



BIG IDEA

Jesus rescued us.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 1 OF 4

Rescue

GOD STORY

The Rescue
Luke 24:1–34

KEY VERSE

Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven.
Colossians 1:14 (NIRV)

LEADER TIPS

Happy Easter! Thank you for serving today. What an amazing opportunity to share the good news! Expect more visitors as well as families that do not attend church regularly. Be sure to introduce yourself and take the time to learn everyone's names. You may find it helpful to pair anyone who's new with a friend.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

Use the discussion questions about rescuers to set the tone for your group's time together and lead into the lesson.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Work together on a fun "rescue mission" that highlights today's Big Idea.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

My Story

4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Create a door-hanger craft that focuses on the cross.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Encourage the kids to pray for one another using craft-stick prompts.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



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My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- Be ready to kick-start the conversation with your own answers to the questions below.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Welcome everyone and gather the kids together.
- Ask: Which jobs involve people rescuing others? (e.g., firefighter, paramedic, lifeguard, ski patrol, forest ranger) What do they rescue people from?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Jesus rescued us!**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Hula hoops
- Stuffed animals (and/or toy figures)

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Scatter the stuffed animals around your group's space before the kids arrive.
- Place the hula hoops on the floor at opposite ends of your space.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Assign a hula hoop to each team and direct the kids to stand together inside it.
- Explain that they must "rescue" the stuffed animals and bring them back to their team's hula hoop. The rules are:
 - They can only step out of the hoop if they're hanging on to someone who's inside it.
 - They can create a human chain if at least one person stays inside the hoop.
 - No one can be the rescuer two times in a row.
 - The hoop cannot be moved.
- Cheer for the kids as they complete their rescue mission!
- If time allows, scatter the stuffies and play again.



God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (The Rescue, Luke 24:1–34)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Heather is a firefighter who saves lives. However, on her first mission she was the one rescued by a fellow crew member!)
- b. Discuss:
 - What is the Key Verse for this series? (Colossians 1:14)
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - How do you think these two stories and today's Big Idea (**Jesus rescued us**) connect?



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My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- Door-hanger cutouts
- Wall-safe tape
- Dabber markers
- Markers

LEADER TIPS

- Encourage the kids to roll up their sleeves so they don't get ink on them.
- Assist them with spelling as needed.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their crafts.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Discuss: Why do we celebrate Easter? What are we excited or happy about today?
- Give each person a door-hanger cutout and some wall-safe tape.
- Place both kinds of markers where everyone can reach them.
- Demonstrate how to use the tape to create a cross on a cutout (see sample on right).
- Guide the kids to make their crosses. Help them as needed.
- Instruct everyone to use the dabber markers to colour over top of and around the taped cross.
- Once they're done, direct them to peel off the tape.
- Encourage the kids to write something in the white area of the cross, such as "Jesus rescued me", "rescue", "love", or "Jesus is alive!"
- As they work on their crafts, emphasize the Big Idea (**Jesus rescued us**), and review the video teaching.





My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Craft sticks
- Markers

LEADER TIPS

- Make sure everyone feels included when the names are drawn.
- Encourage the kids to pray—but never force them to do it. It might be intimidating for some of them. Invite them to pray silently if they prefer. The goal is for this to be a positive, comfortable time!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Remain in your small group and sit in a circle.
- Give each person a craft stick.
- Place the markers where everyone can reach them easily.
- Direct the kids to print their names on their craft sticks. Encourage them to write neatly so others can read it!
- Instruct everyone to place their craft sticks face down in the middle of the group.
- Guide the kids to choose a craft stick that is not their own.
- Invite each of them to take a turn praying and thanking God that Jesus died to rescue [name on craft stick].
- Ask the kids to take home the craft stick they chose and use it as a reminder to pray for that person this week.

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

LEADER TIP

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- Give everyone a weekly take-home card as well as the monthly Key Verse card and colouring page.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.