



# HOLY WEEK

## LESSON AT A GLANCE

■ New Apostolic Church USA



### CURIOSITY

An object lesson, experiment, or activity that sparks curiosity, encourages exploration, and gets kids thinking about the wonder of God.

- Welcome Question: *What does your family do for Easter?*
- STEM Experiment: Amazing Pencil
- Declaring God's Wonder

### BELIEF *Choose either Hear It or Experience It and supplement with the video*

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Opening Prayer
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth

### FAITH

An intentional conversation that helps kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own, emboldening their faith and fostering a deeper understanding of their place in God's kingdom.

- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time

### IDENTITY

An interactive worship response activity that creates space for God to remind kids of these core truths: I am known, I am loved, I am led, and my life can tell of God's wonder.

- Responding in Worship: Wonder Truth Art
- Blessing Your Kids

### HOLY WEEK

#### LESSON 2

#### NAC USA

#### Goals and Objectives

[IA 3-5, 7, 8, 9, 13-15, 17, 18, 19, 23-25, 27, 28, 29](#)  
[IB 1, 3, 5 IC 1-13 ID 2, 4, 6 IE 1-3 IIIA 1-3](#)

#### WONDER TRUTH:

Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us

#### SCRIPTURE:

[John 12-13; 19](#)

#### GOD'S BIG STORY:

After God's people waited many years for Him to rescue them from sin, Jesus shows God's great love by dying on the cross. His death brings life.

#### WORD OF WONDER:

[Psalm 77:12](#)

*I will spend time thinking about everything you have done. I will consider all your mighty acts.*



Lesson PPT Slides



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Lesson Printables

# FOR LEADERS

## A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN'S LEADERS

*We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father...*

Dear Sunday School Teachers,

As we approach Holy Week, we want to take a moment to reflect on your incredible role in the spiritual formation of the children you serve. You are more than teachers; you are shepherds, guiding young hearts toward a deep and lasting relationship with Christ. Your dedication matters profoundly, and Christ's love shines through your work.

Try a little experiment...ask the children in your class what they love about Easter. You may hear about egg hunts, candy, new shoes, family gatherings, spring break, etc... but you may not hear about Jesus.

This isn't because we don't teach about Him. We do, week after week. He is the heartbeat of everything we do. We talk about His love, His sacrifice, and His invitation to follow Him. And yet, the message doesn't always sink in the way we hope—not just for the children, but sometimes for us as well.

That's why this Easter, we want to remind you of something simple yet profound: the most important truth we can teach our children is how much Jesus loves them. And nowhere is that love more evident than in Holy Week—the ultimate demonstration of His sacrifice.

Before teaching your next lesson, we challenge you to revisit the story of Holy Week. Read [John 12](#), [13](#), and [19](#). But don't just read—pause. Let the words speak to your heart. Reflect on Jesus' love for you, His relentless pursuit of your soul, and His sacrifice on the cross. Ask the Holy Spirit to make that truth real for you again, so you can pass it on with authenticity and passion. Easter isn't just a story; it's a love letter—written for the children in your care and for you. Christ's death and resurrection are His declaration of love, a love that transforms everything.

So as you teach this season, center every conversation on Jesus' love. Let it permeate your words, your tone, and your actions. Show the kids that Jesus is not just a part of Easter; He is Easter. His love for them—and for you—is the heart of everything we celebrate.

Thank you for pouring Christ's love into the lives of these precious children. Never forget: the message of His love is the most important one you can share.

With love and joy,

**The Faith Arc Team**

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## A ROAD MAP

### WHO?

Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of the province of Judea. He presided over Jesus' trial, which involved discussion with the chief priests, who were members of the Jewish ruling council, or Sanhedrin. Pilate ultimately authorized Jesus' crucifixion, albeit reluctantly.



### WHAT?

In the week leading up to His death, Jesus was anointed by Mary in Bethany and welcomed to Jerusalem as king. He predicted His death and washed His disciples' feet. He was betrayed by Judas, tried by Pilate, and crucified at Golgotha.



