

NT 19 Jesus Raises Lazarus

Links: [Lesson](#) | [Resources](#)

Reference: John 11:1-44

Big Idea: Believe in Jesus and you'll rise again on the last day.

Verse: John 11:25, ESV - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

Plain text	Things to say. Questions are normally followed by the answer in parentheses.
<i>Italicized text</i>	Quotes from the NIRV Bible to read.
▶ Yellow text	Something you need to do.
▶ Grey text	Something you need to draw on a chalk/marker board.
***	Dialogue for a story character actor (child) to repeat after you, one line at a time.

A. Lesson - Length: 25-30 min.

Resources: *Story Drawing, Signs (Bethany, Jerusalem), Mary and Martha's Letter*

Materials: Sleeping Cot*, Chairs, J Shirt**, Blanket Fort, Extra Blanket

Optional: Thermometer

*Anything that is easily moveable and Lazarus to lay on (sleeping bag, exercise mat, etc.).

** Set "Setup and Notes" for details.

Setup and Notes:

- Set the cot on the far left side of the teaching area. Set the Pillow and Blanket on the coat.
 - Set the two chairs next to the cot.
 - Create the J Shirt: turn a color shirt inside out (to hide any writing). Make a large "J" on it out of electrical tape.
 - Create the Blanket Fort: In a back corner of the room, use the chairs and all but two of the blankets to create a "[blanket fort](#)" tomb:
 - Arrange the chairs in an oval, with an opening facing the kids. Drape the blankets over the chairs until the whole thing looks like a tomb. Use clothespins or binder clips to keep the blankets from slipping off the chairs. There needs to be enough space in the tomb for Lazarus to lay down.
 - *Note: you'll need to save two of the blankets/sheets for use during the lesson.*
 - As you are instructed to draw various items, use the Story Drawing Resource to guide you as you draw.
 - When you see ▶ **ACTION:**, do the action described and have the kids repeat it after you.
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- Today's story is from the book of John in the New Testament.
 - ▶ **Show the kids how to find John in your Bible.**
 - This story is about one of Jesus' biggest and most important miracles. Miracles are amazing things that only God can do. When Jesus did a miracle, it was a sign to show everyone that he was really God's Son. Let's start reading from John, chapter 11, and see what Jesus did.
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- ¹ A man named Lazarus was sick.
 - ▶ **Select a "Lazarus" to lay on the COT.**
 - *Optional: put a THERMOMETER in Lazarus' mouth.*
- He was from Bethany...
 - ▶ **Attach the BETHANY SIGN to the wall behind Lazarus.**
- the village where Mary and her sister Martha lived.

- ▶ Select a “Mary” and “Martha” to sit in the CHAIRS by Lazarus.
- ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus.
 - ▶ Hand MARY AND MARTHA’S LETTER to the Girls.
 - ▶ Have them pretend to write on it as you explain the following.
- They told him...
- ▶ Have the girls repeat:
 - Lord...
 - ...the one you love is sick. - John 11:1&3
 - ▶ Take their LETTER, fold it, and hang on to it.

- Before we keep reading the story, let’s go over to another place, the city of Jerusalem.
 - ▶ Attach the JERUSALEM SIGN to the wall on the right side of the room.
 - ▶ Select a “Jesus” to wear the J SHIRT and stand on the right.
 - ▶ Select two “Disciples” to stand by him.
- ⁴ When Jesus heard this...
 - ▶ Hand the FOLDED LETTER to Jesus and have him read it out loud.
- *** [Jesus] said...
 - This sickness
 - will not end in death.
 - No,
 - it is for God’s glory.
 - God’s Son will receive glory
 - because of it.
- ⁵ Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
 - ▶ Have Jesus put his hands over his heart.
- ⁶ But after he heard Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was for two more days.
 - ▶ Simulate two days by doing the following two times:
 - Have Jesus and his disciples lay down and pretend to sleep
 - Turn the lights off for a moment, then back on.
 - Have them wake up, stretch, then stand up

- ⁷ Then [Jesus] said to his disciples...
 - ¹¹ Our friend Lazarus
 - has fallen asleep.
 - But I am going there
 - to wake him up.
- *** ¹² His disciples replied...
 - Lord,
 - if he’s sleeping,
 - he will get better.
- ¹³ Jesus had been speaking about the death of Lazarus. But his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.
- *** ¹⁴ So then [Jesus] told them plainly...
 - Lazarus is dead.
 - ¹⁵ For your benefit...
 - I am glad I was not there.
 - Now you will believe.
 - But let us go to him.
 - ▶ Have Jesus and his disciples sit on the floor as you explain the next section.

