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THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

Jesus Explains God's Promises

Year 1 – THE KINGDOM STORY

1 | Teacher's Notes

Scripture Luke 24:13-35

Objectives To explain that

- Our lessons are all a part of a bigger story which is the story of the Forever Kingdom. This big story is found in the Bible.
- Jesus appeared to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and explained to them everything that was written about him in the scriptures.
- Written on the pages of Israel's history throughout the Bible is the big story of God's Forever King.
- We can also increase our faith by reading the Scriptures.

Memory Verse These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. (John 20:31a – paraphrased)

ACNA These are several Catechism connections for this lesson:

Catechism Connection Q 28 What is in the Old Testament? ...the OT points to Christ, revealing God's intention to redeem and reconcile the world through Christ.

Q 29 What is in the New Testament? ...the NT contains the record of Jesus Christ's...ministry, death and resurrection...

Q 30 How are the Old and the New Testaments related to each other? ...The OT is to be read in the light of Christ...the New is in the Old concealed...

Q 35 How should belief in the God of the Bible affect your life? ...nourishes my soul...the Holy Spirit will use it to teach and train me in the righteousness that God desires.

Q 65 What kind of life did Jesus have after he rose from the dead? ...Following his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples...and ate with them.

**Suggested
Materials,
Props, and
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Crown - or picture of a crown
- Large Bible.

(These props relate to the bigger story of the Forever Kingdom, and will be used for every lesson. The crown will be referred to as the Kingdom Crown.)

Lesson props:

- 2 pairs of sunglasses.
- Large Footprints made of newspaper (approximately 50)
- Bread and goblet
- Table or cloth on the floor
- Crown for Jesus
- Signs: Road to Emmaus (with an arrow) and "Emmaus"
- All the lesson posters displayed around the room in the right order, with footsteps leading around the posters and stop signs at the following posters:

The Fall
Abraham
Moses & Pharaoh
King David & King Solomon
God's Promised One is Born
Jesus & The Blind Man
Jesus Is Crucified

Costumes:

- 2 disciples with sunglasses walking to Emmaus (the sunglasses symbolise that they do not recognize Jesus.)
- Jesus – (One of the teachers) dressed like Jesus (with blue sash), but with another cloak over the blue sash to hide his identity.

Memory Verse: These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. (John 20:31a – paraphrased)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan.) Printed out and placed inside the large Bible.

2 | Lesson Outline

Welcome	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
Greeting & Collect for Purity	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity (see Resource Section)
Prayer of Confession	Say the Prayer of Confession (see Resource Section) Extinguish the candles
Music	Books of the Bible - New Testament Also choose another song from the Resource Section
Review of foundations	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment <i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i>
Reading	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
Poster Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss this week's poster. • Ask "I wonder questions" – these will be answered during the story. <p><i>Poster discussion is found in Section 3 and on the back of the poster</i></p>
Props/Costumes	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) Big story props: Kingdom Crown, Large Bible
Bible Story	<i>Proceed with story and life application found in Section 4.</i>
Related activities	<i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i>
Preparation for Communion & leaving class	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <i>See Resource Section.</i>

3 | Poster Discussion

Poster

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

What do you see in this picture? (3 people walking on a road.)

I wonder who these people are.

I wonder where they are going.

I wonder what they are talking about.

Let's find out more in our story...



4 | Story and Life Application

CROWN: *Point to the crown and say: 'Today we are continuing our big story of God's Forever Kingdom.'*

BIBLE: *Hold up the Bible and say: 'Our story today is from the Gospel of Luke, in the New Testament. We know that it is a true story because it comes from the Bible and the Bible is God's Word.'*

LESSON SUMMARY: *The teacher reads the lesson summary from back of poster:*

This story takes place on the very same day that Jesus rose from the dead. It was the first Easter Morning and two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a town called Emmaus. Jesus joined them on their journey BUT they did not recognize that it was Jesus! He walked and talked to them and told them all the places in the Scriptures that pointed to him as the Promised and Forever King, their Messiah. Jesus explained to them that he was promised by God since the beginning of time. He reminded them of God's promise in Genesis to send someone to crush the head of the evil one. He showed them how God saved his people through the blood of the lamb at Passover, and that it pointed to Jesus as the sacrificial lamb to take away the sins of the people. There were many more stories from Moses and the prophets that were fulfilled by Jesus, stories of the Promised King's miracles and sufferings. The disciples' hearts were warmed as they listened to the Scriptures being opened up to them by this stranger. It wasn't until later that evening when they sat together at a meal that the disciples recognized that the stranger was actually Jesus! Their eyes were opened. They finally understood that the Old Testament Scriptures told of God's love and victory over sin and death and God's plan to set up a new Kingdom with his Promised Son as the Forever King. That day his disciples understood the Scriptures and now we can understand too.

STORY:

The teacher explains to the children that when the disciples put on sunglasses it shows that the disciples did not recognize the risen Jesus when they were walking with him.

