

Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

MAIN IDEAS

- **Jesus satisfied God’s righteousness when He paid the full penalty for sin.**
- **Jesus’ resurrection is proof that He is all-powerful and victorious, even over sin and death.**
- **Jesus makes His friends who trust in Him right with God.**

MEMORY VERSE

Jesus said..., “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”—John 11:25

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Matthew 27:57-66
- 2) Matthew 28:1-10
- 3) (Romans 5:19a)
- 4) (Ezekiel 36:26a)
- 5) (John 11:25)
- 6) (John 20:24-29)
- 7) (Acts 4:12)



TEACHER INTRODUCTION

In commenting on the significance of the resurrection, Pastor John Piper states the following¹:

The resurrection of Jesus is God’s gift and proof that his death was completely successful in blotting out the sins of his people and removing the wrath of God... From the cross the Son of God cried, “It is finished” (John 19:30). And by means of the resurrection, God the Father cries, “It was finished indeed!” The great work of paying for our sin and providing our righteousness and satisfying God’s justice was finished in the death of Jesus. Then, in the grave, he had the right and the power to take the keys of death and open the door for all who come to him by faith.

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

As you prepare for this lesson, pray that God would cause you to have greater joy and assurance in the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Pray that God would grant understanding and belief to those in your classroom, that they would embrace and rejoice in the resurrection of Christ. Pray that God would work in hearts to save people through the testimony of Christ’s resurrection.

CURRICULUM RESOURCES

- **Paid (35A)**
- **Eternal Life (3E, save for future lessons)**
- **Closed Tomb (35B)**
- **Empty Tomb (35C)**
- Growing in Faith Together for Lesson 35 (one per child)

OTHER SUPPLIES

- Bible
- Cross with hearts and Death sign attached (see Preparation)
- 10 pennies and a small treat or prize item
- Props for telling the resurrection story (strips of white cloth, etc.)
- Paper clips
- For Application (for each child):
 - › Markers or crayons

1. Piper, John. *The Passion of Jesus Christ: Fifty Reasons Why He Came to Die*. (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway Books, 2004), 100-101.

Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

MATERIALS FOR OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

1. Classroom Poster, Part 2

Note: This activity only works if you have done the Classroom Poster, Part 1 Activity from Lesson 34.

- › Shiny Heart Template (OA-35, Curriculum Resources)
- › Shiny hearts (1 per child) made from heavy-duty aluminum foil or shiny paper using the Shiny Heart Template
- › Large light colored poster board
- › Markers or crayons
- › Glue

2. Memory Verse Chorus

No supplies are needed for this activity.

Preparation for Cross, Death Sign, Red Heart, and Darkened Heart visuals for our sample lesson users:

Make a cross as large as possible using cardboard or other sturdy materials. Attach the Red Heart visual over the Darkened Heart visual on your cross. Tape the Death visual above the Red Heart.

Large Group Lesson

Illustration.....

PENNIES AND
TREAT OR
PRIZE ITEM

(Choose a child to come to the front and give him the **pennies**, but do not reveal how many pennies there are. Show the child the **treat or prize item**, and explain to him that he can buy the item from you with the pennies.)

? *What does [child's name] need to know before he can buy the [item] from me?*

He needs to know how much the [item] costs to see if he has enough money.

The cost for [item] is exactly 10 pennies. But suppose [child's name] gave me only five pennies.

(Ask the child to count out and give you five pennies.)

Would that be enough to pay for the [item]? No. Suppose he gave me three more pennies.

(Have the child give you three more pennies.)

Let's see—that's five plus three more—now I have eight pennies. Is that enough? No. The price is exactly 10 pennies. Before [child's name] can have the [item], I must get 10 pennies.



(Explain that the child still needs to give you two pennies. Have the child give you the two remaining **pennies**, and give him the **Paid** sign. Then, have him go sit down without giving him the item. Most likely the children will point out that you have forgotten to give the child the item he paid for. Have the child come back to the front of the room.)

- *After you have paid the full cost for an item...*

(Display **Paid**.)

...you expect to receive the item you paid for. The Paid sign shows that the item rightfully belongs to you.

.....

CROSS

(Give the child the **item** and have him return to his seat. Then point to the **Cross** from last week's lesson.)

- When Jesus died on the cross, He also paid for something.

(Point to the **Red Heart** and the **Death** sign on the **Cross**. Remove the **Red Heart** and the **Darkened Heart** from the **Cross**, being careful to leave the **Shiny Heart** attached to the **Cross**. Remove the **Death** sign and place it with the **Red** and **Darkened Heart**.)

Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

The cost of sin is death (Romans 6:23). On the cross, Jesus paid the cost for His sinful friends by receiving all the punishment from God for their sins.



PAPER CLIP

(Place the **Paid** sign on top of the two **Hearts** and **Death** sign, and attach it with a paper clip.)