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- After Jesus read the letter from Lazarus' sister, Mary and Martha, Jesus said a couple of important things. Let's say them together.
 - **▶ Have the kids repeat:**
 - ⁴ *This sickness*
 - *will not end in death.*
 - *No,*
 - *it is for God's glory.*
 - *God's Son will receive glory because of it. - John 11:4*
 - What Jesus said means two things. First, he said that Lazarus won't end up dead.
 - **▶ Draw LAZARUS along the left side of the board.**
 - **▶ Draw a SKULL underneath it and CROSS it out.**
 - Second, Jesus said that God would get glory because of this.
 - **▶ Draw a GOD CLOUD along the right side.**
 - **▶ Write GLORY below it with LIGHT LINES around it.**
 - Glory is when people know how great and awesome you are. Jesus said that, because Lazarus was sick, people would know how great and awesome God is.

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- Let's repeat one more thing that Jesus said.
 - **▶ Have the kids repeat:**
 - ¹⁴ *Lazarus is dead.*
 - ¹⁵ *For your benefit...*
 - *I am glad I was not there.*
 - *Now you will believe. - John 11:14-15*
 - Before, Jesus said Lazarus was sleeping. But now Jesus said Lazarus is dead!
 - **▶ Erase the CROSSED-OUT SKULL, then redraw a new SKULL.**
 - The letter Mary and Martha sent didn't say Lazarus was dead How did Jesus know Lazarus was dead if he was way over in Jerusalem? (He's God, who knows everything.)
 - Jesus also said that, because Lazarus died, his disciples would believe in him.
 - **▶ Write BELIEVE in the bottom center of the board.**
 - **▶ Draw JESUS above BELIEVE.**
 - **▶ As you reference the underlined words below, point to them on the board.**
 - Before we keep reading, let's review everything Jesus said. He said Lazarus wouldn't be dead at the end. He said that Lazarus' death would give God glory. It would make God look great and awesome. And he said it was good that Lazarus died because now Jesus' disciples would believe in him. And, of course, Jesus said that Lazarus had already died!
 - How can Jesus be right about Lazarus not ending up dead if he's already dead? Once you're dead, you stay dead! Let's keep reading.

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- ¹⁷ *When Jesus arrived,*
 - **▶ Have Jesus and his Disciples walk over to Mary and Martha.**
 - *he found out that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.*
 - **▶ Have Lazarus take a BLANKET, crawl into the tomb, and cover themselves.**
 - **▶ Cover the opening to the tomb with the another BLANKET to represent the stone.**
 - ¹⁹ *Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary. They had come to comfort them because their brother was dead.*
 - **▶ Select a couple of kids to give Martha and Mary hugs or pats on the back before sitting back down.**
 - ²⁰ *When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him. But Mary stayed at home. - John 11:17,19-20*

- **▶ Tell Martha to stand by Jesus.**

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- *** Martha said to Jesus...
 - ²¹ Lord, I wish you had been here!
 - Then my brother
 - would not have died.
 - ²² But I know that even now...
 - God will give you anything you ask for.
 - *** ²³ Jesus said to her...
 - Your brother will rise again.
 - *** ²⁴ Martha answered...
 - I know he will rise again.
 - This will happen
 - when people are raised from the dead...
 - on the last day.
 - *** ²⁵ Jesus said to her...
 - I am the resurrection
 - and the life.
 - Anyone who believes in me
 - will live
 - even if he dies.
 - ²⁶ Do you believe this?"
 - *** ²⁷ [Martha] told him...
 - Yes, Lord.
 - I believe that you are the Christ...
 - the Son of God.
 - **▶ Have Jesus, Martha, and his Disciples sit on the floor.**

