



Jesus Has Power Over Death

4

Key Theme

- God has authority over His creation.

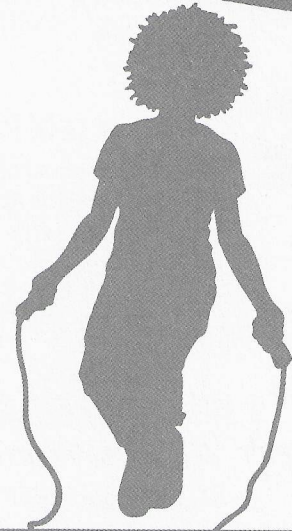
Key Passages

- John 11:1–4, 11:11–17, 11:38–45; Ephesians 2:1, 2:4–5

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe God's purpose in Lazarus's sickness and death.
- Describe how sinners go from death to life.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by completing the Memory Verse Review Sheet using the letter clues. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a partner or to the class using only the letter clues.



Activity 1: Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes

Students will fill out the Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

Jesus wasn't there when Lazarus died. He knew He would glorify God by raising Lazarus from the dead. But His disciples didn't understand until Jesus called Lazarus from the grave. Jesus is God and can bring the dead to life. He can also give eternal life to those who are dead in sin.



Activity 2: Power Over Death Skit

Students will act out a skit about a reporter who interviews Martha and Mary concerning their brother Lazarus.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- ☐ Print one Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- ☐ Memory Verse Poster
- ☐ Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student



JESUS HAS POWER OVER DEATH CLASS NOTES

- ☐ Print one Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- ☐ Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes for each student
- ☐ Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes Answer Key
- ☐ Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- ☐ Study the Prepare to Share section.
- ☐ Go Before the Throne.

- ☐ Student Take Home Sheets
- ☐ Year 3, Quarter 1, Lesson 9 Lesson Theme Poster



POWER OVER DEATH SKIT

- ☐ Print four Power Over Death Scripts from the Resource DVD-ROM.

- ☐ Four Power Over Death Scripts
- ☐ Optional props: hairbrush or pen to use as a microphone during the "interview"



Memory Verse

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

➤ **Pace your lesson!** Use the clocks to mark the time you want to finish each section. This will help you stay on track and finish on time. You may need to shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above with this background.

Jesus came to do the will of the Father and to glorify Him. He had power over nature—walking on a raging sea (Matthew 14:25–30). He had power over disease (John 9:6–7). He could forgive sins (Mark 2:5). His miracles showed that He was God in the flesh, the Creator, the Messiah, and the Son of God.

Jesus also confirmed who He was by raising the dead—something only the one true living God could do. The Bible refers to several such occurrences. Let's focus on one: the raising of Lazarus from the dead in John 11. Jesus found out by a messenger that His friend Lazarus, who was in Bethany near Jerusalem, was sick. Jesus loved Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary (John 11:5). And Jesus had already shown that He could heal the sick. So the announcement that Lazarus was sick was probably accompanied by a request that Jesus heal him. What was Jesus's response to this news? His first reaction was to assure His disciples that Lazarus's sickness would not end in death. In fact, Jesus knew Lazarus's sickness would result in the glory of God—that the Son of God [Jesus] would be glorified through it (John 11:4). This is the same purpose Jesus gave for healing the blind man recorded in John 9 (John 9:3).

But another purpose for this miracle is revealed by Jesus when He stated clearly that the miracle He was soon to perform would strengthen the disciples' faith in Him (John 11:14–15). And so, Jesus made His way to Bethany. Once there and amidst mourning family and friends, He took control of the situation. For the glory of God His Father and so the people would believe God sent Him, He called for dead Lazarus to come forth from His grave (John 11:40–43).

As we reflect on Jesus's raising of Lazarus from the dead, it is good to consider the resurrection from death—in the spiritual sense—that all believers experience when we hear Jesus calling us to follow Him (Matthew 4:19). The analogy is made for us in Ephesians. Paul said that Jesus made us alive who were once dead in our trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1). Paul went on to say that because of our sin nature we were all children of wrath (Ephesians 2:3). We have rebelled against the holy Creator God and are deserving of His eternal punishment (Romans 1:18–20).

