Preschool–Grade 6

The Road to Emmaus

Sunday School Lesson for 3rd to 5th Grade, 45–60 minutes

Main point: Jesus is alive, and all the scriptures point to Him. When we know He is risen, we tell others.
Bible passage: Luke 24:13–35. Read it before class.
Memory verse: "Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon." *Luke 24:34 (KJV)*
You need: a Bible for each child (or one for every two children), a whiteboard or large paper, a marker, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: write the memory verse on the board, and leave room on the other side to draw.

1. Opening game: Eyes Opened (5–10 minutes)

Draw a simple picture on the board one line at a time (a house, a boat, a tree). After each line, kids may guess what it is. At first nobody can tell; then suddenly everyone sees it. Ask: *Why couldn't you tell at first? What made you see it?* Say: "Today two of Jesus' followers walked with Him for miles and didn't know who He was, until their eyes were opened."

2. Bible story: The Lord Is Risen Indeed (15 minutes)

Kids open their Bibles to Luke 24. When you reach a **Look up** line, a child finds the verse and reads it out loud. Tell the rest in your own words.

On the road. Look up Luke 24:13–14. "That same day," the day Jesus rose, two of His followers walked to Emmaus, **threescore furlongs** (about seven miles) from Jerusalem, talking about everything that had happened. **Look up Luke 24:15–16.** Jesus Himself drew near and went with them, but their eyes were **holden** (held back), so they did not know Him.

Sad news, and strange news. Look up Luke 24:17–18. Jesus asked why they were sad. **Cleopas** asked if He was only a stranger in Jerusalem who hadn't heard. They told Him about Jesus of Nazareth, "a prophet mighty in deed and word," who was crucified, put to death on a cross (24:19–20). They said, "We trusted that it had been he which should have **redeemed** Israel" (24:21): they had hoped He was the one to set Israel free. Some women had found the **sepulchre** (tomb) empty, and angels said He was alive (24:22–23).

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The whole Bible about Jesus. Look up Luke 24:25–27. Jesus said they were "slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken," and asked, "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" Then, beginning at **Moses and all the prophets**, He **expounded** (explained) in all the scriptures the things about Himself.

At the table. Look up Luke 24:28–29. He made as though He would go farther, but they **constrained** Him (urged Him strongly): "**Abide** with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." **Look up Luke 24:30–31.** As He sat at meat with them, He took bread, blessed it, **brake** it (broke it) and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, they knew Him, and He vanished out of their sight.

Back to Jerusalem. Look up Luke 24:32. "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" **Look up Luke 24:33–35.** They rose up the same hour, went back to Jerusalem and found the eleven, who said, "The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon." Then they told how He was known of them in breaking of bread.

3. Questions to ask (10 minutes)

Thinking questions (no single right answer; let kids talk)

1. The two were sad (24:17), but Jesus was walking right beside them. Have you ever been sad and later saw that God was with you?
2. Why do you think Jesus taught them from the scriptures before He let them know Him (24:27)?
3. What do you think they meant when they said, "Did not our heart burn within us" (24:32)?
4. They walked back to Jerusalem "the same hour," even though it was evening (24:29, 24:33). Why didn't they wait?
5. Who could you tell "Jesus is alive" this week?

Recall questions

1. How far was Emmaus from Jerusalem? *(Threescore furlongs, about seven miles, Luke 24:13)*
2. Where did Jesus begin when He explained the scriptures? *(At Moses and all the prophets, 24:27)*
3. What did Jesus do just before their eyes were opened? *(Took bread, blessed it, brake it and gave it to them, 24:30)*

4. Memory verse: Erase a Word (5 minutes)

Explain the old words: **the Lord** means Jesus, **risen indeed** means truly alive again, **hath appeared** means has shown Himself, and **Simon** is Simon Peter. Read the verse on the board together. Erase two words and read it again. Keep erasing two words at a time until the board is empty and the class can say it alone. Then kids say it to a partner.

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5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "Jesus showed the two from all the scriptures that He had to suffer and rise again. Here is that good news. God loves you. The Bible says: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means all of us have done wrong, and none of us is as good as God. Jesus is God manifest in the flesh, which means God came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3–4). How do we obey the gospel? 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means to turn away from sin; our old self dies (Romans 6:6). We are **buried with Jesus in baptism**, all the way under the water, in Jesus' name. **Remission** means our sins are washed away, and we come up to live a new life (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16). And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, and we speak with other tongues as the Spirit gives the words (Acts 2:4). The Bible calls this being born again (John 3:5)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.
This week: read one Bible story each day and ask Jesus to help you understand it. Tell one person that Jesus is alive.

6. Activity: Bible Look-Up Race (10–15 minutes)

Kids work in pairs with one Bible. Read a reference and a question. The first pair to find the verse and read the answer out loud wins the point.

1. Luke 24:13: What was the village called? *(Emmaus)*
2. Luke 24:15: Who drew near and went with them? *(Jesus himself)*
3. Luke 24:18: What was one disciple's name? *(Cleopas)*
4. Luke 24:23: What did the angels say about Jesus? *(That he was alive)*
5. Luke 24:29: Why did they ask Him to abide with them? *(It was toward evening; the day was far spent)*
6. Luke 24:30: What did Jesus take, bless and break? *(Bread)*
7. Luke 24:32: What burned within them? *(Their heart)*
8. Luke 24:34: To whom had the Lord appeared? *(Simon)*

7. Prayer

"Dear God, thank You that Jesus is risen indeed! Thank You for loving us and coming to save us in Jesus. Open our eyes and our hearts to understand Your Word, and help us tell others the good news. In Jesus' name, amen."

Teacher note: Luke names only Cleopas (Luke 24:18); don't name the other disciple. This lesson says "slow of heart to believe" (24:25) and leaves out "O fools." Tell the cross gently: "put to death on a cross."

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