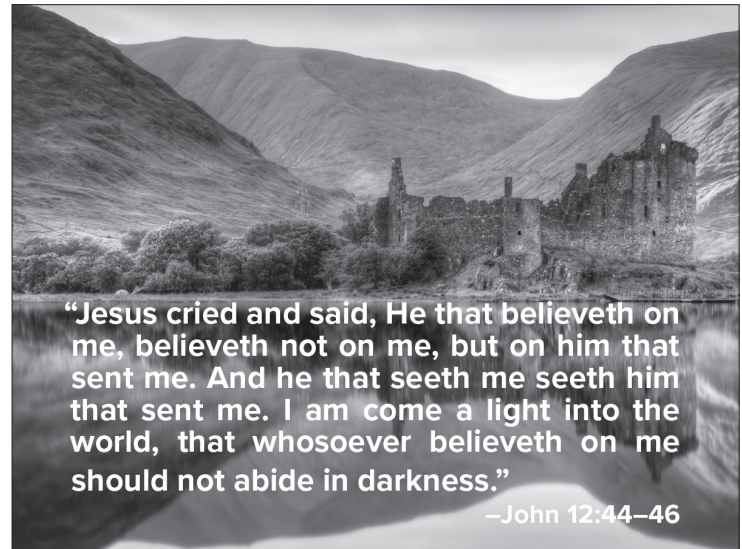
#### Instruction

- As students enter, collect offering and record attendance.
- Introduce the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**—John 12:44–46.
  - » Relate it to the Truth about God (TAG): “Jesus is the resurrection and the life.”

*Application:* In today’s lesson, Jesus stepped into a very sad, somber occasion. Soon the atmosphere changed from sadness to joy.

### Video Introduction

- When it is time to get students’ attention, consider showing one of the following:
  - » “Expired” **QL** provided with the curriculum
  - » “Woman Wakes up in the Coffin at Her Funeral” by 10 News First **QL**



To learn how to access the videos, see page 3.

### Opener: Eternal Life Toss

#### Preparation

- On a table, make a pyramid with three plastic cups.
- Tape off a throwing line at least ten feet away from the table.
- Find a small ball to throw at the cups.
  - » Attempt the task to make sure it is difficult. If it is too easy, move the line back further.

#### Instruction

- Choose a volunteer to stand behind the line.
- Set a timer for ten seconds.
- The student throws the ball, trying to knock all the cups off the table. (It should be nearly impossible.)
- Let the student pick up the ball and try a second time if the timer has not buzzed.
- Choose other students to toss, resetting the cups and the timer for each toss.
- Finally, select a final volunteer to have as much time and as many tosses as necessary to knock all the cups off the table.

*Application:* In life and in games we play, we have a limited amount of time to succeed. However, when we serve Jesus, we don’t have to worry about time constraints. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He promises us eternal life. That means we will never run out of time with Him.

For additional Opening Options that use different teaching styles, see page 11 :

- Option 1: Jesus Acrostic
- Option 2: Imagining Eternity

## RELATE AND RECEIVE

### Bible Lesson Verse

“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live” (John 11:25).

### Lesson Lead-In: History of Burials

#### Instruction

- *Ask:* When people die today, what do we do with the bodies?
  - » Without getting morbid, discuss cemeteries, cremation, and the like.
- *Say:* In Jesus’ day, they dealt with dead bodies differently.
  - » It was common practice for Jewish families to have a family tomb, which was like a cave carved out of soft rock.
  - » When someone died, the family anointed the body with fragrant spices, wrapped the body in cloth, and placed it in their family tomb. A large rock was then placed over the entrance.
- Show the Bone Box visual **RKDR**.
  - » After one year, the remaining bones would be removed, washed in wine, and placed in an ossuary or “bone box.”
  - » The ossuaries could then be stacked, and the tomb could be used again.

If you are not accessing your digital resources, you are missing out. To learn how to download the digital resources **DR**, see page 3.



*Application:* In the Bible lesson, we will learn about when one of Jesus’ close friends died. The man’s family placed his body in a tomb. When Jesus arrived to pay His respects, something unusual happened.