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- Let me quickly explain what Martha and Jesus said. Martha said, "Jesus, if you'd been here, Lazarus wouldn't have died?" Why do you think she said that? (Jesus could do miracles. He could keep Lazarus from dying.)
 - Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again."
 - **▶ Write RISE AGAIN and draw a SMILEY FACE above Lazarus.**
 - What does 'rise again' mean? (To come back to life.)
 - Martha believed that her brother, Lazarus, would rise back to life, but not until the last day of time, at the end of the world.
 - **▶ Draw a CLOCK in the top-left corner.**
 - **▶ Draw an ARROW from Rise Again to the Clock.**
 - Jesus said that anyone who believes in him would rise again, even if he dies.
 - **▶ Draw an ARROW from Believe to Rise Again.**
 - **▶ Draw a STICK FIGURE by Rise Again.**
 - Jesus asked Martha if she believed what Jesus said about rising again Here's what she said..
 - **▶ Have the kids repeat:**
 - Yes, Lord...
 - I believe that you are the Christ...
 - ...the Son of God. - John 11:27
 - Martha believed that Jesus could make everyone rise again because she believed he was God's Son.
 - **▶ Draw an ARROW from the God Cloud to Jesus.**

- Let's keep reading from the book of John.
 - ► **Have Jesus, Martha, and the Disciples stand back up.**
- ²⁸ After Martha said this, she went back home.
 - ► **Have Martha go sit in the CHAIR by Mary.**
- She called her sister Mary to one side to talk to her.
- *** Martha said...
 - The Teacher is here.
 - He is asking for you.
- ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him.
 - ► **Have Mary run over to Jesus.**
- ³¹ Some Jews had been comforting Mary in the house. They noticed how quickly she got up and went out. So they followed her. They thought she was going to the tomb to cry there.
 - ► **Have all the kids in their seats pretend to run in place.**
- ³² Mary reached the place where Jesus was. When she saw him, she fell at his feet.
 - ► **Have Mary fall at Jesus' feet and cry.**
- *** [Mary] said...
 - Lord, I wish you had been here!
 - Then my brother would not have died.
- ³³ Jesus saw her crying. He saw that the Jews who had come along with her were crying also.
 - ► **Have all the kids in the seats pretend to cry.**
- His spirit became very sad, and he was troubled. - Luke 11:28-33
 - ► **Tell Jesus to look sad.**

- *** ³⁴ [Jesus] asked...
 - Where have you put him?"
- ► **Have the kids in the seats repeat:**
 - Come and see, Lord.
- ³⁵ Jesus sobbed.
 - ► **Have Jesus pretend to cry.**
- ³⁶ Then the Jews said...
 - ► **Have the kids repeat:**
 - See how much he loved him!
- ³⁷ But some of them said...
 - ► **Have the kids repeat:**
 - He opened the eyes
 - of the blind man.
 - Couldn't he have kept
 - this man from dying?
- ³⁸ Once more Jesus felt very sad. He came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone in front of the entrance. - Luke 11:34-38
 - ► **Have Jesus, Mary, Martha, and the Disciples stand a few steps from the tomb.**

- *** [Jesus] said...
 - ³⁹ Take away the stone.
- Martha said...
 - But, Lord...
 - ...by this time
 - there is a bad smell.

- *Lazarus has been in the tomb for four days.*
- **▶ Have everyone pinch their noses.**
- ⁴⁰ *Then Jesus said...*
 - *Didn't I tell you*
 - *that if you believed...*
 - *you would see God's glory?*
- ⁴¹ *So they took away the stone. - John 11:38-41*
 - **▶ Have two kids remove the BLANKET from the tomb's entrance.**
 - **▶ Have them stand to either side of Lazarus.**

