

EGG VERSE *(memory verse activity)*

WHAT YOU NEED: 12 Plastic eggs, 12 pieces of Scrap paper

- Write words of memory verse on the scraps of paper, divided like below, and place each inside a plastic egg. (Also write numbers on each piece of paper for non or early readers)
- Review John 16:33 together.
- Place the eggs in a pile about five feet away.
- Line up the kids/child and have them run, one at a time, to the pile of eggs, grab one, and bring it back.
- Once all the eggs are gathered, have kids open them and put the words of the verse in order.
- Point out the numbers on the bottom of the cards to help any non/early readers.
- Read the verse aloud together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Do you see right here (*point to the section*) where it says, ‘I have won the battle’? Jesus knew that one day He would beat death—that He would rise again to show us how much God loves us. Isn’t that amazing? We can have hope because **whatever happens, remember God loves you.**

In this (1)	world (2)
You (3)	will (4)
have (5)	trouble. (6)
But (7)	Take Heart! (8)
I have (9)	overcome (10)
the world. (11)	John 16:33b (NIV) (12)

WORD CLOUD

WHAT YOU NEED: “Word Cloud Sample” Activity Page; Bible, paper, pencils, markers, paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Show the “Word Cloud Sample” and explain that they will be making their own word or picture cloud with the words they will write down while listening to today’s story, so they should be sure to listen carefully.
- Read today’s Bible story, John 20:1-18, aloud to the kids. If you have younger kids you may want to paraphrase the story from earlier.
- As you read the story, they should write down any key words they hear or draw pictures of the important words they hear (like a cross or a heart). These can be any words they think are important to remember.
- They can also write down any important words they remember from Large Group.
- Now allow kids to either make their own word cloud on a regular piece of paper.
- Encourage them to use different colors and create fun fonts.

WHAT YOU SAY:

(Read some of the words aloud.) Those are some great words/pictures! I love your cloud. This is a great way to remember important truths. Whenever you need hope, I encourage you to make a word/picture cloud of things that will help you remember God’s power, God’s promises, and God’s love for you.

Whatever happens, remember God loves you.

LIGHT IT UP

WHAT YOU NEED: Tracing paper; 1 piece each, 3-4 flashlights (one with the rest without batteries), markers or crayons

- Have the kids draw, on a piece of tracing paper, a design of their choice incorporating the word “hope.” It can be just the word large enough fill the paper, or it could be a drawing that shows something hopeful.
- Have 1 or 2 people holding flashlights, ready to shine.
- After they have finished with their drawings, have them pick a flashlight to hold their drawing in front of with “hope” of lighting it up.
- Have flashlight holders turn on their flashlight to see if the drawing gets lit up.
- Play multiple rounds, rotating the kids so that everyone gets the chance to guess and everyone also gets the chance to hold the flashlights.

WHAT YOU SAY:

In this game, you didn’t know where to put your hope drawing, because you didn’t know which flashlight had batteries in it. We know from the testimony of many people that Jesus is alive and not dead. Because Jesus defeated death and is alive today, we know we can put all our hope in Him and He will bring light and hope to our lives. We can have hope knowing that Jesus is alive. **Whatever happens, remember God loves you.** And you know He loves you because He gave you Jesus to take the punishment for your sins. Today on Easter, we celebrate that amazing grace.”

PURE OF HEART

WHAT YOU NEED: Construction paper heart, tape

- Cut a large heart out of construction paper.
- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Have kids pass the heart around the circle and tear a piece off naming a sin they may have in their life (*lied, hit sister, bad attitude, didn’t mind parent*).
- After the heart has gone around the circle and everyone has a piece, have them place all the pieces in the middle of the circle. At least 5-10 pieces torn off.
- Ask kids to put the heart back together, but do not provide them with any tape or glue.
- Ask for suggestions for how they might be able to put the heart back together.
- After a kid suggests tape, provide them with tape.
- Encourage them to work as a group to tape the heart back together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

Everyone sins and does things against what God asks of us. Our sins hurt ourselves and others. However, if we ask Him, God will forgive us of our sins and make our hearts like new again. Just like we couldn’t put the heart back together by ourselves without tape, we need Jesus to make our hearts whole again. We can’t do it on our own. That’s why God sent His Son to bring us closer for God. Jesus sacrificed Himself on the cross and rose again so we can have a relationship with Him.

Whatever happens, remember God loves you.

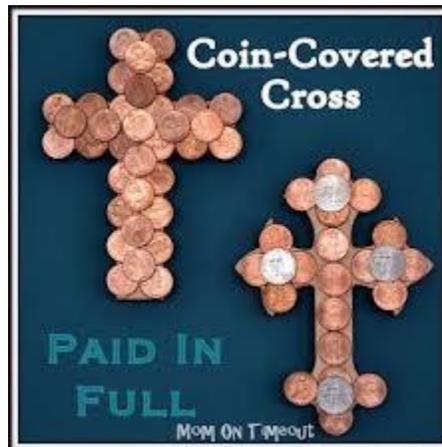
HOPE . . . ALWAYS!

What you need: “Cross Frames” Activity Pages, bits of crepe or tissue paper, cups of water, paintbrushes

- Give each child a “Cross Frame” Activity Page.
- Set out the bits of paper and invite kids to lay them on their “Cross Frames” however they choose.
- When kids are happy with their work, guide them to gently paint water over their creations, being sure to saturate the tissue. Careful not to drown the paper.
- After a few minutes, remove the bits of paper to reveal watercolor wonders!

Jesus loves you SO much that He died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin—the things you do that are wrong. But if you believe in Jesus and put your trust in what He did for you, God promises heaven—eternal life with Him forever!

So, **whatever happens, remember God loves you** and because Jesus is alive, you can always have hope!”



- Cut out a cross from a sturdy piece of material like cardboard.
- Find as many coins as possible.
- Glue coins to cross cutout in any pattern.
- Let set to dry.
- Place somewhere where it will be seen often, Always remembering Jesus paid for our sins in full.

“Whatever happens, remember God loves you”