But that is not the end of the story. Because Jesus paid the cost for sin, there is something He gets in return. He paid for something. What do you think Jesus bought with His death on the cross? Do you think He bought a [item bought by child]? Where will we find the answer? Yes, in the Bible!

Story

The Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 27:57-66; 28:1-10)

PROPS OR PICTURES

(Summarize the story using the actual text when appropriate. Using **props** and the **Closed Tomb and Empty Tomb** visual will make the story more concrete and real. Emphasize the following points.)

- Jesus was really dead. Even His friends believed this to be true.

(Display the picture of the **Closed Tomb**.)



- Jesus was buried in a tomb just like any other dead person would be.
- A big stone was placed in front of the entrance to seal the tomb. There were no other windows or doors to the tomb.

Do you think Jesus' friends were expecting Him to wake up again? No, they thought He was dead.

- The priests who had wanted Jesus dead were afraid that Jesus' disciples would try to come and steal Jesus' dead body in order to claim that Jesus was alive again. So soldiers were sent to guard the tomb.
- God caused a terrible earthquake as an angel of the Lord came and rolled back the stone.

Is a big stone too hard for God to move? No. Could the soldiers guard the tomb against the all-powerful God? No! They were terrified.

- When Jesus friends, Mary and Mary Magdalene came to the tomb, they saw the angel. The angel had great news for them!

Matthew 28:5b-6a—Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said.

(Display the picture of the **Empty Tomb**.)

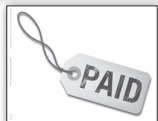


- The women went in and saw that the tomb was really empty.

- The angel commanded the women to go back and tell Jesus' other friends the great news.
- They were afraid from meeting an angel and yet filled with joy at the news.
- On their way, they met Jesus. Was it really Him? Was it just a vision—like a ghost?

Matthew 28:9b—And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.

- Jesus was real. Jesus was really alive! He had been dead and now He is alive!
- When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the penalty for sin...



(Display **Paid** with the **Hearts** attached.)

- ...and bought something.
- Jesus paid the full price for sin, and because He had perfectly obeyed God...



(Point to the **Shiny Heart** on the **Cross**.)

- ...Jesus came alive again.



(Remove the **Shiny Heart** from the **Cross** and attach it to the **Eternal Life** sign.)

- Jesus bought eternal life.

(Remind the children that in the previous lesson, Jesus took away something from His friends—sinful hearts and death. Display the **Shiny Heart** and **Eternal Life** sign.)

- Now Jesus has a gift for His friends—a new heart and eternal life.

(Give a child the **Shiny Heart** and **Eternal Life** sign.)

- Jesus had finished the job that He came to do.
- Jesus bought eternal life for His friends so that they could enjoy God forever.
- And eternal life with God is the greatest gift Jesus could ever give us!

Small Group Application

Choose one or more of these application ideas, as time allows.

Workbook

Have the children turn to Lesson 35 in the workbook and begin to color the empty tomb. Have them trace the word “Jesus” above the tomb.

Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

Jesus' Paid the Full Penalty of Sin

How many sins did Jesus pay for on the cross? Was it just Abraham's sins? Or just David's sins? Whose sins did Jesus pay for? He paid for all of the sins of all of His friends (everyone who trusts in Him). Did He just pay some of it? No—He paid in full. His death on the cross was enough to pay for everything (Hebrews 10:18). Jesus paid the cost for the sins of all of His friends. He paid in full, meaning that His death on the cross once was enough (Hebrews 10:18).

God Fulfilled His Promises in Jesus

Recall our memory verse in Lesson 6 from Romans 5:19a. Look it up in your Bible and read all of verse 19. Ask the children what it means to be made righteous.

Because Jesus perfectly obeyed God and paid the penalty for sin, believers are given Jesus' perfect righteousness. They are also given new hearts. They are cleansed and renewed hearts.

Remind the children of God's promise in Ezekiel 36:26a, the memory verse from Lesson 12.

A sinful heart deserves death. A righteous heart receives eternal life. Jesus gives eternal life to His friends.

Memory Verse

Read today's memory verse from **John 11:25—...I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.**

What is the promise that Jesus gives in this verse? [Jesus promises eternal life after our bodies die.] Who is the promise for? [The promise is for all those who believe in Jesus.] What does it mean to believe in Jesus?

Believe in Jesus

Tell the children of the encounter that Thomas had with the risen Jesus from John 20:24-29.

If you really trust someone, do you have to see it to believe it, or do you take their word for it? The Bible tells us that Jesus came to save sinners by dying in their place on the cross. Did you see it happen? Do you still believe that it really happened? Do you believe that Jesus died to offer you eternal life?

Simply and briefly share how God brought you to saving faith.

Jesus Will Keep His Promises

The Bible also tells us that Jesus, who was really dead, came back to life again. Did you see it happen? Do you really believe that it happened? Do you believe that Jesus will really keep His promise to raise His friends from the dead, even after they die?