TEACHER: The Bible tells us that after Jesus rose from the dead; he appeared to the disciples and some other people who followed him.

On Easter Sunday, two of the disciples were walking to a town called Emmaus, not far from Jerusalem. They were very sad because Jesus had died on the cross. While they were walking and talking about the death of Jesus, another person

came along side of them and started walking with them.

The disciples did not recognize that it was Jesus.

ACTION: *Two disciples put on the sunglasses and slowly walk the path of the footsteps with their head down. They are very sad. The footsteps are leading to the poster of The Fall (Adam & Eve leaving the garden).*

Jesus approaches the two disciples, and the three start walking toward the posters....following the footsteps.

JESUS: "Why are you so sad?"

CLEOPAS (Speaking to Jesus): Have you not heard the news yet? Let me tell you what has happened. Jesus was a prophet. Our chief priests and rulers demanded that Jesus be crucified. This morning, some women went to the grave where they placed Jesus' body, but his body was not there. They told us that an angel said, "Jesus is alive."

JESUS: Walk with me and I will explain the scriptures to you so you will understand....

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 1st stop sign at the poster of the Fall.*

JESUS: What is this poster about? Remember in this story God said that he would send someone that would crush the head of the serpent. This pointed to Jesus, and how he would conquer Satan, sin and death.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 2nd stop sign at the poster of Abraham.*

JESUS: What is this poster about? Remember in this story - God spoke to Abraham and said that he would have many descendants and that through them he would bless all nations (families) on earth. This pointed to Jesus. He was born from Abraham's family line, and now ALL people everywhere can be blessed through him.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 3th stop sign at the poster of Moses.*

JESUS: What is this poster about? Remember the blood of the lamb that the Israelites put on the doorposts, so God's judgement of death would pass over them. This points to Jesus and the blood that he shed on the cross so that people could be saved from their sins and eternal death.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 4th stop sign at the poster of King David and King Solomon.*

JESUS: What is this poster about? In this story, God promises David that the Forever King would be born from his family line. This points to Jesus, The Forever King, who many years later was born of David's family line.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 5th stop sign at the poster of Jesus is Born.*

JESUS: What is this poster about? In this story, the Forever King is born. A descendant of Abraham, from the family line of king David, down through the generations, the Forever King was finally born. The Forever King is Jesus.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 6th stop sign at the poster of Jesus and the Blind Man.*

JESUS: In this picture, the Old Testament scriptures are being fulfilled where it says that the Forever King would heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind, perform miracles, and even raise people from the dead. When Jesus was here... remember he did those things. He is the Forever King.

ACTION: *Follow footprints and walk to 7th sign, the poster of the Crucifixion.*

JESUS: Just as Jesus had said, he would be crucified, but would rise again after 3 days. This had to happen, because Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. The blood of Jesus would save us from our sins. He would bring forgiveness and give us power to live for him.

ACTION: *Jesus leads them to the Emmaus sign where the bread and goblet are placed.*

TEACHER: Then Jesus sat down with the two disciples. He took bread, gave thanks, and then gave it to them to eat. At that moment, the disciples realized that they were talking to Jesus.

ACTION: *Disciples take off their sunglasses and Jesus takes off his cloak and he is wearing a white cloak and blue sash, then walks away.*

CLEOPAS: *(Acting surprised!)* This was the risen Jesus we were talking to! He really is the Forever King! Didn't our hearts just burn within us while he walked with us and showed us how the Old Testament scriptures were fulfilled in him?

TEACHER: Yes, Jesus fulfilled the scriptures. Just as God promised right from the very beginning. God sent the Forever King to overcome the power of evil, to rescue us from sin and eternal death, and to set up his Forever Kingdom.

Jesus is the Forever King!

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

- **What does this story tell us about Jesus?** (He had a real but different body after he was resurrected. He will walk alongside us even if we have doubts. He reveals himself through the Scriptures. He wants us to know that he is the Promised One from the beginning, so that we can love and worship him. Our faith will be strengthened. He had friends and disciples, and he wants to have a friendship with us too.)
- Why were the disciples sad? (they thought that Jesus was still dead)
- Did they know that it was Jesus who was walking with them? (No)
- What are some of the stories in the Bible that point to Jesus? (Point to the posters that you referenced.)

Life Application (this discussion can also take place during craft/activity time):

We saw Jesus looking back at the Bible stories to help the disciples believe that he is the Forever King.

We can do the same thing, because we are his disciples too. Each time we read the Bible, it strengthens our faith and helps us to know and love Jesus more.

Let's look around at all our posters. *(Ask the children to stand by their favourite poster. Ask them what they like about that poster. Help them to understand how that story points to Jesus.)*



Disciples entering Emmaus

5 | Response Activities

Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

Optional Activities

- Give the children a footstep each, and write down or draw a picture on the footstep of the story that helps them know Jesus the most.
- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers.



Jesus breaking bread with disciples at Emmaus

These things are
written that you
might believe that
Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God.

(John 20:31a)