



EASTER LESSON SKIT



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, read John 20:1-31. Jesus has conquered sin and death through His resurrection — the resurrection is a sign of His victory — and now He calls His disciples to make disciples of all people by preaching the Gospel. We see early glimpses of these things in John 20 through His interactions with Mary Magdalene, the disciples, and then Thomas. Jesus' desire is for us to believe and share that belief in the good news with others.

As you prepare, consider ways God may be using you to spread the news of His triumph over death through the cross. Do you struggle with sharing your faith with others? Why? What fears do you need to turn into trust and dependence on God in order to give of yourself for the sake of the Gospel? What are ways that you have learned to fulfill the Great Commission, despite fear or other obstacles? Has the change and growth you have experienced in your life through Christ given you the desire to share your faith with those around you? Spend a few minutes in prayer, asking God to reveal how you can grow in your confidence to share your faith. Also ask God to prepare your camper's hearts for this lesson.



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

****PLEASE NOTICE THE CHANGES IN ORDER OF SERVICE**

1) Run-through/Prayer

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc), assign door greeters, pray, mic check

2) Hand Out Nail Cutouts at Entrance Doors

3) Welcome Cabins

Band member says, "Welcome to Camp Grace!" before Intro song

4) Intro Song

5) Skit

6) Worship Set

Worship Connector

Did Jesus deserve His death on the cross? (Allow responses.) No! He was punished, even though He did not deserve it! He died for our sin. We are all sinners, and the Bible says the punishment for sin is death. The only way we can avoid death is for us to live a perfect life. Are any of us perfect? If none of us are perfect, then how can we pay the penalty for our sin? We can't! But Jesus Christ lived a sinless, perfect life. He gave His life so we could be saved from our sin. We need a Savior to pay for our sin and God has provided us with that Savior in Jesus. All we need to do is believe and trust in Jesus as our Savior and follow Him all of our lives. As we sing this last song, let's praise God for loving us and providing us with a Savior in Jesus.

7) Dismiss Cabins

Band member dismisses cabins: Thank you all for celebrating Christ with passion today!

SKIT

ProPresenter:

Slide #1: Image of Jesus on the cross

Slide #2: 2 Corinthians 5:21

Slide #3: Image of the empty tomb

Characters:

Storyteller

(This week's skit is of a more serious nature; other staff members should keep attire less distracting and help pass out the nail cutouts at entrance doors.)

Props:

Nail cutouts (1 per person; handed out at entrance doors)

Bag of pencils/pens/markers (1 per cabin, handed to cabin leaders at entrance doors)

Roll of invisible tape (1 per cabin, handed to cabin leaders at entrance doors)

Large wooden cross (setup at the front of the stage/room)

Script:

You'll want to tell this with passion and inflection in your voice to captivate your kids as they listen.

Storyteller: Welcome to Camp Grace! Today, we're here to celebrate something amazing and wonderful. We are going to hear about Jesus' death on the cross. Had Jesus done anything wrong to deserve to die? No. He was completely innocent. Jesus had lived a perfect life and never sinned and as Jesus hung on that cross with blood pouring from His wounds, it became dark.

(Dim lights.)

(SLIDE #1: Image of Jesus on the cross.)

Jesus took the sin of every single person, including yours and mine, upon Himself. Remember, God is holy and cannot be in the presence of sin. At that moment, God had to turn away from His only Son, who was covered with OUR sin. The pain of being temporarily separated from His Father was so great that Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" The crowd below laughed and mocked Jesus, even with the darkness all around them. Jesus cried out in one last breath and died. (Pause.)

Jesus was beaten, spit upon, laughed at, and nailed to the cross all to pay the price of OUR sins. See, the price of sin is death. Jesus didn't want us to die for our sins, so He died in our place. He died a cruel and painful death for OUR sin. Wow! Isn't that amazing what Jesus chose to do for us?

When you came in today, each of you received a nail cutout. This nail represents the ones that were used on Jesus when He died for our sin. I'd like to encourage everyone to sit quietly for a minute and think about the amazing gift Jesus has given you. As you look at your nail, remember Jesus died in your place, for your sin, so you could be forgiven and live life with Him.

(Allow a minute for children to sit quietly and reflect.)

As we continue to reflect, I'd like to invite you all to participate in a special activity that will allow us to personalize and remember Jesus's death in a special way. As the background music plays, I invite you to write your name on the nail and bring it to the cross. (At front of the stage.) Your cabin leaders have pencils/pens/markers and tape that you can use. The purpose of this is to remind you that God's love is "so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased your freedom with the blood of Jesus and forgave your sins." (Ephesians 1:7)

2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." As the Bible tells us in Romans 8:17, if we are God's children then we share in His glory and suffering. What an amazing exchange that takes place at the cross! Jesus not only died in our place for our sin, but He gave us a new life in which we inherit His righteousness as His children. There is no greater love than this.

(Play background music and Show Slide #2: 2 Corinthians 5:21 as children participate in the nail/cross remembrance activity. Each service's Storyteller can determine the order in which cabins/campers should approach and return to carpets.)

What a gift Jesus has given us! We need to take time daily to be quiet and remember what He has done for us. But our story doesn't end with Jesus on the cross. There's more!

After Jesus died, Joseph of Arimathea went boldly to Pilate to ask for Jesus' body. Joseph bought linen cloth in which to wrap the body of Jesus. Jesus had no place to be buried. So, Joseph placed Jesus' body in his own tomb. A tomb was like a cave in the mountain. A huge stone was rolled over the opening.

On the third day, Mary Magdalene and another Mary went to the tomb. They wanted to honor Jesus by anointing His body with perfume. When they got there, the stone had been rolled away from the

opening. They ran inside to find that Jesus' body was gone!
(SLIDE #3: Image of the empty tomb.)

An angel appeared to them. Do you know what the angel said? He said Jesus was not there. He had risen from the dead!

Do you know what that means? It means that Jesus did everything He said He would do. It means that He paid the price for our sin and broke the power that death has over us. We can live with Him forever when we believe. Jesus is alive. He's alive and that's what we've come to celebrate. Let's celebrate Christ in worship before going back to class!

(Band takes stage and should play upbeat music, as the remaining time should have a celebratory, not somber, feel.)



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