Jesus is the Only Way to Be Saved

Jesus' death and resurrection bring us near to God by taking away sin and death and making us a friend of God (1 Peter 3:18). Is there a different way to become a friend of God? For example, what if you just try to be really good? What if you try to find someone other than Jesus to help you?

Read **Acts 4:12**— *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

Only Jesus can make us a friend of God.

Optional Activities

If time allows, the following is an optional activity:

1. Classroom Poster, Part 2

Before class, make a shiny heart for each child using the **Shiny Heart Template** and heavy-duty aluminum foil or shiny paper. Then, remove and discard the darkened hearts from the red heart on the cross and replace them with the shiny hearts.

Help the children make and decorate an empty tomb poster. (Use the workbook page as a model.) Instruct them to go, one by one, and remove one of the shiny silver hearts from the red heart envelope. Are the hearts the same as the ones that they put in last week? What has changed? Jesus gives His righteousness to sinners who trust in Him, in place of our sin. Have the children glue the shiny hearts inside the empty tomb. Review today's memory verse.

2. Memory Verse Chorus

Divide the children into two groups. Assign the first group to stand and loudly recite the first portion of John 11:25.

"I am the resurrection and the life."

When they have finished, instruct them to quickly sit down. Have the second group quickly stand and recite the middle portion of the verse.

"Whoever believes in me, though he die,..."

Have both groups stand together and recite the end of the verse.

"...yet shall he live,"

Repeat several times until the children have mastered this. Then assign each group the other portion of the verse and repeat the process.

Send Home

- Growing in Faith Together for Lesson 35 (one per child)