### Bible Lesson: Lazarus, Come Forth (John 11:1–57)

#### Preparation

- Practice reading the monologue (below) from Jesus’ viewpoint, or have someone come to class and play the part of Jesus.
- Consider using a biblical costume to capture students’ attention.

#### Instruction

- Ask students to look up John 11 in their Bibles.

Shalom. My name is Jesus. Today I want to tell you a story to encourage you and help you understand what I mean when I say, “I am the resurrection and the life.” My special friends—Mary, Martha, and Lazarus—were some of the most wonderful people I ever met. I spent a lot of time with them. We became very close friends.

One day while I was in a distant town, Mary and Martha sent Me a message. Their brother, Lazarus, was very sick. My disciples all told Me to go help him, but I didn’t leave right away. I told them, “Lazarus won’t die. He is sick so you can see God’s glory done through Me.” Yes, I loved Lazarus, but I waited two days to leave. Finally I said, “Alright, let’s go.”

That’s when My disciples remembered the danger. They said, “Um, Teacher, have you forgotten the people in that area tried to kill You with stones just last week?” I hadn’t forgotten, and I was not afraid.

I knew Lazarus was dead. I tried to be coy; I told the disciples Lazarus had fallen asleep and I needed to go wake him. They didn’t understand, so I clarified, “Lazarus is dead, and I’m glad I wasn’t there to help him. Now you will understand who I am.”

Thomas led the charge and said, “Let’s go. If Jesus dies, we will die with Him.” I love Thomas.

*Truth for My Life: I will live forever because Jesus gives me eternal life.*

When we finally arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been dead for four days. They had already wrapped his body in grave clothes and placed him in the family tomb. A huge crowd of friends had gathered to comfort Mary and Martha in their grief.

When Martha heard I was near, she came running and met Me outside the village. With tears in her eyes, she cried “Lord, if You had arrived earlier, my brother would not have died. I know God does whatever You ask.” She was right.

I tried to comfort her by saying, “Your brother will rise again.”

“Of course,” she replied. “He will rise along with everyone else when we are resurrected.”



She didn’t understand what I was about to do. I looked her in the eyes and said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in Me will never die. Do you believe Me, Martha?”

“Yes, Lord, I believe in You,” she replied. Then Martha hurried to tell Mary I was there. I waited outside the city.

When Mary found Me, she fell down at My feet. “Lord, if You had been here earlier, my brother would still be alive.” Mary’s tears really stirred My heart. I couldn’t wait any longer. I asked where they had put his body. As they took Me to his tomb, I started to cry. I couldn’t help Myself. I loved this family so much.

I was still crying when we got to the tomb. “Roll the stone away,” I commanded.

Martha protested. “Lazarus has been dead four days. Surely his body reeks!”

I reminded My disciples they would see God’s glory if they did what I asked. They quickly rolled aside the stone.

All these people were watching. I didn’t just want to raise My friend, Lazarus. I needed this crowd of lost souls to understand how God was calling them to follow Him. I raised My eyes to Heaven and said, “Father, I am praying out loud so these people will understand that You sent Me to glorify You.” Then I pointed at the opening of the tomb and shouted, “Lazarus, come forth!”

After a few moments, Lazarus shuffle-hopped out. It was almost funny because his hands and feet were tied, and a white cloth was wrapped around his head so he couldn’t see very well. “Unwrap my friend,” I said. “Let him go.” What a celebration we had that day!

As you can imagine, many people who saw this miracle believed in Me—but not everyone. When the religious leaders, the Pharisees, heard what happened, they had a meeting. They recognized My miracles, but they were afraid. They thought if everyone followed Me instead of Caesar, the Romans would surely respond with violence.

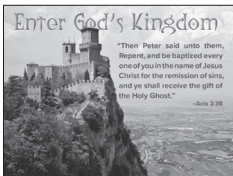
The high priest, Caiaphas, stood up and prophesied, “It is better that one man should die for the people than for the whole nation to be destroyed.” From that moment, because I had raised Lazarus from the dead, they plotted to kill Me. If I stayed in Jerusalem, I would surely be arrested, so I got out of the city, taking My disciples out in the wilderness. The next time I entered Jerusalem, things would surely get interesting.