- ⁴¹ *Then Jesus looked up.*
 - **▶ Have Jesus look up and raise his hands as he says the following.**
- ******* *[Jesus] said...*
 - *Father,*
 - *I thank you for hearing me.*
 - ⁴² *I know that you always hear me.*
 - *I said it so they will believe...*
 - *...that you sent me.*
- ******* ⁴³ *Then Jesus called in a loud voice.*
 - *Lazarus, come out!*
- ⁴⁴ *The dead man came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with strips of linen. A cloth was around his face.*
 - **▶ Have Lazarus come out of the tomb, but keep the BLANKET over his body.**
 - **▶ Have him walk around aimlessly for a few steps.**
- ******* *Jesus said to them...*
 - *Take off the clothes*
 - *he was buried in*
 - *and let him go.*
 - **▶ Have the two kids by the tomb remove the BLANKET from Lazarus.**
- ⁴⁵ *Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary saw what Jesus did. So they put their faith in him. - Luke 11:41-45*
 - **▶ Have the kids say:**
 - We believe in Jesus!
 - **▶ Have everyone sit back in their seats.**

- Let's review everything we've read. What happened to Lazarus? (He died.)
- What did Jesus say would happen to him? (He'd rise again.)
- When Lazarus' sister Martha think he'd rise again? (At the end of time, at the end of the world.)
- Martha believed that all who trusted in God to save them would rise again way in the future, not on that very day! Did Martha have to wait a long time for Lazarus to rise again? Why not? (No, because Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.)
 - **▶ Write TODAY by Stick Person, near "Rise Again".**
- Lazarus had been dead for four days. When a person is dead for four days, they start to smell. That's because their body is beginning to decompose and break down.
- Do people ever come back to life when they've been dead for four days and are starting to smell? (Never.)
- But Jesus just told dead Lazarus to come back to life. Dead Lazarus obeyed, and he was completely fine, like he'd never been dead at all!
- Why could Jesus do such an amazing thing? (He's God and God is all-powerful!)
 - **▶ Erase Jesus' ARMS and give him MUSCULAR ARMS.**

- It's absolutely incredible that Jesus raised Lazarus to life after he'd been dead for four days. But it's also important to remember something else. Let's remember what Martha said to Jesus.
 - ► **Have the kids repeat:**
 - *I know he will rise again.*
 - *This will happen*
 - *when people are raised from the dead*
 - *on the last day. - John 11:24*
- Martha believed that many people would be raised from the dead on a day she called "the last day." And you know what? She's right about that! But don't forget what Jesus said to Martha. Let's say it together.
 - ► **Have the kids repeat:**
 - ²⁵ *I am the resurrection and the life.*
 - *Anyone who believes in me will live...*
 - *even if he dies. - John 11:25*
- Jesus is saying we can be raised from the dead, too, just like Lazarus was. Jesus promised to come back to Earth one day. When he does, we'll be raised with perfect bodies that can never, ever die!
 - ► **Draw an UPWARDS ARROW above the Stick Person.**
- But not everyone will be raised to everlasting life with God. Only those who have been saved from their sins will rise on the last day.
- What did Jesus do to save us from our sins? (Die on a cross, rise from the dead.)
 - ► **Draw a CROSS and EMPTY TOMB by Jesus.**
- It was an amazing miracle when Jesus raised dead Lazarus back to life. But it was an even more amazing miracle when Jesus raised himself from the dead. Jesus was dead.... and he raised himself!
- Jesus said that only those who believe, or trust, in Jesus will be saved from their sins and rise when Jesus returns.
 - ► **Circle the word BELIEVE a couple times.**
- We can trust that Jesus can raise us from the dead because he raised Lazarus from the dead...
 - ► **Point to Lazarus on the board.**
- ...and because Jesus raised himself from the dead, too.
 - ► **Point to the Empty Tomb on the board.**

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- Today's story is a very important one to remember. Jesus raised a man to life after he'd been dead for four days! We can know Jesus really is God's Son because he can do such an amazing thing. And Jesus didn't just raise Lazarus from the dead; he raised himself from the dead, too!
 - But this story also reminds us that God promised to raise us from the dead, too, if believe in Jesus to save us. We can be raised to perfect, everlasting life because our God promised to do it and he never lies.
 - Today's big idea is: Believe in Jesus and you'll rise again on the last day.
 - ► **Teach the kids the motions for the big idea.**
 - ► **Say the big idea and do the motions with the kids several times.**

Big Idea and Motions: Believe in Jesus and you'll rise again on the last day.