Eternal Life

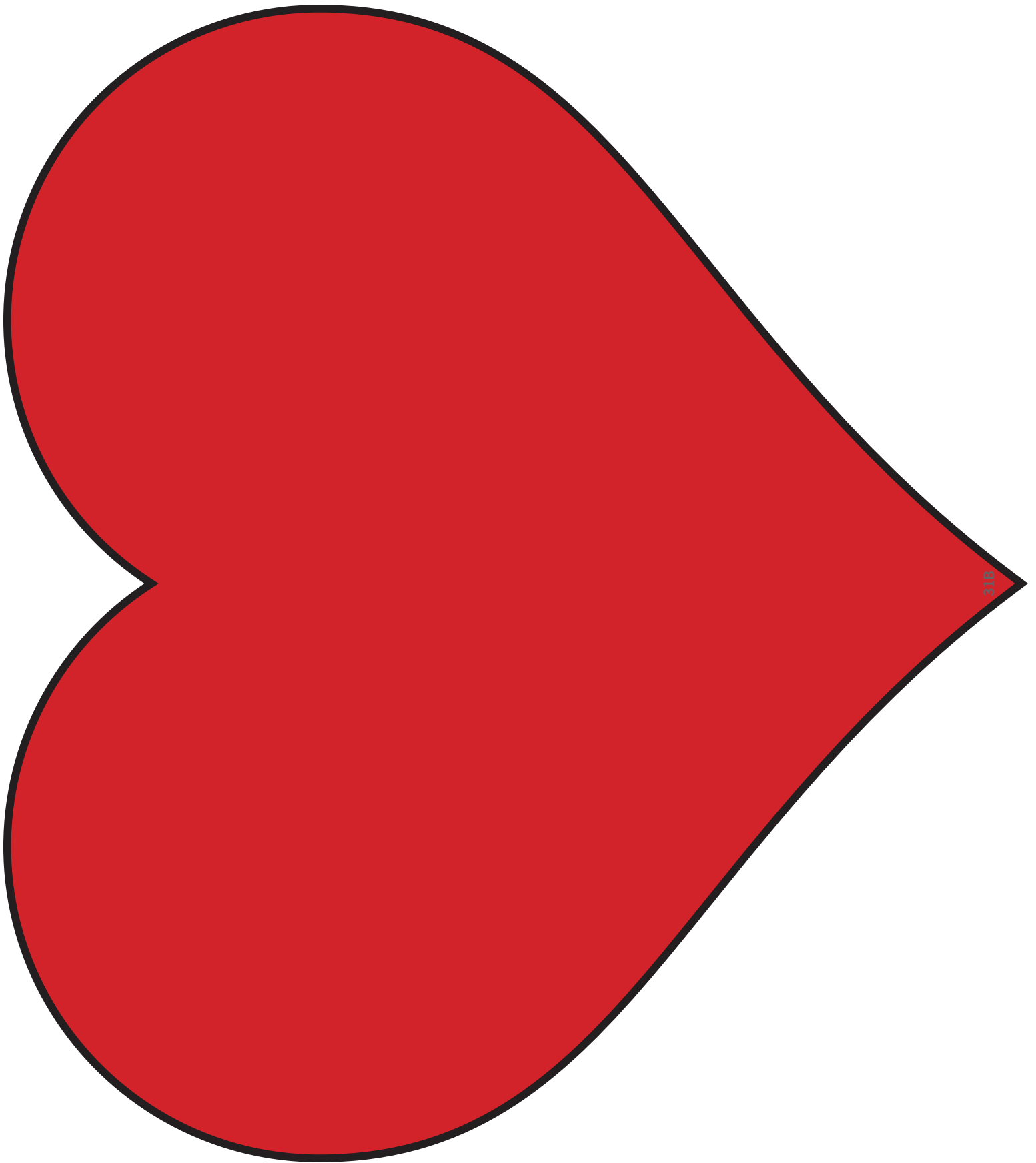




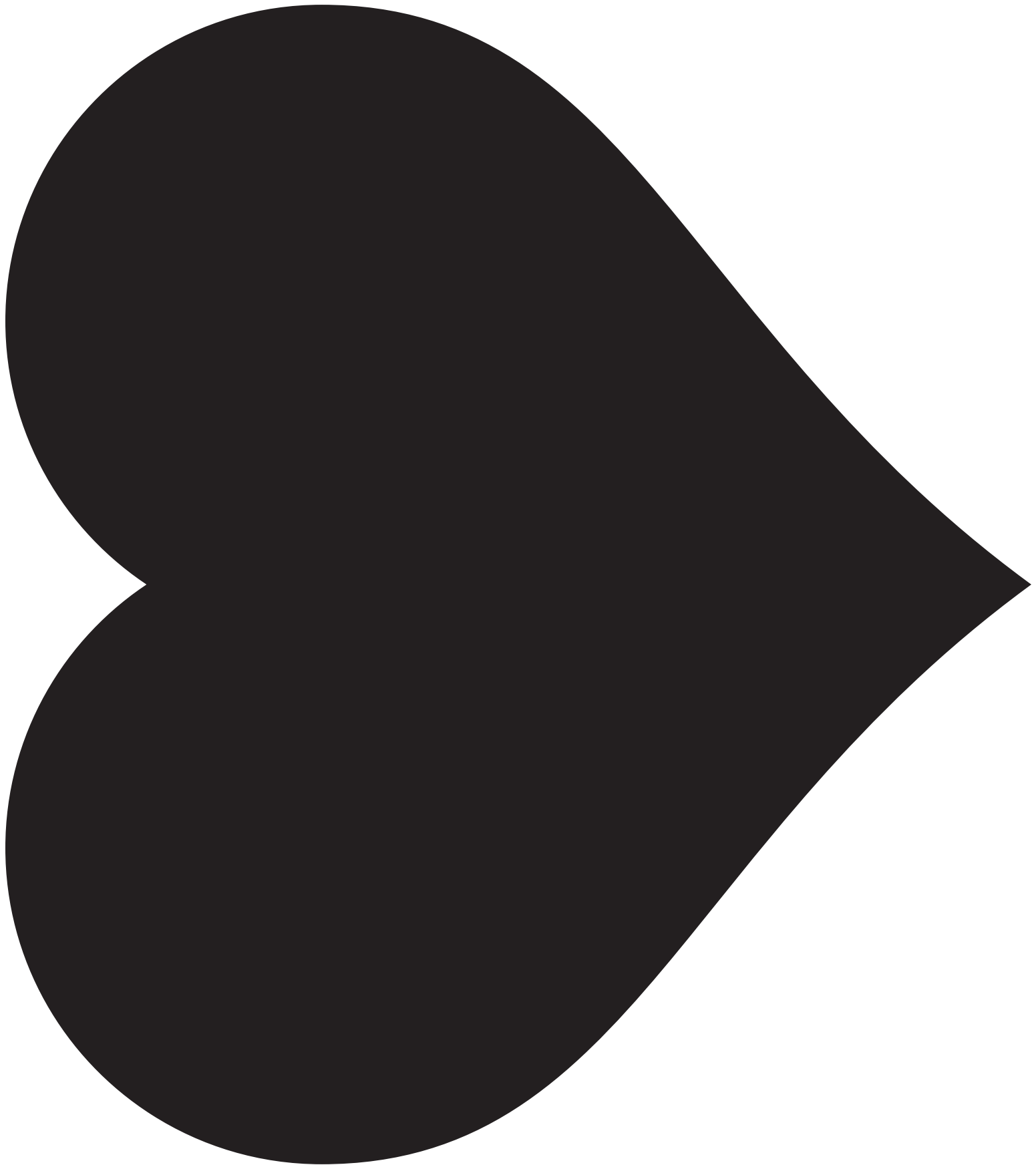




Death



31B





Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

MAIN IDEAS

- Jesus satisfied God's righteousness when He paid the full penalty for sin.
- Jesus' resurrection is proof that He is all powerful and victorious, even over sin and death.
- Jesus makes His friends who trust in Him right with God.