### WHERE?

The events of Holy Week took place in and around Jerusalem. Bethany was about two miles east of Jerusalem. Golgotha, where Jesus was crucified, was located outside the city gate of Jerusalem ([Hebrews 13:12](#)) somewhere near the city ([John 19:20](#)). The exact location is debated.



### WHEN?

Jesus was crucified during the week of the Jewish Passover Feast while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea (approximately AD 26–36). The exact date is debated, but biblical scholars often estimate Jesus' death to be between AD 30–33.



### CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

Holy Week led up to the climactic moment of God's big story. The death of Jesus made way for the defeat of death, the forgiveness of sins, and life forever with God in a kingdom that will never end.



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### WELCOME QUESTION

**SUPPLIES:** paper, colored pencils, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional), [Welcome Question Slide](#)

Before kids arrive, display the [Welcome Question Slide](#), or write the following question on a whiteboard: “What does your family do for Easter?” Set out sheets of paper and coloring utensils.

As kids arrive, warmly welcome them by name and ask them to Check In.

#### All Ages

Use the feelings chart on the next page and ask each child how they are feeling (refrain from asking “How are you?” as children may be accustomed to responding with “fine”). You may want to print and post the feelings chart in your classroom for ease of use.

- Allow each child to name their feeling or to use a color to name their feeling. Older children might use words, younger children might point to the pictures or use the colors to express their feelings.
- There are no wrong feelings and all feelings should be acknowledged.
- Acknowledge how children feel by giving each child time and space to share anything they might need or want to share in regard to their feelings. For example, you can ask “Why are you angry?” or “What made you sad?”.
- If you can, address the feeling (hunger/thirst - provide a snack/drink, sadness - give a hug, joy - give a high five, tired - let the child rest, anger – a calming space, etc.).
- Keep in mind throughout the lesson how each child is feeling and that feelings may change during your time with the child.
- If you notice a change, you may want to allow the child to rename their feeling and again address the feeling if needed.
- Acknowledge all feelings, concerns, joys, and celebrations in your opening and closing prayer. Use a grace-based approach to the learning as feelings will impact how children learn. (adapted from the Zones of Regulation)

Show them the [Welcome Question](#) and encourage them to share their answers with friends. Invite kids to illustrate their answers if they choose. If you have younger kids, be sure to read the question for them.

#### At your start time...

Invite the kids to gather together, and let them know you’re glad they’re at church today. Call on several kids to share their answers to the Welcome Question: ***What does your family do for Easter?***

**Easter is such a fun holiday to spend with family! Did you know the Bible tells us about the very first Easter? Today we’ll explore the events that happened leading up to that amazing day. But first, it’s time to be curious.**

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# SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CHECK IN

Angry



Scared



Panicked



Inconsolable



Happy



Focused



Calm



Proud



Worried



Frustrated



Silly



Excited



Sad



Bored



Tired



Sick



**Teaching Tip:** *There may be kids in your class from families who are unable to or simply don't do anything special to honor the holiday. Be sensitive to this fact, and if you know this is the case for some kids, invite everyone to answer a more general question, such as "What is your favorite thing to do during springtime?"*

## STEM EXPERIMENT: AMAZING PENCIL

**SUPPLIES:** table, sandwich-size resealable baggies (at least 2), pitcher of water, scissors or pen, large bowl, sharpened pencil, stool (optional), **Amazing Pencil Slide**, **Holy Week Wonder Truth Slide**

**Teaching Tip:** *Consider practicing the magic pencil experiment ahead of time!*

Ahead of time, set the supplies on a table at the front of your teaching space.

Display the **Amazing Pencil Slide** and gather kids. Hold up an empty zip-top baggie. **Can this bag hold water?** Allow kids to answer. Fill the bag with water and seal it. **What happens when the bag gets a hole?** Allow kids to answer. Then use scissors or the tip of a pen to make a small hole in the bottom corner of the bag and show kids how it drips into the large bowl. Set aside.