- Believe - pretend to grasp a rope in front of you with both hands
- Jesus - form a cross with your forearms
- Rise again - reach low with your hands, then raise them to the sky
- Last day - pound the bottom of your fist onto your open palm on each word

B. Instruction Activity - Length: 15 min.

Resources and Materials: *Instruction Activity Sheet (1 per kid)*, Plant Seed*, Small Potted Plant, Crayons

* A sunflower seed would work well.

Setup/Notes:

- When the children are instructed to fill items in the blank on their Instruction Activity Sheets (IAS), you might need to write these words on the board so the kids know how to spell them.
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- **▶ Hand each child an age-appropriate IAS and CRAYONS/PENCILS.**
 - **▶ Have them trace/fill in the big idea at the top:**
 - Believe in Jesus and you'll rise again on the last day.
 - We're going to spend a few minutes looking at some verses from 1 Corinthians. These verses teach us about what our bodies will be like when Jesus raises them from the dead.
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- Let's start by reading from the Bible book of 1 Corinthians, chapter 15.
 - **▶ Have the kids follow along with their finger on their sheets as you read 1 Cor. 15:35-36 & 42:**
 - ³⁵ *But someone might ask, "How are the dead raised? What kind of body will they have?"* ³⁶ *How foolish! What you plant doesn't come to life unless it dies.* ³⁷ *When you plant something, it isn't a completely grown plant that you put in the ground. You only plant a seed...*
 - The apostle Paul, the person who wrote this verse, wants us to think about seeds.
 - **▶ Walk around and show the SEED to the kids.**
 - We take seeds and bury them, or plant them, in the ground. What happens to the seed? (It grows into a plant.)
 - **▶ Walk around and show the PLANT to the kids.**
 - Some of the tiniest seeds can grow into enormously tall trees. When we think about what our new bodies are like, God wants us to think about seeds and plants.
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- When you plant a seed, do you want it to grow into something better or worse? (Better.)
 - The biggest, tallest trees on earth started out as teeny, tiny seeds that were planted in the ground. And God wants us to think about being raised from the dead like seeds and plants.
 - What do we do with someone's body when they die? (We bury them underground.)
 - When we bury someone underground, do they grow up like a plant? (No.)
 - **▶ Hold up the PLANT and SEED when you mention them below.**
 - Here's what God is saying...
 - **▶ Have the kids repeat:**
 - Just like a tall tree
 - is better
 - than a teeny, tiny seed,
 - the new bodies
 - God will give us
 - are better
 - than the bodies we have right now.
 - But that will only happen
 - if we believe in Jesus.
 - For just a few minutes, we'll read about what our new bodies are like. After each verse we'll read, I'll ask, "When Jesus raises us from the dead, how will our bodies be different?"
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- Let's read another verse from the Bible book of 1 Corinthians.
 - **▶ Read 1 Corinthians 15:42:**
 - ⁴² *The body that is planted does not last forever. The body that is raised from the dead lasts forever. - 1 Cor. 15*
 - Right now, our bodies last about 70-80 years before they break down. Some live longer; others live shorter.
 - **▶ Have them trace/write 70-80 years under "How Long We Live Now."**
 - When Jesus raises us from the dead, how will our bodies be different? (We'll live forever.)
 - **▶ Have them trace/write FOREVER under "How Long We'll Live Then."**
 - Jesus will give us bodies that will never and can never die! Just like a tree is better than a seed, our new bodies are better than our old ones.
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- Let's keep reading from 1 Corinthians.
 - **▶ Read 1 Corinthians 15:43a:**
 - ^{43a} *It is planted without honor. But it is raised in glory.*
 - God says our bodies are buried in the ground without honor. That means they are no longer beautiful or handsome like they could be. They're scarred and wrinkled.
 - **▶ Have them draw an OLD-LOOKING FACE to the left of the above verse.**
 - When Jesus raises us from the dead, how will our bodies be different? (They'll be raised in glory)
 - When Jesus raises us from the dead, our bodies will be glorious. That means they will be wonderful to look at. People will see them and think, "Wow, you look perfect!"
 - **▶ Have them draw a BEAUTIFUL FACE to the right of the above verse.**
 - Jesus will give us bodies that people will look at and say, "God made you absolutely beautiful!" Just like a tree is better than a seed, our new bodies will be better than our old ones.
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- Let's read one last verse about how Jesus will raise our bodies from 1 Corinthians 15.
 - **▶ Read 1 Corinthians 15:43b:**
 - ^{43b} *It is planted in weakness. But it is raised in power. - 1 Cor. 15*
 - The bodies we have right now are weak. They get tired and sick. They have to sleep and eat all the time.
 - **▶ Have them draw a WIMPY STICK PERSON to the left of this verse.**
 - When Jesus raises us from the dead, how will our bodies be different? (They'll be powerful and strong.)
 - **▶ Have them draw a MUSCLE PERSON to the right of this verse.**
 - Jesus will give us strong bodies that won't get sick or tired, and can run fast, jump high, and lift heavier things!
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- I want you to point to the drawings you made when I talk about them. When we think about the new bodies Jesus will give us when he raises us from the dead, God wants us to think about seeds and plants. Just like a plant is much better than the seed it comes from, our new bodies will be that much better than the ones we have now.
- Our bodies live about 70-80 years. Our new ones will live forever. Our bodies get scarred, wrinkled, and not that pretty. Our new bodies will be glorious and beautiful! Our bodies are weak. Our new bodies will be strong!