SCRIPTURE

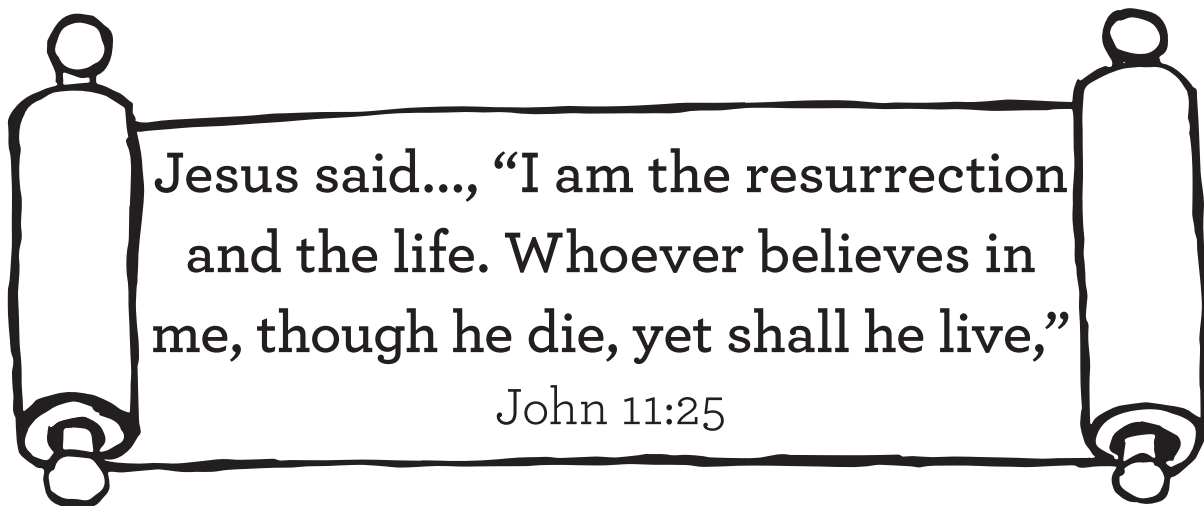
1) Ezekiel 36:26a
5) John 20:24-29

2) Matthew 27:57-66
6) Acts 4:12

3) Matthew 28:1-10
7) Romans 5:19a

4) John 11:25

MEMORY VERSE

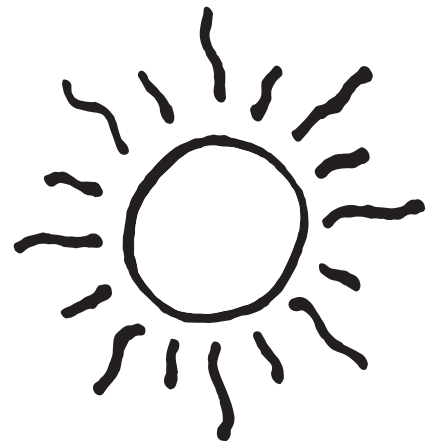


ACTIVITY

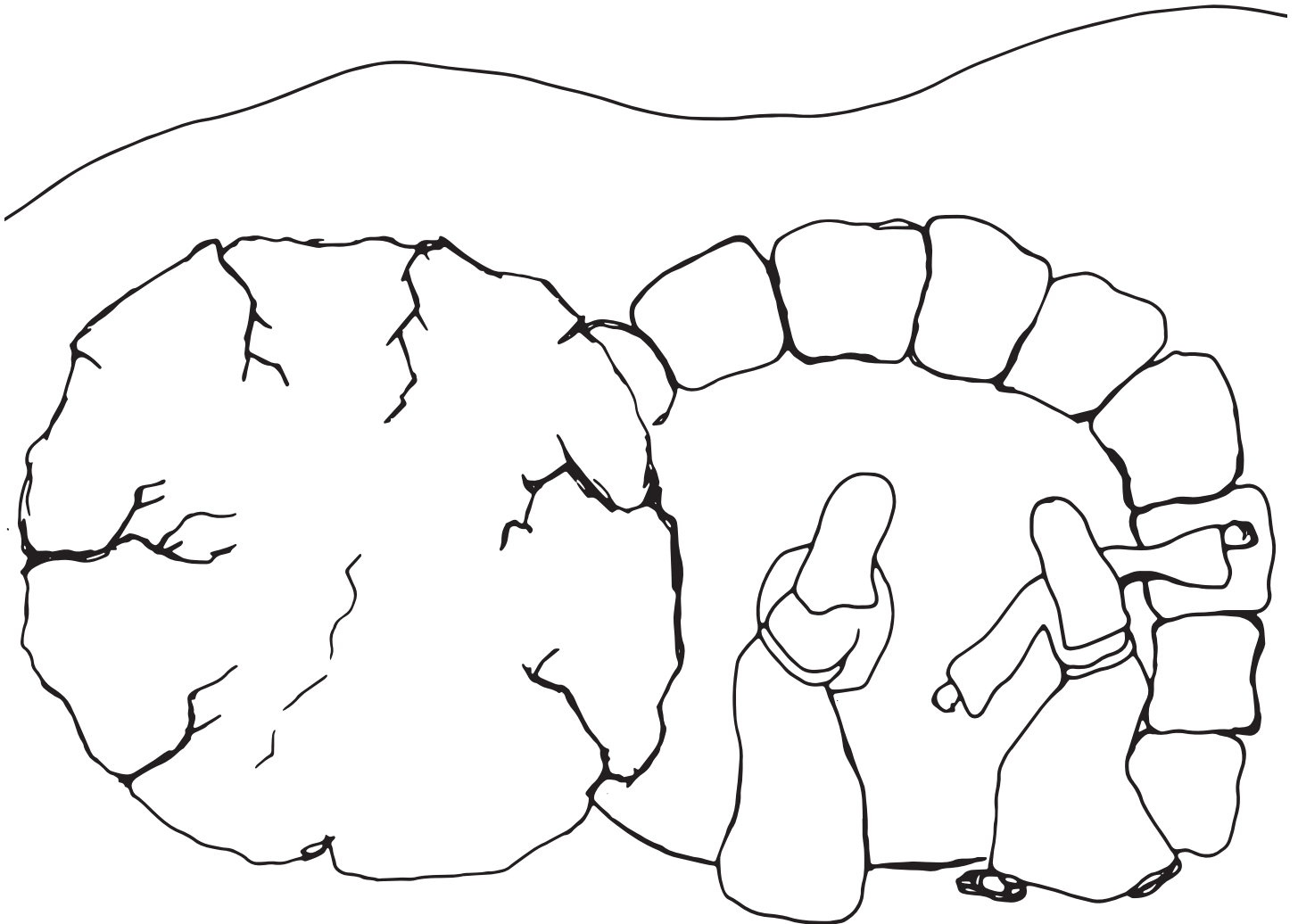
After Jesus died, he was buried in a tomb. Did Jesus stay in the tomb? No! Jesus came alive again. Jesus had finished the job that He came to do. Now Jesus has a gift for His friends—a new heart and eternal life. Eternal life with God is the greatest gift Jesus could ever give us!

Instructions: Trace the letters. Then color the picture in bright, happy colors.