But it doesn't end there, just as it didn't end in death for Jesus's friend Lazarus. No, Paul told us that

God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love for us, can make us alive together with Christ. God can make a sinner alive in Christ even though he is dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:4–5). God does this through the free gift of grace through faith in the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8).

This journey from spiritual death to eternal life is available to all who will humbly accept the truth of the gospel, to all who will turn in repentance toward God and in faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

We read in the account of the death of Lazarus that Jesus wept. It seems a logical question to ask ourselves, why did Jesus weep? What was it that saddened the Savior? What can we learn from Christ's sorrow?

Jesus delayed visiting Lazarus when he was sick, knowing that Lazarus would die. Though He could have healed Lazarus (even from a distance), He told His disciples that He was glad He was not there. Jesus anticipated the sign He would perform for His disciples, that they might believe (John 11:11–15).

But when Jesus arrived in Bethany and saw the family and friends of Lazarus grieving, why did Jesus weep (John 11:33–35)? He certainly knew that Lazarus would soon be alive again—it was for this purpose that He had come to Bethany. A closer look at the Greek words behind this scene help us understand the emotions of Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus.

John 11:33 says that "He groaned in the spirit and was troubled." Coming to the scene of Lazarus's tomb, Jesus intensely groaned in His spirit. The Greek word used here literally means "to snort like a horse," implying anger and indignation. It means that Jesus wasn't so much sad at the scene surrounding the tomb of Lazarus, as He was angry. Jesus was angry and troubled at the ravages of the great enemy of man: death. Death is an intruder, and Jesus won't settle for this domination of death much longer. John Calvin wrote about this passage:

Christ does not come to the sepulchre as an idle spectator, but like a wrestler preparing for the contest. Therefore no wonder that He groans again, for the violent tyranny of death which He had to overcome stands before His eyes. (John Calvin, *Commentary on the Gospel According to John*, BiblioLife, 2009, p.442.)

In addition, Jesus was affected by the grief of His close friend Mary and the rest of the Jews who were lamenting with her and Martha. When we read that we are to weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15), we can clearly see that our Lord and Savior demonstrated that kind of empathy here. However, in contrast to the loud wailing of the mourners, the Greek word used for Jesus's weeping conveys a quiet bursting into tears. Jesus's tears were caused both by His love for Lazarus and by His grief over the deadly and unremitting effects of sin in a fallen world. Verse 35, though the shortest verse in the Bible, is rich with meaning. It emphasizes Jesus's humanity; He was truly "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isaiah 53:3).

Although the passage does not tell us specifically why Jesus wept, we can infer one reason from the context: Jesus was grieved over death as the result of mankind's sin. At the beginning of creation, "the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die'" (Genesis 2:16–17). Because Adam directly disobeyed this command, God punished all humanity beginning with Adam: "In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

The Apostle Paul confirmed the correlation between sin and death: "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned" (Romans 5:12). Paul also clearly wrote that "the wages of sin is death" in Romans 6:23.

As Christians, we often forget that death is an enemy. While it is true that when a fellow believer dies we do not sorrow as those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13), we nevertheless must remember that death is unnatural. It is not what God created, but came about because of Adam's sin and rebellion. Let us remember and find hope in Paul's description of a time to come when death will be no more:

For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be

destroyed is death. . . . So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. (1 Corinthians 15:25–26, 15:54–56)

In raising Lazarus, Jesus showed a small glimpse of this ultimate defeat of death. Jesus had the power to raise the dead, and soon thereafter, He went to the Cross to defeat death. Death has been abolished (2 Timothy 1:10), and one day it will be destroyed forever (Revelation 20:14).