C. Verse Activity - Length: 15 min.

Resources and Materials: Verse Sheet (1 per kid), Verse Cards, Toilet Paper Roll

Verse / Motions: John 11:25, ESV - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

- Jesus - form a cross with your forearms
- Resurrection - reach low with your hands, then raise them to the sky
- Life - hold a fist, palms up, then open it (like an opening flower)
- Believes - pretend to grasp a rope in front of you with two hands
- Die - cross your arms in an X over your chest
- Live - hold a fist, palms up, then open it (like an opening flower)

Setup:

- Write the verse on the board.
- Set the Verse Cards in a pile near the front of the teaching area.
- *Note: If you have a large group of children, duplicate the resources, materials, and setup. Then, run two instances of the activity below simultaneously.*

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- Today's Bible verse is what Jesus said to Martha. Jesus promises to us that anyone who believes in him will be raised to life at the last day. A fancy word for being raised to life is "resurrection."
 - ► **Read the verse in short phrases, having the kids echo after you.**
 - Jesus said to Martha, "Anyone who believes in me, even though they die someday, I will bring them back to life." And they'll come back to life with the perfect kind of bodies that we just talked about!
 - ► **Hand each kid a VERSE SHEET. Direct them to quickly trace/write the missing words.**
 - As we learn this verse, we'll wrap a couple of our friends up like mummies. That should remind us that, when Jesus brought Lazarus back to life, he came out of the tomb wrapped up in the mummy-like cloths that he had been buried in! Jesus had to have some men take the burial cloths off so poor Lazarus could talk and move!
 - ► **Select 1-2 children to stand up front and represent Lazarus for the activity.**

How to Do the Activity - Repeat the following with different children...

1. Have 1-2 children come up front. Have a child select a VERSE CARD from the pile.
2. Read the VERSE CARD to the kids. Teach the motions for those words. Erase those words from the board.
 - a. *Optional: give them something they can quickly draw to represent those words on their sheets.*
3. Hand a roll of TOILET PAPER to each of the children who came up front.
4. Help them wrap it around Lazarus' body 4-5 times. Then, rip it off and tuck the end so it doesn't fall down.
5. Say the verse as a group, doing any motions you've taught them so far.
 - a. *The first 3-4 times through, say the verse in short phrases and have them echo each after you.*

At the end of the activity, direct Lazarus to try to walk around like a mummy.

D. Review Activity - Length: 15 min.

Resources and Materials: Clear Plastic Tub, Sand or Dirt, Small Action Figures (5)

Setup:

- Fill the clear plastic tub about halfway with dirt or sand.
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- As we answer questions about today's story, we're going to unbury Lazarus. In today's story, he was buried in a tomb. But while we this activity, we'll do to Lazarus what we do when people die today: bury them under the ground, just like we plant a seed.
 - Except, I'll bury a couple others underground, too. Each time you pull out Lazarus, you'll earn the kids team 7 points. But each time you pull out the wrong guy, you'll earn the teacher team 1 point! Whoever has the most points at the end, wins!
 - ► **Show the kids the five ACTION FIGURES. Show them which one will represent Lazarus.**
 - ► **Have the kids sit in a large circle on the floor. Set the TUB OF DIRT in the center.**

How to Do the Activity - Repeat the following with different children...