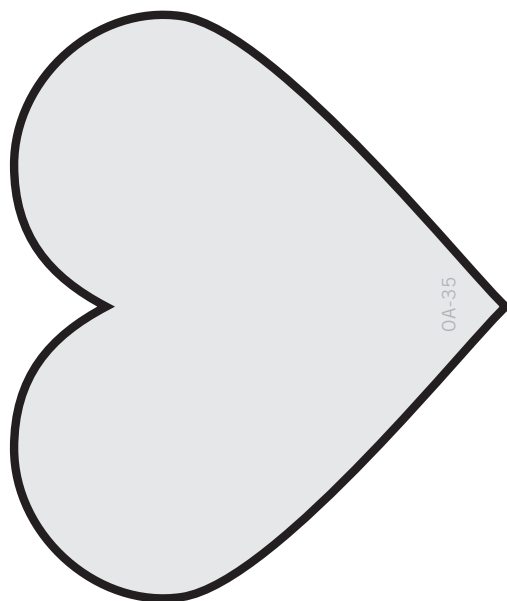
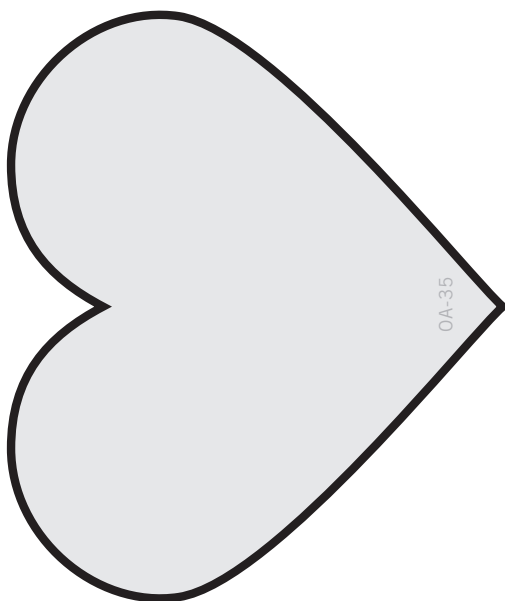
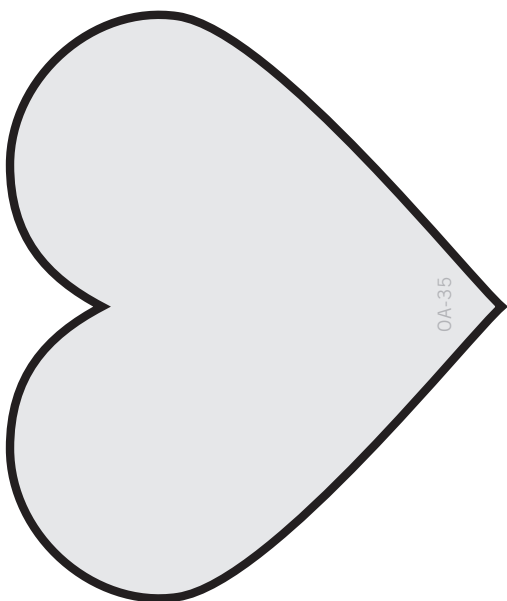
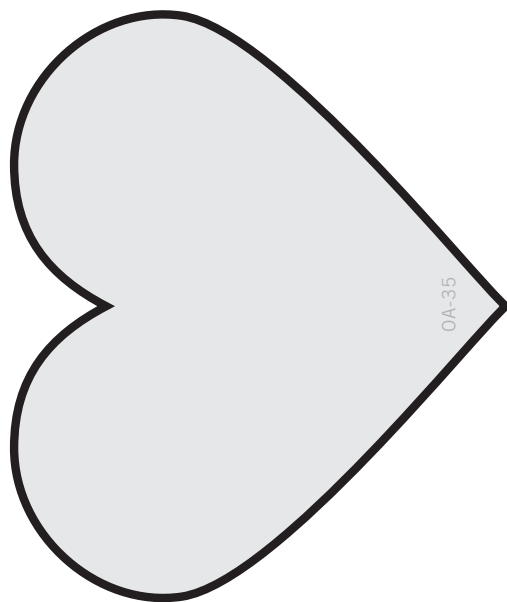
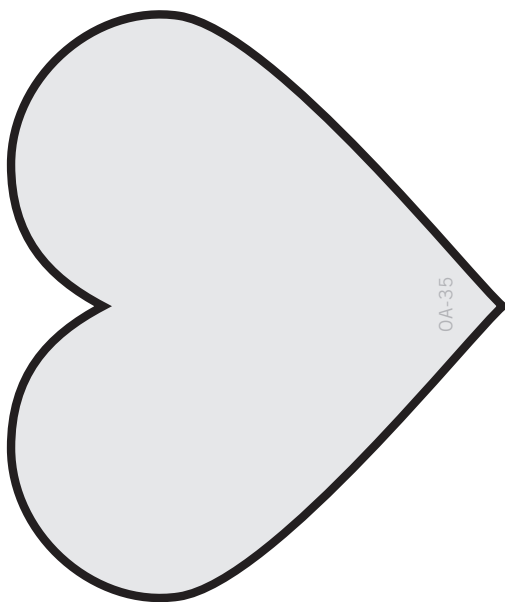