This account of Jesus weeping at the graveside of Lazarus is most likely another example of God's grief over sin and its consequence—death. Jesus knew some would not believe. He knew that the Pharisees would now plot even harder to kill Him. He knew that everyone there (including Lazarus again) would physically die as a result of Adam's sin and their own sin. Although He was headed to Calvary to die as the sacrifice for our sin, He still knew that the consequences would continue until the time He presents "a new heaven and a new earth" (Revelation 21:1).

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, what a mystery! That you are God! That you raised Lazarus from death back to life. That the miracles you performed on earth were to glorify your Father in heaven. And that you can bring people who are born dead in their sin back to life through the gospel. Lord, I pray for the students in my class, that as we read and study your Word, you will bring their dead hearts to life through the truth of your Word. Stir in them a desire to seek you, to obey you, to confess—and bring them to salvation and the hope of eternal life with you.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, have the students recite the verse together, to each other, or to you.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes

MATERIALS

- ☐ Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes for each student
- ☐ Jesus Has Power Over Death Class Notes Answer Key
- ☐ Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will be completing these class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work ahead. I'll let you know when to fill in something.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes today, we will see why Jesus let His friend Lazarus die and how He used Lazarus's death to glorify the Father.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Jesus came to do the will of the Father. He was obedient even to death. And at His death, He knew that His work for the Father was finished. As He lived on the earth, Jesus glorified God in all that He did. He showed the people that He was God through miracles and wonders. We have talked about a few of them.

Refer to Lesson 2 Lesson Theme Poster. Since Jesus is God, He is the Creator. All things were created through Him. And Jesus showed that He had power

➤ Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years, and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

over creation when He walked on water and calmed the storm. We read the account of Peter and the fish. Peter caught more fish than he had ever caught—so many that the boats began to sink. When Jesus’s disciples saw His power over nature, they were amazed and began to understand that truly this was the Son of God!

Refer to Lesson 3 Lesson Theme Poster. Jesus continued teaching the disciples and doing miracles. In the account of the paralytic man, Jesus told the man to get up and walk. Jesus healed the man’s physical problem. But, more importantly, Jesus told the man, “Your sins are forgiven.” This man not only walked home with a new body, but he had been given a new heart—one that had been forgiven of sin. And through that forgiveness, he was given eternal life. Jesus had power over disease. And He had power over sin and could forgive men who turned to Him in repentance and faith.

Today we will see that Jesus’s power even went beyond the grave. He could raise the dead if He wanted to. Again, this is something only God could do. Jesus wanted the people to know that He was God in the flesh.

John 11:1–4

Let’s read what Jesus did with Lazarus. Turn to John 11. Will someone read John 11:1–4? *Choose students to read the verses.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Now let’s answer some questions about what we just read.

Observe the Text

- ? Where did Lazarus live? It is in John 11:1. *The town of Bethany.*
- ? What was wrong with Lazarus? John 11:1. *He was sick.*
- ? Who were Lazarus’s sisters? John 11:1. *Mary and Martha.*
- ? Jesus was not in Bethany. So Mary and Martha sent Him a message. What was the message? Look in John 11:3. *John 11:3. Lord, he whom you love is sick.*

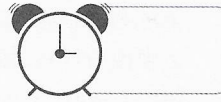
Jesus got word that His good friend Lazarus was sick. Then in verse 4 Jesus said something to His disciples that was very interesting. Follow along while I read John 11:4 for us. *Read John 11:4 emphasizing the answers to the questions below.*

- ? What did Jesus say about Lazarus’s sickness? *It was not unto death.*
- ? Lazarus’s sickness was not to result in death. What did Jesus say the sickness would lead to? *John 11:4. It would be for the glory of God, that the Son of God would be glorified.*

Discover the Truth

Jesus’s friend was very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, knew that Jesus could heal the sick, so they sent a message to Jesus. When Jesus heard the news, He told His disciples that Lazarus would not die. He said the sickness that Lazarus had would be for God’s glory—and for Jesus’s glory, too!

- ? Look at your class notes. Who can read #1 for us? How will you answer that?
Assign a reader. Sick. Have students finish #1.
- ? And someone read #2. What is the answer? *Assign a reader.*
God's. Have students complete #2.



