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#### Week of: March 29, 2020

#### Title: "Deep Faith"

#### Scripture text: John 11:1-45

http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-lazarus/

I encourage you to read John 11:1-45 several times before you read the text to your children. You are welcome to use the pictures from the link provided to create either a PowerPoint for the story or to create a story book for children with the pictures and include John 11:11-45.

#### Background and Lesson:

I will say to start off, this is not an easy text to read at this time. For many children, they will not understand what is happening in the full story. It is best for when telling this story to children to keep it simple.

Yes, Mary and Martha's brother Lazarus is ill. They want Jesus to come quickly to visit. They want their brother to be healed by Jesus. However, when Jesus hears about Lazarus, Jesus takes his time. He does not hurry to be there at his friend's bedside. To those who were there to witness the situation were surprised how Jesus reacted. When the right time came, Jesus says to his disciples it is time to return to Judea.

Upon arriving, Jesus learns that Lazarus has been in the tomb for several days. Martha hearing that Jesus had arrived, rushes to meet Jesus. Mary remained at home.

Martha was heartbroken over losing her brother. Jesus reassured her that Lazarus would rise again.

What does that mean? How can that happen?

In verse 24 Martha has been quoted to say, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus responds, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

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Martha believed in her heart that Christ was the resurrection and the life.

Martha went home to tell Mary that Jesus was there. Mary went to Jesus. The exchange they had was one of compassion and love. Even though Mary was hurting, and Jesus could see her pain, he gave her comfort.

Jesus went to Lazarus' tomb. Upon arriving Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb.

Those there could not believe what they were hearing.

Jesus asked for the stone in front of the tomb to be removed.

Then Lazarus walked out of the tomb. Lazarus was alive!

Through what they all witnessed, they believed in Jesus. The word spread about what had occurred.

God's glory was seen that day.

We don't always understand, but we can believe. We can place our faith in Jesus. Eternal life is through Christ.

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Even though we are going through a difficult time right now. We continue to hear number of people that are passing away each day. We have learned that many of them are alone. Their family cannot be there with them. Many nurses have reported that they are staying at the side of their patients and holding the patient's hand as they pass so they won't be alone.

Someone mentioned to me the other day, that they pray for that those who are passing, that even though they are alone they are not alone, for Christ is there with them.

As we prepare for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday, we have the opportunity to spread the Word of God's love from our homes through social media and by hanging signs in our apartments or making signs to place in our lawns.

We live with hope and love in our hearts. Christ is our companion.

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#### Song Ideas:

"I Am the Resurrection and the Life" (camp song version)

https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=song+i+am+the+resurrection+and+ the+life&qpvt=song+i+am+the+resurrection+and+the+life&view=detail&mid =47A67FCEE8B9775011C547A67FCEE8B9775011C5&&FORM=VRDGA R&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dsong%2Bi%2Bam%2Bthe%2Bresu rrection%2Band%2Bthe%2Blife%26qpvt%3Dsong%2Bi%2Bam%2Bthe%2 Bresurrection%2Band%2Bthe%2Blife%26FORM%3DVDRE

"This is the Day"

"He Is Lord"

"He Knows My Name" - Francesca Battistelli

"Love Broke Thru" - Toby Mac

#### Game/ Activity ideas:

- If you have not already, purchase a board game that you all can do together. There are other great games and puzzles that the family can do together.

### **Craft Ideas:**

-Create a sign that says, "Jesus is the resurrection and the life." You can then place the sign up for others to see in your neighborhood.

-Chalk Your Walkway/ driveway. If you have a sidewalk in front of your home or you have driveway, take some sidewalk chalk and create a positive message that those going by can read. -Below are various ideas that you can do for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

#### Movie or video ideas:

- "Mary Poppins Returns" (2018)
- "Finding Dory" (2016)
- "Up" (2009)

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### Preparing for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter

#### Online links for fun activities:

-Make a Garden that includes vegetables and flowers. The garden can be made either for inside an apartment or home, outside for a balcony, or outside of your house. You can make the garden any size you like. There are some great websites that can help you plan a garden with vegetables and/ or flowers.

You can be creative in how you would like to

You can include in your garden a Cross, a Path made with steppingstones that the kids can help make, and even a bench. The possibilities are endless. If you have a teenager interested in the outdoors, in plants, and nature they can do research on how to create a garden. They can help design the layout and where the plants are going to go.

Here are some links to get started on for planning a garden.

https://www.bhg.com/gardening/plans/

https://www.farmersalmanac.com/straw-bale-garden-27402?fbclid=IwAR0P1awC6YPbfrDogWVFRuhYky9R4b1HUuH1z88Yqki BpEljefkbpcsROYs

https://morningchores.com/bee-friendly-plants/

https://www.farmersalmanac.com/grow-your-own-potatoes-26953?fbclid=IwAR0EIHGmEAE10aPnEr0a6qkNNgMp8GvecVwK3E3Cx7 3Bn4syMjfzO-ygSul

-Empty Tomb Garden

https://thefrugalhomemaker.com/2012/04/06/friday-fun-frugal-finds-aneaster-garden-tutorial/

-"Palms made from tracing hands"

https://funfamilycrafts.com/handprint-palm-branches-for-palm-sunday/

-other handmade palm branch ideas

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https://ministry-to-children.com/palm-sunday-leaf-craft/

- "Robin Egg Nest Treats"

https://www.ricekrispies.com/en\_US/recipes/robin-s-egg-nest-treatsrecipe.html

"Peeps Houses"

https://yesterfood.blogspot.com/2014/04/peepshouses.html?fbclid=IwAR0njRoZVbkK48XVC436WIjzjEWjBUEvZmydhIMg 20XTtU4JINgdv4Lmrco

"At Home Hosanna, At Home Hallelujah- Community Art Project"

https://christinevhides.com/2020/03/24/at-home-hosanna-at-homehallelujah-community-artproject/?fbclid=IwAR0YGvI8Av5Fo3i6\_4g2G7D3Pq-RQw8hP2ZOJnCYQcvgJ0cKh0sgf-9JC4I