**Review Questions**

- Why didn't Jesus immediately run to heal Lazarus when He learned Lazarus was sick?
- Why do you think Jesus wept?
- When Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and life," what did He mean?
- When you realize Jesus is the resurrection and the life, how does it change the way you think about things in your personal life?

**APPLY AND ACT****Deep Dive into John 11****Instruction**

- Form small groups.
  - » Each group needs a sheet of paper, a pen or pencil, and Bibles.
  - » Across the top of their paper, ask groups to write the Truth for My Life (TML): "I will live forever because Jesus gives me eternal life."
- Assign a section of the Bible lesson to each group. Students should look up the passage in their Bibles and write down things from their passage that relate to the TML.
  - » John 11:1-3: Lazarus' sickness
  - » John 11:4-16: Jesus delaying His arrival
  - » John 11:17-32: Conversations between Martha, Mary, and Jesus
  - » John 11:33-41: Stone being rolled away
  - » John 11: 42-44: Lazarus rising from the dead
  - » John 11:45-57: Pharisees' plot against Jesus
- Then instruct each group to give a two-minute report from their notes.
- Show the New Birth poster **RKDR**.
  - » Discuss how the path to eternal life with Jesus begins with repentance, baptism in the name of Jesus, and the infilling of God's Holy Spirit.



**Application:** If we follow Jesus, we will live forever because Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

For additional Application Options that use different teaching styles, see page 11:

- Option 1: Eternal Promises
- Option 2: Now or Later

**Prayer and Response****Instruction**

- Ask students to stand and gather in a large circle.
- Lead students in prayer.
  - » Thank Jesus for showing us His promise that He is the resurrection and the life.
  - » Pray for students to feel encouraged and leave class with a greater understanding of how much Jesus loves them.
  - » Pray for students to understand the greatest reward any of us can ever receive: living with Jesus forever.
  - » Finally, pray that students will share this message with their families and friends.
- Encourage students to make commitments to share this Bible lesson with a specific person during the next week.
- Send each student home with an Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Page.

*Truth for My Life: I will live forever because Jesus gives me eternal life.*

## OPENING OPTION 1

### Jesus Acrostic

#### Instruction

- Write RESURRECTION LIFE vertically in large letters down the left side of the whiteboard.
- Form small groups.
  - » Give each group a sheet of paper and a pencil.
  - » Copying the board, have groups write RESURRECTION LIFE down the left side of their paper.
- Say: Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He is everything we need.
- Challenge groups to create an acrostic that describes Jesus using the letters of RESURRECTION LIFE.
  - » Example: Rest, Eternal, Safe, Unwavering, Real, Refreshing, Everlasting, Creator, Truth, I AM, Omnipotent, Never-Ending, Love, Invigorating, Fantastic, Excellent
- Once acrostics are completed, let groups call out their words as you write them on the board.

**Application:** Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He is everything we need.

## OPENING OPTION 2

### Imagining Eternity

#### Preparation

- Locate a long rope or hose, the longer the better.

#### Instruction

- Ask: Can you measure eternity? *Wait for students' answers.*
- Show a length of yarn and say: Some think life is like this piece of yarn—with a beginning and an end.
- Read and discuss Psalm 39:4–5 and James 4:14.
  - » Say: To God, our lives are like a snap (*snap*), a vapor. Even if we live to be 120 years old, to God it is like no time elapsed at all.
- Ask: What do we mean when we say, “Jesus is the resurrection and the life”?
  - » Say: If we believe in Him, Jesus promises to bring us back to life so we can live with Him forever. Trying to imagine this is mind blowing.
- Extend the entire length of rope or hose. At the starting tip of it, make a single mark with a marker.

**Application:** If this rope represented eternity, your entire life would be like a tiny mark at the beginning of it. There is no end to eternity. Jesus is the resurrection and life. If we follow Him, He will empower us to live forever.

## APPLICATION OPTION 1

### Eternal Promises

#### Preparation

- For each student, copy the Eternal Promises handout **RKDR**.