**Make it Inclusive:** *Kids who are especially energetic, such as those with ADHD, often thrive when they get to help demonstrate STEM experiments. Consider inviting a couple kids to the front to help you perform the experiment.*

Take out a new empty zip-top bag and fill it with water. Hold up a sharpened pencil. **I bet I can stick this pencil through this plastic bag without spilling a drop of water. If you believe me, walk to this side of the room.** Point to one side of the room. **If you don't believe me and think I'll make a big mess, walk to this side of the room.** Point to the other side of the room.

Once kids have traveled to one side of the room or the other, quickly stick the sharpened pencil straight through the plastic bag. If your group is especially adventurous, select a kid volunteer to sit on a stool. Then stick the pencil through the bag as you suspend it over the volunteer's head.

Invite kids to sit back down. **Everyone on this side of the room** (the side that didn't believe), **were you surprised?** Allow responses. **Everyone on this side of the room** (the side that did believe), **why do you think that the water didn't spill?** Allow responses. **Sometimes things don't happen the way we think they will. During Holy Week, lots of things happened that showed people Jesus is God's Son and He came to free people from sin. But no one guessed how that would happen.** Display the **Wonder Truth Slide**. Today's Wonder Truth is: **JESUS LOVES US AND GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US.**

**Teaching Tip:** *If kids are interested in understanding the science behind the experiment, explain that long chains of molecules called polymers, which form the plastic baggie, automatically seal back around the pencil as soon as it pokes through. This prevents water from leaking out.*

### DECLARING GOD'S WONDER

Write on a white board or chart paper or display the **Declaration Slide**. Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

**Thank You, God, that You are good!** (Kids repeat.)

**You made me on purpose, for a purpose.** (Kids repeat.)

**And I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat.)

**You know me, love me, and lead me.** (Kids repeat.)

**Jesus loves me so much** (Kids repeat.)

**That He gave His life for me!** (Kids repeat.)

**My life can tell of Your wonder!** (Kids repeat.)

## OPENING PRAYER

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **Father God, as we listen and learn about Holy Week, may Your Spirit teach us, lead us, and show us Your love and plan. Show us how Jesus loves us and gave His life for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## GOD'S BIG STORY

This lesson includes three opportunities for your kids to enter the story – we recommend you choose **HEAR IT!** or **EXPERIENCE IT!** and supplement with the **WATCH IT!** video. **HEAR IT!** is read directly from the Bible. **EXPERIENCE IT!** is an interactive story-telling activity.

### Hear It!

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid), **Holy Week Title Slide**

Invite kids to open their Bibles to [John 12](#). Explain that they'll be jumping around to different chapters in John today as the story of Holy Week happens over a whole week of time. Remind kids that the large numbers are the chapters, and the small numbers are the verses. Display the **Holy Week Title Slide**.

**Let's start by reading part of God's big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we'll watch and experience more of the story!**

Read the following verses directly from the Bible: [John 12:12-13](#); [13:5-8](#); [18:1, 12](#); [19:14-18, 28-30](#). Consider highlighting the verses ahead of time to make it easier to move easily from one section to the next. Invite kids to follow along in their Bibles or to simply listen carefully with their Bibles open in front of them to the book of John. Encourage them to put their hands on their hearts every time Jesus speaks in the passage.

### Watch It!

Watch the [Holy Week God's Big Story video!](#)

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## Experience It!

**SUPPLIES:** coloring utensils, clipboards (1 per kid, optional), river stones (5 per kid, optional), black markers (1 per kid, optional), **Story Stones Sheet** (1 per kid), **Holy Week Slides**

Ahead of time, print a **Story Stones Sheet** for each kid. If clipboards are available, clip each sheet to a clipboard. Kids will draw with coloring utensils on each stone at different parts in the story. Alternatively, you could use river stones (5 per kid) and black markers (1 per kid) and invite kids to draw on the actual stones.