READ THE WORD

Let's move ahead to John 11:11–17. Jesus was discussing going to Bethany with His disciples to help Lazarus. Let's read it. *Choose students to read the verses.*

John 11:11–17

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? First, what did Jesus say about Lazarus? *John 11:11. He was asleep.*
- ? He was asleep. And what did Jesus say He must do? *John 11:11. Go wake Lazarus up.*
- ? What did the disciples say about his sleep? *John 11:12. If Lazarus is asleep, he will get well.*

The disciples were a little confused. Jesus said that Lazarus was asleep. The disciples thought if he was sleeping, then he would get better and wake up. Resting is good when you are sick. But that is not what Jesus meant by sleep. Look at John 11:13. Jesus explains what He meant when He said "sleeping."

- ? What did He mean by sleeping? *John 11:13. He spoke of Lazarus's death.*
- ? And in John 11:14, what did Jesus tell them plainly? *John 11:14. Lazarus is dead.*
- ? Take a look at your class notes. Someone read #3 for us. What is the answer there? *Assign a reader. Dead. Have students complete #3.*
- ? Lazarus was dead. And what did Jesus say about Lazarus's death? *John 11:15. He was glad that He wasn't there.*

Yes. That seems like a very strange thing for Jesus to say. Jesus loved Lazarus and Mary and Martha. Yet, He said He was glad that He was not in Bethany when Lazarus got sick and died.

- ? But the Bible explains this. Why was Jesus glad? Look in John 11:15. *John 11:15. So they would believe.*

So Jesus was glad that He was not in Bethany with His dear friend Lazarus. And He was glad because He knew what was going to happen. And He knew that when His disciples saw what was going to happen it would help them believe all that He was telling them about Himself and God.

- ? Will someone read #4 on your class notes? What is the answer? *Assign a reader. Believe. Have students complete #4.*
- ? Jesus and His disciples finally made it to Bethany. What did they find once they got there? Look in John 11:17 for the answer. *John 11:17. Lazarus had been in the tomb four days.*

SOVEREIGN,
OMNISCIENT
(Refer to Attributes Poster)

Discover the Truth

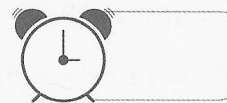
So, Jesus went to Bethany. He knew that Lazarus was dead. And He was going to “wake him up.” The disciples were confused and didn’t know what was coming next. Jesus knew what was going on. He knew that what was soon to happen would build the disciples’ faith so that they would know that Jesus is God. Jesus was in control.

Before we go on, let’s stop a minute and look at our Attributes of God Poster. These are just some of God’s attributes. But because Jesus is God, these attributes apply to Him as well. We know that Jesus was in control of what was happening with Lazarus, and that Jesus knew what was going to happen.

- ? What attribute would describe Jesus as being in control of everything? *Allow discussion. Sovereign.*
- ? And what attribute would describe Jesus as knowing exactly what was coming next? *Allow discussion. Omniscient.*
- ? Will someone read the definition of sovereign? *Refer to the Attributes of God Poster. Assign a reader. In complete control of everything; does all that He pleases.*
- ? And who can find omniscient on the poster? Can you read that? *Assign a reader. Knows everything—past, present, future.*

Jesus showed both His sovereignty and omniscience in this miraculous account of raising Lazarus from the dead.

- ? Who will read #5 on the class notes for us? Which attribute is that? *Assign a reader. Omniscient. Have students complete #5.*
- ? And what about #6? Which attribute is that? *Assign a reader. Sovereign. Have students complete #6.*



READ THE WORD

Now let’s move on in our account of Jesus and Lazarus. Jesus was now in Bethany. He was coming to the tomb of Lazarus. Remember, Lazarus had died and been buried for four days. Let’s read John 11:38–43. *Choose students to read the verses.*

John 11:38–43

➤ As you complete this section, have students re-read the verses that answer the questions below.