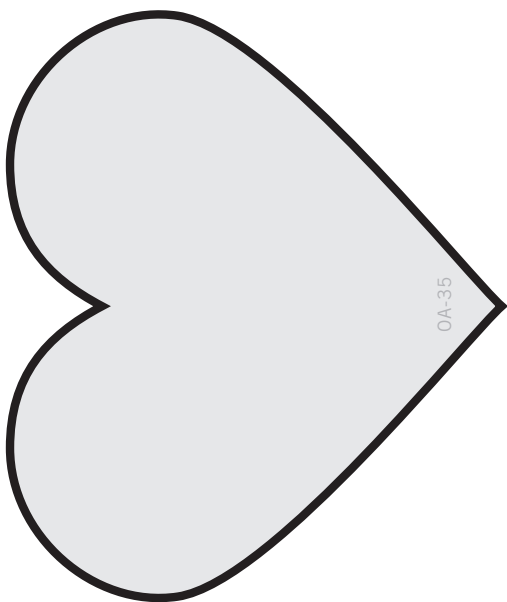
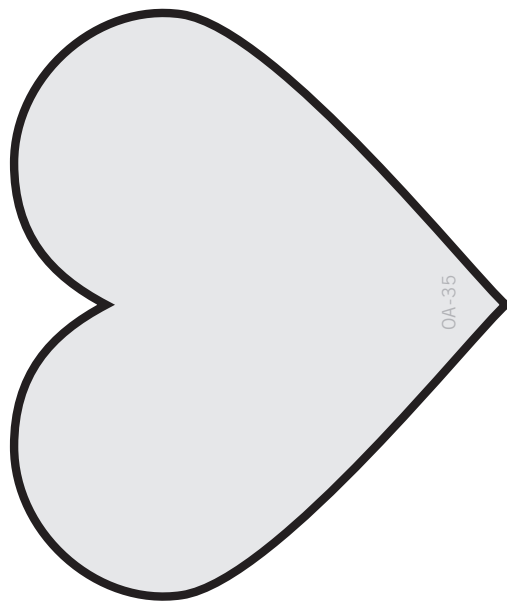
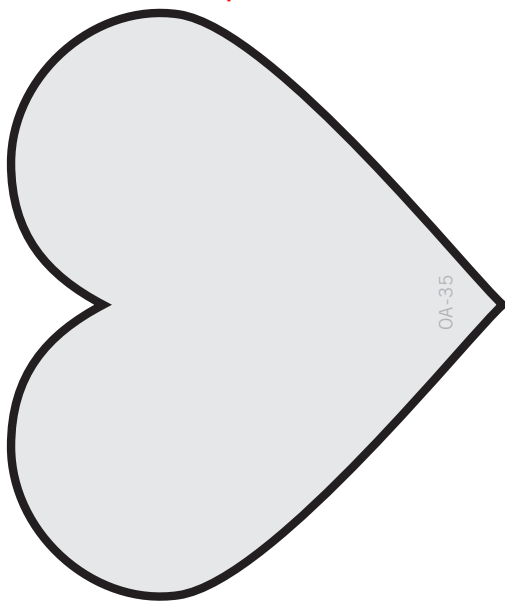
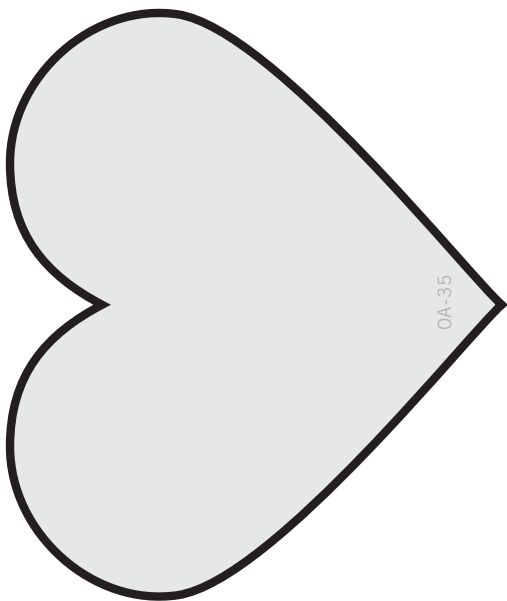
J E S U S