Each year, on your birthday, we remember and celebrate that you were born. Each year on Christmas, we remember and celebrate that Jesus was born. And each year during Holy Week—the week between Palm Sunday and Easter—we remember how Jesus died and came alive again.

Did you know God’s people sometimes used stones to remember the times that God helped or saved them? They would pile up the stones and say, “Remember? This is where God helped us!” Today we are going to use story stones to remember Holy Week. Pass out the **Story Stones Sheet** or river stones with appropriate coloring utensils. Remembering the events of Holy Week reminds us that Jesus loves us and gave His life for us.

Display **Holy Week Slide 1** (the sea divided). It was five days before the Passover Feast, the time when God’s people remembered how He delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Pause and look at the screen. They might have said, “Remember when God sent Moses, then the plagues, to make stubborn Pharaoh let us go?” And, “Remember when we were stuck between Pharaoh’s army and the sea, and God made a way for us to walk safely through?” Pause and look back at the kids. Now, in God’s big story, Jesus was about to make the way for an even greater deliverance—from slavery to sin to freedom in God’s presence. From death to life!

Display **Holy Week Slide 2** (a palm branch). When Jesus came to Jerusalem, a large crowd went out to welcome Him as their king—as Israel’s Messiah! They carried palm branches to honor His arrival. The people shouted, “Hosanna!” ([John 12:13](#)), which means “Save us, please!” Jesus had indeed come to save people, but it wouldn’t look like many expected. Invite the kids to draw on their first story stone a picture of “Hosanna—save us!” Tell them it can be whatever this statement looks like to them: a palm branch or something else.

**Teaching Tip:** Many of the Jewish people shouting “Hosanna!” as Jesus entered Jerusalem would have expected Jesus, the promised Messiah and King, to defeat their Roman oppressors and usher in an era of peace and prosperity for God’s people. What they didn’t understand yet is that the kingdom Jesus brings is different and more eternal than any earthly empire.

Display **Holy Week Slide 3** (earth). The chief priests and Pharisees were unhappy about the crowds following Jesus. They wanted to put an end to Jesus! Jesus knew He would soon die and that it would show the world how amazing God is and how generously He gives. Jesus told the crowds, “Now it is time for the world to be judged. Now the prince of this world will be thrown out” ([John 12:31](#)). Jesus was talking about the devil and the world Satan had hurt. Jesus was going to defeat the devil and make the world new again. He would die on a cross and make the way for all people to be part of God’s new world. But the crowds didn’t understand. How could Jesus—the Messiah—die? Invite the kids to draw on their second stone a picture of the world new again. This can be a drawing of the earth or whatever they envision, but encourage them to keep it simple.

Display **Holy Week Slide 4** (breaking bread). As the week went on, the time for the Passover Feast drew near. Jesus was sharing an evening meal with His disciples, including Judas, who was going

## ELEMENTARY

to betray Jesus by handing Him over to His enemies. Jesus loved His disciples. He knew He would be leaving them soon, so He got up during the meal and started washing their dusty feet. This was the job of a lowly servant, but Jesus did it for His disciples with a love that would give everything for their good. Peter, one of the disciples, protested. “‘No,’ said Peter. ‘You will never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered, ‘Unless I wash you, you can’t share life with me’” ([John 13:8](#)). Jesus was not talking about washing dirt off someone. Jesus was washing their feet as a picture of how He cleans hearts from sin.

Display **Holy Week Slide 5** (dirty hands). Point to the screen. **Like dirt, sin clings to us, and sin makes us its slaves. King Jesus became like a servant, doing a job He shouldn’t have had to do. He died for us, making us clean from the wrong things we do.** Display **Holy Week Slide 6** (soap bubbles). **Peter, like everyone else, needed Jesus to make him clean from sin, ready to live as part of God’s kingdom.** Invite the kids to draw on their third story stone a picture of a heart clean from sin. For any kids stumped, suggest they draw a simple heart with soap bubbles.