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? The tomb was where Lazarus’s body had been laid. What was the tomb? Where was it? How was it sealed off? *John 11:38. It was a cave with a big stone in front of it.*
- ? What did Jesus say first? *John 11:39. Take away the stone.*
- ? Martha, Lazarus’s sister was there with Jesus. What did she say? *John 11:39. It will stink (a stench). Lazarus has been there four days.*

? Let's do a quick review. Someone read #7 on the class notes. What is the answer? *Assign a reader. Stone. Have students complete #7.*

? And what about #8? What is the answer to that? *Assign a reader. Four. Have students complete #8.*

Martha realized that Lazarus had been dead long enough for his dead body to begin to stink. She wasn't sure about moving that stone away!

? What did Jesus say to Martha? Look at John 11:40. *If you would believe you would see the glory of God.*

Jesus knew what was going to happen. And He knew that God the Father was about to be glorified by an amazing miracle!

? The people obeyed Jesus and rolled the stone away from the tomb. And what did Jesus do? *John 11:41. Lifted His eyes and prayed.*

? Jesus thanked God in this prayer. What did He thank God for? *John 11:41. That God had heard Him.*

? And why was Jesus praying to God now? *John 11:42. So the people standing by would believe that God sent Jesus.*

? After His prayer to God, what did Jesus do and say? *John 11:43. He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"*

? Someone read John 11:44! What happened? What did Lazarus do? *Assign a reader. He who had died came out of the tomb.*

Wow! Lazarus came out of the tomb. What do you suppose the people thought when they saw that? Someone read John 11:45. *John 11:45. Assign a reader.*

? What did the people think? *Many of the Jews believed in Him.*

John 11:44

John 11:45

Discover the Truth

Many of the people believed in Him. Jesus showed that He had power over death! Lazarus had been in the grave four days! Before they got to Bethany, Jesus knew what was going to happen. He knew that God would be glorified by this awesome miracle. Jesus has power over life and death. Jesus knew that as the people watched Lazarus come from the tomb, some of them would believe, and their faith would be strengthened.

? Will someone read #9 on the class notes? What is the answer there? *Assign a reader. Forth. Have students complete #9.*

? And what about #10. What happened to many of the people who saw what Jesus did? *They believed in Him. Have students complete #10.*

Many of the Jews in Bethany that day believed in Jesus—believed that He was the Son of God. They believed that He was the Savior who came so that men could have eternal life. I want to talk just a little about that—about ETERNAL life.



READ THE WORD

Jesus doesn't raise everyone from the dead like He did Lazarus. In fact, every person will die one day. But Jesus can raise us *spiritually* from the dead. His life, death, and Resurrection offer spiritual life that will last for all eternity to everyone who believes.

Ephesians 2:1

Turn in your Bible to the book of Ephesians. Let's find out what "spiritual life" means. Let's start by reading Ephesians 2:1. *Assign a reader.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

? How does Ephesians 2:1 start off? What are the first five words? *And you He made alive.*

Yes. Paul wrote this letter. He was writing to believers. Paul told the believers that Jesus made them alive, that they were once dead.

? What had made them "dead"? The answer is also in Ephesians 2:1. What does it say? *Their trespasses and sins.*

Yes. The Bible tells us they were dead in their trespasses and sins. They had been sons of disobedience, following their own hearts and doing what they wanted to do when they wanted to do it. They were once spiritually dead.

Ephesians 2:4-5

But, they weren't dead any longer. Someone read Ephesians 2:4-5. *Ephesians 2:4-5. Assign a reader.*

? Who is the one who is rich in mercy and love? *Ephesians 2:4. God.*

? What did God do for these believers, even though they were once dead in trespasses? *Ephesians 2:5. Made them alive together with Christ.*

? These believers were made alive together with Christ. How were they saved? Look in Ephesians 2:5. *By grace.*

Discover the Truth

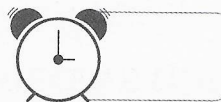
The book of Ephesians was written by Paul, an apostle, who was writing to the believers in the church at Ephesus—the Ephesians. But God's Word is for us, too. And these verses are talking about the spiritual life we can have through Jesus Christ.

