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***WEEK 1***

***UPPER ELEMENTARY***

***SMALL GROUP GUIDE***

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus overcame death

THE BIBLE

Nicodemus: John 3:1-17

THE BIBLE

**Jesus is Alive!:**Mark 16:1-8;
(Acts 10:34-43)

SCHEDULE

**Saturday or Sunday |** *Attend a Service!*

**9:30-9:45 |** *Temperature Check, Prepare, & Pray*

**9:45-10:05 |** *Welcome & Craft*

**10:05-10:20 |** *Worship*

**10:20-10:45 |** *Lesson*

**10:45-11:00 |** *Small Groups*

SMALL GROUP

RESPONSE **| Prayer Bucket *(Might be done in Lesson Time)***

* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a piece of paper and something to write with. Encourage them to think of a friend or family member they want to tell about Jesus. Tell them to write their names on the paper and then place it in the bucket.*
* Now that you have written that name down, **what can you do about it? How can you tell them about Jesus?**
* Let's all remember to pray for the names that we have written down!
* Jesus, thank you for what you did on the cross, for giving your life so that we can have a relationship with God! Thank you for overcoming death and giving all of us this good news that we can share with others. Amen.

ACTIVITY **| Open Tent**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Watch this* [*video*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_AaEJ2JhFw) *for instructions on how to make a paper tent. Tell the kids to write the name or draw a picture of the person who told them about Jesus. Next to them, write the name or draw a picture of someone they can share the story of Jesus with.*
* We usually share tents with our family members when we go camping. Pray for the people in your paper tent: thank God for allowing someone to share Jesus with you, and ask God to help you share Jesus with someone else. That way we can all be a part of God's family!

ACTIVITY **| Valley, Hillside, Summit**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Place two, long pieces of tape on the floor to divide the playing area into three sections. Designate the sections as "Valley," "Hillside," and "Summit." When you call out a section, the kids run to that section. If they go to the wrong section, they are out. Make it extra challenging by picking up the pace and calling out the same section several times in a row before switching. Make it even trickier by pointing to one section while calling out another. The last kid in the game wins!*
* *Remind the kids of the activity from Lesson Time where we talked about Jesus’s rise to the cross. What thoughts do they think were going through His head? Why did He do what He did?*

DISCUSSION

* **Who went to the tomb?**
* **Why did they go to put spices on Jesus' body?**
* **What did they see when they got to the tomb?**
* **Read Acts 10:42. What two things does this verse tell us to do with the message of Jesus?**
* **Where can you share the message of Jesus?**
* **What ways can you share the message of Jesus?**
* **Who do you want to share the message of Jesus with?**

MEMORY VERSE **| Romans 10:9 (NIV) Memory in Motion**

* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month’s memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we’ve provided.*
* **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the kids into small groups. Write out the memory verse where everyone can see it, or give each group a print-out. Encourage each group to come up with motions to the memory verse. Then, ask each group to share their motions with everyone.*