Display **Holy Week Slide 7** (crown of thorns). **When the meal was over, Judas left to betray Jesus, who was later arrested and taken to Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate’s soldiers beat Jesus and made fun of Him. Jewish people, including the religious leaders, gathered outside Pilate’s palace. They said Jesus had lied about being God’s Son. They wanted Pilate to crucify Jesus—to have Jesus nailed to a cross. “Should I crucify your king?” Pilate asked ([John 19:15](#)). But the chief priests told Pilate they had no king but the Roman emperor.** Invite the kids to draw on their fourth story stone a picture of a crown they would give to King Jesus. Again, encourage simplicity.

Display **Holy Week Slide 8** (wood and nails). **So, Pilate agreed to have Jesus crucified. Jesus was led outside the city and nailed to a cross. He bled. He suffered. He died. It was terrible. But the people who wanted Jesus to die would see how wrong they were.** Invite the kids to leave their last story stone blank. Why? Because: **We remember Jesus’ death, but it’s not the end of the story.** Hold up or point to the empty river stone. Ask the kids whether the phrase “a stone rolled away” sounds familiar. If that doesn’t ring any bells, how about “an empty tomb”?

Display **Holy Week Slide 9** (the sea with *sin* and *death*). **In a few days, Jesus would show the world that death could not defeat Him. He had made the way from slavery to freedom and from death to life because Jesus loves us and gave His life for us.**

## CONNECTING THE WONDER TRUTH

Display the **Wonder Truth Slide**. Pose the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God’s big story:

**Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS LOVES US AND GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story?** Allow kids to answer freely.

**Holy Week led up to the biggest moment of God’s big story: the death and resurrection of Jesus! Jesus’ death on the cross made the way for our sins to be forgiven and for us to live forever with God in His eternal kingdom, a kingdom that is forever.**

## ELEMENTARY

Divide your group into smaller groups based on age. If your group is already small, stay together for this time.

### QUESTIONS: YOUNGER KIDS

- **When Jesus came on Palm Sunday, what title did the people give Him?** *(Israel's king and Messiah)*
- **Jesus washed the disciples' feet. But who typically washed people's feet?** *(a servant)*
- **When Jesus died on the cross, what crime did the leaders accuse Him of committing?** *(They said Jesus had lied about being God's Son.)*
- **During Holy Week, Jesus was treated like a king, acted like a servant, and was later killed as a criminal. How do you think people expected the Messiah to act? Do you think they were surprised when Jesus was killed? Why or why not?**
- **Jesus loves you and gave His life for you. Is that easy or hard to believe? Why?**

Today we've heard about a lot of things that happened during Holy Week. Most importantly, Jesus' death on the cross made the way for our sins to be forgiven and for us to live forever with God in His eternal kingdom, a kingdom that is forever. And while it seems sad, this isn't the end of the story. Jesus rose three days later—He is alive! Jesus is very special because He is the only one who rose from the dead and is alive forever. Let's spend some time talking to Jesus together.

### PRAYER TIME: YOUNGER KIDS

Invite kids to share something they would like to pray for, whether these are praises for something great that's happened or requests for God to help in some way. Close the time by praying aloud on behalf of the group, stating that Holy Week happened because Jesus loves us!

Jesus showed His disciples how important serving others was by washing their feet, a task normally done by a servant. Jesus wanted His disciples to know how much He loved them, by doing this for them. His greatest demonstration of love though was dying on the cross. He took the consequences for our sin, even though He never sinned, so we could be washed clean, and made ready for His kingdom. Let's make sure that on Easter, in addition to all of the fun things you might do with your family, that we remember how much Jesus loves us!