#### Instruction

- Ask: What do we mean when we say, “Jesus is the resurrection and the life”?
- Say: In Genesis 1–3, we learn that God created a pure and holy world for humans to live in. Unfortunately, the serpent convinced Adam and Eve to sin. From that moment, the earth has been under the curse. Thankfully, God had a plan from the beginning to cleanse His creation of sin; His plan was Jesus.
- Using the New Birth poster **RKDR**, discuss how the sacrifice of Jesus covers our sins and prepares us for the promise of eternal life.
- From the Eternal Promises handout **RKDR**, read and discuss II Peter 3:10–14
- Then read and discuss Revelation 21:1–5.

**Application:** After God cleanses the earth of its unrighteousness, He will resurrect His holy people and give them a restored sin-free world to live in forever. This is what Jesus meant when He said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” This is why we worship Jesus. His eternal promises will be worth anything we go through in this present life.

## APPLICATION OPTION 2

### Now or Later

#### Preparation

- Collect enough prizes for all students. Each prize should have a lesser and a greater version (e.g., pennies and quarters; mini and full-size candy bars; tiny and larger bouncy balls).

#### Instruction

- One at a time, select bring students to the front.
- Say: I have something for you. You can get it now or later. (Do not give clues as to how much later.)
- For students who choose now, give them the lesser version of the prize.
- For students who choose later, tell them they will receive a greater version of the prize when class is dismissed.

**Application:** Mary and Martha waited for Jesus, and they received a great miracle: Jesus brought their brother back to life. When we follow Jesus and wait for Him to guide our lives, we will receive the greatest miracle of all: life forever in Heaven with Jesus.

## WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Video Quick Links document **DR**

### Instruction

- Ask students to describe or demonstrate how Lazarus might have acted after he was brought back to life.
- Compare the reactions to the joy we should express to Jesus, our resurrection and life.
- Lead students in exuberant worship.
  - » “He’s in the Room” by David Jennings **QL**
  - » “Help Is on the Way” performed by First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock **QL**
  - » “Jesus” by Draylin Young **QL**
  - » “Rise Up” by CAIN **QL**
  - » “You Came (Lazarus)” by Bethel Music **QL**

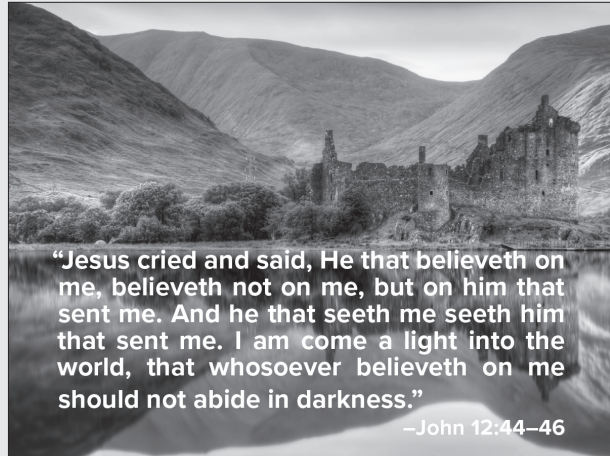
**Application:** Worship opens our hearts to receive the resurrection power of Jesus.

## ACTIVITY PAGES

- If time allows, let students complete the activity pages in class.
- As they color, students count the clouds, flowers, men, women, birds, and stones in the picture of Lazarus coming out of the tomb.
- Let students work alone or in small groups to research other people in the Bible who were resurrected. Answers are at the bottom of the activity page.
- Students unscramble the words to complete John 11:11.
  - » **Answers:** LIFE, DEAD, RISE, STONE
  - » “Our FRIEND Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him.”

## VIDEO REVIEW

- To review the Bible lesson, show one of the following videos:
  - » “Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead” by ShareFaith Kids **QL**
  - » “Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead” by Saddleback Kids **QL**
  - » “Jesus Raised Lazarus from Death” by Crossroads Kids’ Club **QL**



“Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.”