We, like the Ephesians, are born dead in our sins. We have no chance of making ourselves clean and sinless before God. We have no life with God while we are dead in our sins. We are not physically dead like Lazarus was, but we are spiritually dead because of our sin. Our sin separates us from God. And because of that, the thing we need more than anything else is to be made alive together with Christ. We need spiritual life. Jesus came to offer spiritual life—eternal life to everyone who would believe in Him. Sinners can be forgiven completely by humbly repenting of their sins,



turning to Jesus Christ, and believing in Him—His life, His death, and His Resurrection from the grave.

Let's finish our class notes. Someone read #11 for us. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Life. Have students complete #11.*



➤ If time allows, assign students to re-read the points on the class notes as a review and briefly discuss them.



Power Over Death Skit

MATERIALS

- ☐ Four Power Over Death Scripts from the Resource DVD-ROM
- ☐ Optional prop: Hairbrush or pen for Tobias to hold as a microphone

INSTRUCTIONS

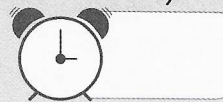
Assign three students to play the characters. Encourage the actors to speak up and play their roles with enthusiasm.

Now we are going to have a fun skit that will review what happened in our lesson today. It must have been an amazing event to witness. Jesus arrived after His friend, Lazarus, had been buried. He planned to raise Lazarus from the grave in order

to bring glory to the Father, to show His power, and to increase the disciple's faith. But until Lazarus came out of the grave, they didn't really understand. Let's watch this skit to see what it may have been like shortly after Jesus raised Lazarus from death. *Have students perform the short skit.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Mary and Martha wanted to tell others about what Jesus had done. They wanted to glorify God because their brother was dead, and Jesus brought him back to life. Only God could do such a thing. And Jesus is God!



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Lazarus's sickness and death was no surprise to Jesus. Jesus knew Lazarus had to die so that Jesus could raise him from the dead.

When Lazarus walked out of the grave, the only reaction could be to give God glory! The Son of God—Jesus Christ—was also glorified by this amazing miracle.

Many of the people who watched this miracle believed in Jesus. Because of the power Jesus had, they believed that God had sent Him. And they believed that Jesus was God in the flesh!

Jesus raised Lazarus physically. But Jesus also has power to give spiritual life—eternal life—to sinners. We are all born dead in sin. But God,

because of His mercy and love, can make us alive together with Christ. This spiritual life is offered to all sinners who will repent of their sins, believe in Jesus, and trust in His Word and work.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

It would seem like everyone who saw Lazarus come out of his grave after Jesus called him forth would believe that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, the promised Savior. But the Bible tells us not ALL people believed.

In fact, what Jesus did made some people angry. When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard of it they began to plot how they might kill Jesus. And they wanted to kill Lazarus, too, to get rid of the evidence! People have always reacted differently to Jesus, the Savior.

Refer to Quarter 1, Lesson 9 Lesson Theme Poster. Earlier this year, when we talked about Jesus's early life, we learned that some men loved Him—like the wise men who offered gifts to young Jesus. And some men hated Him—like King Herod who wanted to kill Him.

Things have not changed. We still see today that some people hate Jesus so much that they try to stop people from talking about Him. They hate the Word of God and the hope that it brings of everlasting life. They love their sin and don't care that it separates them from God.

But there are also those who love Jesus and His Word. They believe the Bible and know that Jesus is God in the flesh. They have the hope of spiritual life that Jesus gives to all who believe in Him.



► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the students to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise Jesus because He is the one true God who is all-powerful and omniscient. Jesus is Lord and worthy of our praise.
- Thank God for Jesus who offers spiritual life to all who believe.
- Pray that Jesus will soften hearts and give spiritual life to sinners who don't believe.