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## QUESTIONS: OLDER KIDS

- **What did Jesus come to do?** *(He came to save people.)*
- **Do you think the people (the disciples, the crowds, and the religious leaders) believed Jesus could be the Messiah—the Savior? Why or why not?** *(Some did, and some didn't. Jesus performed many miracles and fulfilled many Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah, but many people expected the Messiah to be a strong military leader who would overthrow the Romans.)*
- **What are some things Jesus did during the week He died? What do these actions show us about Jesus?**
- **How did Jesus' death make it seem to many people like God's plan had failed?**
- **God's big story doesn't end with Jesus' death—He rose again three days later! How do you feel about the fact that things don't always happen the way we expect, but what God says is always true?**

Today we've heard about a lot of things that happened during Holy Week. Most importantly, Jesus' death on the cross made the way for our sins to be forgiven and for us to live forever with God in His eternal kingdom, a kingdom that is forever. And while it seems sad, this isn't the end of the story. Jesus rose three days later—He is alive! Jesus is very special because He is the only one who rose from the dead and is alive forever. Let's spend some time talking to Jesus together.

## PRAYER TIME: OLDER KIDS

Invite kids to share some things they would like to pray for, whether these are praises for something great that's happened or requests for God to help in some way. Give kids a chance to pray for one another; close by praying aloud on behalf of the group, stating that Holy Week happened because Jesus loves us!

**Jesus showed His disciples how important serving others was by washing their feet, a task normally done by a servant. Jesus wanted His disciples to know how much He loved them, by doing this for them. His greatest demonstration of love though was dying on the cross. He took the consequences for our sin, even though He never sinned, so we could be washed clean, and made ready for His kingdom. Let's make sure that on Easter, in addition to all of the fun things you might do with your family, that we remember how much Jesus loves us!**

### RESPONDING IN WORSHIP: WONDER TRUTH ART

**SUPPLIES:** cardstock, crayons and colored pencils, paper clips (1 per kid), [Connected Easter Elementary Spotify playlist](#), [Wonder Truth Art Sheets](#) (1 set per kid plus 1)

Ahead of time, print one set of the [Wonder Truth Art Sheets](#) on cardstock for each kid. Paperclip each set of three pages together (heart, person, cross) to make it easier to distribute them to kids. Set out crayons and colored pencils where kids can access them.

Display the [Responding in Worship Slide](#) and gather kids together. **Jesus loves us and gave His life for us! Let's spend time responding to Jesus together. We'll listen to some worship music and color these images, which match our Wonder Truth for today: Jesus loves** (hold up heart) **us** (hold up person outline) **and gave His life for us** (hold up cross). **You might not finish coloring each picture during our time together, but you can certainly finish at home. Let's start with the heart.**

**Teaching Tip:** *Ahead of time, create a sample by coloring a set of Wonder Truth Art Sheets. Hold up the samples for the kids to see throughout the activity.*

Give a set of [Wonder Truth Art Sheets](#) to each kid. Hold up the heart sheet. **Let's all hold up the picture of the heart and read the words together: "Jesus loves."** This heart reminds us of how big Jesus' love is! **Let's color the heart while we listen to music and worship Jesus together.** Play a song from the [Connected Easter Elementary Spotify playlist](#) as kids quietly color the heart. After a couple minutes have passed, move on to the outline of the person. (If kids don't finish coloring the heart, let them know that's OK! They can finish coloring it later or at home.)

Hold up the person sheet. **Let's hold up the page with the outline of a person on it and read the word together: "us."** This person reminds us of who Jesus loves—**Jesus loves us! Color your person to look like you as we continue to listen to music and worship Jesus together.** Continue playing music as kids design their person outlines. When most kids are finished, move on to the cross picture.

Hold up the cross sheet. **Now let's hold up the cross picture and read the words together: "and gave His life for us."** Jesus died on the cross. This picture reminds us of how Jesus showed His love for us. **Color the cross while we listen to more music.** Give kids time to color the cross as the music continues to play. When most are finished, continue.

Show kids how they can stack their pictures while saying the Wonder Truth: place the heart on the bottom (colored side down), the person in the middle (decorated side down), and the cross on the top (colored side down).