GIVES LIFE!



Sample Lesson





Jesus Gives New Life to His Friends

MAIN IDEAS

- **Jesus satisfied God's righteousness when He paid the full penalty for sin.**
- **Jesus' resurrection is proof that He is all powerful and victorious even over sin and death.**
- **Jesus makes His friends who trust in Him right with God.**

MEMORY VERSE

Jesus said..., "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,"
 —John 11:25

SCRIPTURE

- 1) Ezekiel 36:26a
- 2) Matthew 27:57-66
- 3) Matthew 28:1-10
- 4) John 11:25
- 5) John 20:24-29
- 6) Acts 4:12
- 7) Romans 5:19a



LESSON SUMMARY

In commenting on the significance of the resurrection Pastor John Piper states the following:

The resurrection of Jesus is God's gift and proof that his death was completely successful in blotting out the sins of his people and removing the wrath of God...From the cross the Son of God cried, "It is finished" (John 19:30). And by means of the resurrection, God the Father cries, "It was finished indeed!" The great work of paying for our sin and providing our righteousness and satisfying God's justice was finished in the death of Jesus. Then, in the grave, he had the right and the power to take the keys of death and open the door for all who come to him by faith.¹

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

PRAYER POINTS

As you review this lesson with your child, pray that...



- *God would cause you to have greater joy and assurance in the resurrection of Christ from the dead.*
- *God would grant your child a greater understanding of Jesus' resurrection.*
- *God would bring about true belief in your child so that he or she would embrace and rejoice in the resurrection of Christ.*
- *God would give you boldness to share the testimony of Christ's death and resurrection.*

1. Piper, John. *The Passion of Jesus Christ: Fifty Reasons Why He Came to Die*. (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway Books, 2004), 100-101.

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

- Read and talk about John 11:25.

What is the promise that Jesus gives in this verse? Who is the promise for? What does it mean to believe in Jesus?

- Tell your child about the encounter Thomas had with the risen Jesus from John 20:24-29.

The Bible tells us that Jesus came to save sinners by dying in their place on the cross, and then He rose from the dead. **Did you see it happen? Do you still believe it really happened? Do you believe Jesus died to offer you eternal life? Do you believe Jesus will really**

keep His promise to raise His friends from the dead even after they die?

Share with your child how God brought you to saving faith.

- Jesus' death and resurrection brings us near to God by taking away sin and death, and making us a friend of God. **Is there a different way to become a friend of God? For example, what if you just try to be really good? What if you try to find someone other than Jesus to help you? What does the Bible say?**

See John 14:6 or Acts 4:12.

ACTION STEP

Retell the story of Jesus' resurrection to your family. Add actions and sound effects (like the rumbling of an earthquake) to make it even more interesting.

**Jesus said..., "I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,"**
John 11:25

