



BIG IDEA

When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 3 OF 4

Not the End

GOD STORY

Jesus Returns to Heaven
Luke 24:49–53

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

In advance, be sure to review this lesson plan, organize the supplies, and watch the weekly teaching video. Pray for your group, too! When working with kids, you can't predict outcomes, but you can be as prepared as possible.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

To lead into the lesson, chat about stories the kids wished had never ended.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Challenge the group to solve a riddle that introduces the idea of beginnings and endings.

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*)

Play a board game that focuses on today's teaching.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Read Matthew 28:18–20. Discuss and pray about discipling others as Jesus told us to.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

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



BIG IDEA

When Jesus returned to heaven,
the story didn't end.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 3 OF 4

My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- As the kids arrive, welcome them and find out how their weeks have gone.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet everyone and gather the kids together.
- Ask:
 - Have you ever read a book, watched a TV show, or seen a movie and wished that it hadn't ended?
 - What was the story about?
- 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: **When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Rubber band
- Washer
- Ball
- Intro pictures
- (Optional) Scrap paper and pens

LEADER TIP

- To keep the kids from shouting out their ideas while others are still thinking, give everyone a piece of scrap paper and a pen to write their answers.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone to sit in a circle on the floor.
- Place the rubber band, washer, ball, and pictures in the middle of the circle.
- Challenge the kids to solve this riddle: These things all have something in common. What is it?
- Give everyone a moment to think about it.
- If they need a hint, let them know that it has to do with where these items start.
- Invite the kids to share their answers.
- Explain that—unlike a story—none of these things have a beginning or an end.
- Congratulate anyone who guessed correctly!



BIG IDEA

When Jesus returned to heaven,
the story didn't end.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 3 OF 4

God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Make sure the kids understand the links between today's Big Idea, the God Story, and the Life Story.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Jesus Returns to Heaven, Luke 24:49–53)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Moriah lost her leg due to bone cancer but her life did not come to a standstill. She got help from doctors, physiotherapists, and many other people. Today, she snowboards and coaches volleyball!)
- Discuss:
 - 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 (**When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end**) connect?

My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- Game board
- Dice
- Bibles
- Markers
- Craft sticks
- Binder clips

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group together.
- Divide the kids into groups of up to four people.
- Give each group a game board, a die, a Bible, and some markers.
- Give each player a craft stick and a binder clip.
- Encourage the kids to spend a couple of minutes colouring their craft sticks to look like them.
- Demonstrate how to make a craft stick stand up using a clip as a base.
- Explain that these are the players' tokens to move around the board.
- Ask the youngest person in each group to go first. Direct them to roll the die and move their token. When they land, they should follow the instructions on the board or answer the question.
- Guide the kids to continue taking turns until someone wins.
- Invite the winner to take home the game board.



BIG IDEA

When Jesus returned to heaven, the story didn't end.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 3 OF 4

My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

LEADER TIPS

- Discipling means helping someone follow the ways of Jesus.
- It may take a while to help the kids find passages in the Bible, but it's a life skill that's definitely worth the effort!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Remain in your small groups.
- Make sure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- Explain that the book of Matthew includes a few more details than Luke does when it comes to what Jesus said before going to heaven.
- Guide the kids to look up Matthew 28:18–20. Help them find the table of contents in their Bibles, then locate the book of Matthew. Explain that the first number in the reference is the chapter. These are the big numbers in the book. The following numbers in the reference are verses. They are the smaller numbers within the chapters.
- Read the passage together.
- Discuss:
 - What did Jesus tell his disciples to do?
 - If you are a follower of Jesus, this passage applies to you as well! Who are you discipling or helping to know Jesus better?
- Encourage the kids to start discipling someone now. They don't need to wait until they are older!
- Pray together.

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.
- Offer a Key Verse card and a colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.