**There's one more thing. Jesus does love us so, so much, and He gave His life to free us from sin. But ... that isn't the end of the story. Flip your stack of pictures over.** Demonstrate this for the kids by flipping your three sheets over so the heart is now on top. **The heart should be the only thing you see, right? Well, Jesus didn't stay dead. God's love for us** (hold up the person) **is too big for death** (hold up the cross) **to hold! And on Easter, we celebrate that Jesus lives!**

#### HOLY WEEK

#### LESSON 2

#### NAC USA

#### Goals and Objectives

[IA 3-5, 7, 8, 9, 13-15, 17, 18, 19, 23-25, 27, 28, 29](#)  
[IB 1, 3, 5 IC 1-13 ID 2, 4, 6 IE 1-3 IIIA 1-3](#)

#### WONDER TRUTH:

Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us

#### SCRIPTURE:

[John 12-13; 19](#)

#### GOD'S BIG STORY:

After God's people waited many years for Him to rescue them from sin, Jesus shows God's great love by dying on the cross. His death brings life.

#### WORD OF WONDER:

[Psalm 77:12](#)

*I will spend time thinking about everything you have done. I will consider all your mighty acts.*



Lesson  
PPT Slides



Lesson  
PDF Slides



Lesson  
Printables

## ELEMENTARY

Have kids practice saying the Wonder Truth as they flip through their stacked pictures: *Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us*. Then have kids re-clip their pictures together to transport home.

**Disclaimer:** *We have permission from the publisher to use the Spotify music playlist solely for the purposes of the Sunday School hour, Vacation Bible School experiences, fellowship events, or for listening at home. Please note that this playlist is not to be used during the divine service or for any streamed or broadcasted occasion.*

## BLESSING YOUR KIDS

Write on a white board or chart paper or display the **Blessing Slide**. Speak this blessing over your kids, as a group or as individuals. If you bless kids individually, insert each name into the blessing.

**Blessing:** May you know the deep, never-ending love of God—a love so great that Jesus gave His life for us. Now and always, may you live loved and free!

# GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

## ELEMENTARY

This additional game or activity is optional and can be used in the lesson where a movement break is needed or there's extra time. We've included teaching tips and tips to make the game and activity inclusive for all kids. Printables and slides for the game and activity, if needed, are included in the links within this lesson.

## WONDER EGGS

**SUPPLIES:** plastic eggs (24 per small group), box or plastic container (1 per small group), scissors (prep only)

Ahead of time, print or write the Wonder Truth: *Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us* on a piece of paper. Cut out the words and hide each inside a plastic egg. Leave some of the eggs empty and place silly words in the remaining eggs. Place all 24 eggs inside a box or plastic container and mix it up. If your group is large, prepare multiple sets of Wonder Eggs, one for each small group.

In this game, kids will search for the words to the Wonder Truth hidden inside plastic eggs and correctly assemble the Lesson 2 Holy Week Wonder Truth: *Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us*.

**Teaching Tip:** For younger kids, use fewer eggs and don't have any empty eggs or silly words in eggs. Then help them read the words as needed. For older kids, don't tell them ahead of time that some of the eggs are empty and others contain silly words. Let them discover that for themselves and still persevere to find the Wonder Truth!

Gather kids together. **Inside this box are 24 plastic eggs. Hold up the container of eggs. We will take turns searching for all the words to the Wonder Truth. You'll have to figure out which words are a part of the Wonder Truth and which are not.** Encourage kids as they work together to open each egg and put together the Wonder Truth: *Jesus Loves Us and Gave His Life for Us*. When finished, gather kids together and continue: **In our game, we searched for all the parts to the Wonder Truth. We didn't expect to find empty eggs or silly words. Today in God's big story, we learned Jesus loves us and gave His life for us. Jesus came to save people, but it didn't look like what many expected.**

### HOLY WEEK

#### LESSON 2

#### NAC USA

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