—John 12:44–46

## MEMORY WORK

**Series 1 Memory Verses:** John 12:44–46

**Supplies:** Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

### Instruction

- Introduce the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**—John 12:44–46.
- Read it aloud together.
- Then read each verse separately, engaging students with information and discussion.
- Verse 44: Jesus was more than a mere man (like Buddha or Mohammed); He was God in the flesh. When we believe in Jesus, we believe in God Himself.
  - » **Ask:** What types of things did Jesus do that caused people to believe in Him?
- Verse 45: Jesus is God. When people saw Jesus, they saw God. To properly redeem the world, God’s Spirit had to fully dwell in the human body of Jesus.
  - » **Ask:** How would you have felt if you were standing near Jesus when He said these words?
- Verse 46: A life without Jesus is dark and empty. Jesus is the light we need.
  - » **Ask:** What are ways we can show we truly put our trust in Jesus?

**Application:** As we memorize these verses over the coming weeks, the light of Jesus will increase in our lives. We will feel His resurrection power. We will feel His life. Our faith will become stronger. We will prepare our hearts to live eternally with Jesus.

*Truth for My Life: I will live forever because Jesus gives me eternal life.*

## JBQ OPTION

### Preparation

- Select one of the JBQ Games **DR**.
- Locate the JBQ Quiz(zes) **DR** that correspond with the current set(s) of verses being studied.

### Instruction

- Distribute the current set of JBQ Verses **DR** to new students.
- Play the prepared game with students.
- If students have mastered the verses, send home a new set of JBQ Verses **DR**. Otherwise let them study the same set of verses again for next week.

## GAME OPTION

### Jumping to Conclusions

#### Instruction

- Tape off a line down the middle of an open area.
- Instruct students to stand on the line.
  - » Designate one side as true and the other side as false.
- Say: As I read the statements, hop from one side to the other to demonstrate your answers.
  - » Jesus only offers eternal life to some people. (FALSE)
  - » The resurrection of Lazarus proved Jesus is the resurrection and the life. (TRUE)
  - » Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. (TRUE)
  - » When Jesus said Lazarus was asleep, He meant Lazarus had died. (TRUE)
  - » Jesus never cried. (FALSE)
  - » We will spend eternity with Jesus on earth. (TRUE) (See Revelation 21:1-5 about new heaven and new earth.)
  - » Mary, Martha, and Lazarus lived in Bethany. (TRUE)
  - » The Pharisees rejoiced when Lazarus came back to life. (FALSE)
  - » The Pharisees prepared a big celebration after Lazarus came back to life. (FALSE)
  - » The Pharisees planned to capture Jesus and kill Him. (TRUE)
  - » The Pharisees ordered people to report the location of Jesus. (TRUE)
  - » Jesus is God. (TRUE)
  - » Eternity has an ending. (FALSE)
  - » Eternal life with Jesus will last forever. (TRUE)

**Application:** It is true; Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

## CRAFT OPTION

### Roll Away the Stone

**Supplies per student:** Medium-sized smooth rock, markers or paint

#### Instruction

- Give each student a medium-sized smooth rock.
  - » Discuss how Jesus commanded His disciples to roll away the stone so He could resurrect Lazarus.
- Let students decorate their rocks with markers or paint.
  - » Encourage them to use details from the Bible lesson as a reminder that “Jesus is the resurrection and the life.”

**Application:** Your rock represents the rock Jesus had the people roll away so Lazarus could come out of the grave. Jesus gave life back to Lazarus on this earth to demonstrate how He wants to give us eternal life.

## SNACK OPTION

### Gravestone Sandwiches

**Supplies:** Tray, uncooked rice, sliced bread, jelly, decorating icing tubes, plastic knives, paper plates, napkins, drinks, cups, wet wipes

#### Preparation

- Cover a tray with a two-inch layer of uncooked rice.
- For each student, make an uncut jelly sandwich. Also make one for a sample.

#### Instruction

- Give each student a plate with a jelly sandwich and a plastic knife.
- Use a plastic knife to demonstrate how to trim a sandwich into the shape of a gravestone.
- Using decorating icing tubes, let students write LAZARUS on their gravestone sandwiches.
- Stand the gravestone sandwiches in the tray of rice to create a graveyard scene.
  - » Take a picture. Then pray over the snack.
- Encourage everyone to shout, “Lazarus, come forth!”
- Enjoy the snack.

**Application:** Lazarus rose from the dead because Jesus is the resurrection and the life.