1. Select a child to stand by the TUB OF DIRT. Direct them to bury the ACTION FIGURES under the dirt in various spots.
2. While they do this, ask and have a second child answer a question from below.
 - a. *Make sure they aren't looking where the first child is burying the ACTION FIGURES.*
3. Have the Question-Answering Child remove two ACTION FIGURES from the dirt, one at a time.
 - a. *Award 7 points to the Kids Team if they find Lazarus and 1 point to the Teacher Team if they find any of the other figures. Record their scores on the board.*
 - b. *If the first figure they unearth is Lazarus, they don't need to dig up another figure.*

At the end, the team with the most points is the winner!

Questions // Answers

1. Who became sick and died in today's story? // Lazarus.
2. Who were Lazarus' sisters? // Mary and Martha.
3. Where was Jesus when Lazarus was sick? // In Jerusalem
4. Who did Mary and Martha send a message about Lazarus to? // Jesus.
5. When Martha came out to meet Jesus, what did Jesus say would happen to Lazarus? // He'd rise from the dead.
6. When did Martha think Lazarus would rise again? // At the last day, when God raises all believers.
7. How long had Lazarus been dead? // Four days.
8. What happened after Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out! "? // Lazarus came back to life.
9. What kinds of bodies will Jesus give believers on the last day? // Strong, glorious bodies that will live forever

Parent Email Information

To help your students' parents reinforce the lesson, you may wish to email the following information

NT 19 Jesus Raises Lazarus

Reference: John 11:1-44

Big Idea and Motions: Believe in Jesus and you'll rise again on the last day.

- Believe - pretend to grasp a rope in front of you with both hands
- Jesus - form a cross with your forearms
- Rise again - reach low with your hands, then raise them to the sky
- Last day - pound the bottom of your fist onto your open palm on each word

Story Summary:

Mary and Martha sent Jesus a letter. It said, "Lord, the one you love is sick." They were talking about their brother, Lazarus. Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death." However, by the time Jesus reached Mary and Martha's house, Lazarus had been dead for four days!

Martha told Jesus, "If you had been here, Lazarus would not have died." Jesus told Martha that Lazarus would rise again. Martha thought that Jesus meant Lazarus would be raised on the last day. But Jesus said, "Anyone who believes in me will live, even if he dies." Martha said, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Jesus went to Lazarus' tomb and had them roll back the stone. He said, "Lazarus! Come out!" Dead Lazarus came to life and walked out of the tomb, still wrapped up in cloths like a mummy! Many of the people who saw this amazing miracle put their faith in Jesus.

Verse / Motions: John 11:25, ESV - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

- Jesus - form a cross with your forearms
- Resurrection - reach low with your hands, then raise them to the sky
- Life - hold a fist, palms up, then open it (like an opening flower)
- Believes - pretend to grasp a rope in front of you with two hands
- Die - cross your arms in an X over your chest
- Live - hold a fist, palms up, then open it (like an opening flower)

Questions to Ask Throughout the Week

1. Who became sick and died in today's story? // Lazarus.
2. Who were Lazarus' sisters? // Mary and Martha.
3. Where was Jesus when Lazarus was sick? // In Jerusalem
4. Who did Mary and Martha send a message about Lazarus to? // Jesus.
5. When Martha came out to meet Jesus, what did Jesus say would happen to Lazarus? // He'd rise from the dead.
6. When did Martha think Lazarus would rise again? // At the last day, when God raises all believers.
7. How long had Lazarus been dead? // Four days.
8. What happened after Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!?" // Lazarus came back to life.
9. What kinds of bodies will Jesus give believers on the last day? // Strong, glorious bodies that will live forever

Google Docs Links:

- Lesson - <https://goo.gl/qdqgJN>
- Resources - <https://goo.gl/r69ADs>