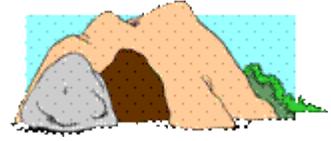


Get Ready!

He is Risen!

By: Shirley Wagganer



Text

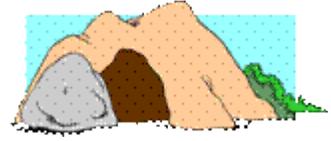
Luke 24:1-9

Key Quest Verse

“He is not here!” (Luke 24:5).

Bible Background

The story today starts out on the early morning of Jesus’ third day in the tomb. The disciples are hiding out. Many are now mourning for whom they know was truly the Son of God. Has all hope been lost? Imagine setting out on a task that early Easter morning when we find Mary Magdalene and the other Mary going to the tomb. They even discuss how they might get by the guards and then, of course, there is that very heavy stone to roll back. But even so, Mary went out to get the job done despite all adversaries. Her faith led her anyway when most of us would turn around, because we would figure it an impossible task. Would we be like “Ole Doubting Thomas?” There were so many witnesses to the account of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection, and ascension, but still so much confusion. The disciples didn’t even remember until that Easter morning that on the third day that He would rise again. But, now the picture was becoming clear as the prophets had foretold so long ago. What a mighty God we serve!

Get Ready!**Lesson Quest**

What I want my students to:

Know: Jesus died for us.

Feel: Jesus loves us very much.

Do: To respond by praising Jesus and singing happy songs as the children did long ago.

Leader's Devotion

Read the resurrection story from each of the four gospels (Matthew 28:1-9; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-9 and John 20:1-18). The account varies slightly as it was recalled, retold, and recorded for us to read. But, the message remains the same; HE IS NOT HERE.

As we prepare to teach the little ones the most important story in the Bible, let us not forget that our Lord is not dead. HE IS ALIVE! This is the truth that sets Christianity apart from all other religions. Our savior is alive, interceding for us, preparing a place for us and will return for us. There is so much to celebrate!

Get Set!**Option A****EGG HUNT**

Materials: A small empty basket for each child. Ahead of time hide several small plastic eggs filled with: raisins, peanuts, cereal and/or mini marshmallows around your room

Today we are going to have our own small Easter egg hunt right here in our classroom. Look around and find as many of these small eggs as you can. After they all are found, place them in the middle of the table and divide them up evenly among your students. Have students place their eggs inside their own baskets, but do not open them yet. Today I am going to share with you a story about the very first Easter morning and a special surprise that Jesus' friends received. While I am telling you the story, you can open your eggs and enjoy what is inside. Be good listeners and see if you can figure out God's special surprise.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Option B**ANGELS**

Materials: A halo for each child by using the following materials: Christmas garland (or other suitable material) cut approximately 18 inches long, tape

Procedure: Tape the ends together to form a circle and place on child's head

Compliment the children on how special they look. Ask the children, **Who created angels? Who created you?** As they answer, God did, you can concur that God has done many special things. **And one of the most special things He did, He did on Easter morning. Now, sit very still so your halos don't fall off, and listen while I tell you what special thing God did for you and me.**

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY



Get Set!

Bible Story

Teacher Tip: Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles

OPTION 1:

Materials: Scarf for storytellers head

Procedure: Place scarf on your head and explain to students that you will pretend to be one of Jesus' friends named Mary Magdalene. Continue by telling the story in first person form

Teacher Tip: Beforehand, sit in front of a mirror, scarf in place, and tell the story over and over again until you are comfortable with all the details and your expressions. Remember practice makes perfect. You and your students will enjoy this form of Bible lessons.

My name is Mary. I am one of Jesus' friends. I want to tell you what happened to me on that very first Easter morning. I and my friends were so sad, because our good friend, Jesus, had been killed. Jesus had not done anything wrong, but some mean people killed Him just the same. We wanted to go to the place where our friend Joseph had laid Jesus' body to rest. They placed Jesus in an empty tomb. A tomb is like a small cave carved into a rock wall (show a picture if you have one). Then they placed a very large heavy stone in front of the opening for the door. After this was done, we all just went home feeling very sad.

A couple of my best friends and I got up very early on that first Easter Sunday morning. It was still dark, and we walked all the way to the cemetery by ourselves. We were sad. We didn't talk much. When we finally got there, we found the most unusual thing! That big stone had been rolled away!! We were so scared. We didn't know what to do. We decided to go inside and see if Jesus was still there. We went in ever so slowly, we looked all around and we did not see Him. Where could He be? What happened to Jesus? Just as we were about to leave, we saw the most amazing thing. Right there in the tomb with us were two angels. They were wearing bright shiny clothes, and they said to us, "He is not here. He has been raised, just like He said He would." We were so surprised! We left immediately and went and found the disciples. A couple of them ran all the way back to see for themselves. This was the best surprise of all to receive that first Easter morning.

Get Set!



Bible Story

Teacher Tip: Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles

OPTION 2:

Materials: You may find an excellent storybook at your local Bible Book Store. If the story is simple enough, read the story to your students and share the wonderful pictures it will have.

Teacher Tip: A copy of this storybook would make an excellent Easter gift for each of your students

Go!**Celebration Cards****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Materials: Construction paper, scissors, marker and a variety of decorating materials, Resource Page

Quest Connection

Today is a very special day and you will receive some special surprises. I love to get surprises and I love to give surprises. Let's make a special card for someone we love. We will share the good news the angels told to Jesus' friends.

Procedure: Using pattern "Celebration Card," trace and cut out two cards for each student. Staple the cards together at the top or side. You can decorate these cards in a variety of ways. With light pastel paper, use darker crayons or markers to decorate outside. Use glue sticks and glitter or special Easter stickers purchased at a local Bible bookstore. On the inside, print ahead of time: HE IS RISEN! Help students write their names and give as a gift to someone they love.

Close

What is the best surprise you have received so far today? What is the best surprise God has given to us? That's right, raising Jesus from the dead was the best surprise of all. Let's bow our heads and thank God for His best surprise.

Go!**Angel Sewing Cards****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Materials: Poster board or paper or styrofoam plate, hole punch, yarn, Resource Page

Quest Connection

On Easter morning who did Mary and her friends find in the tomb? (Angels.) What did the angels say to them? (He is not here. He is risen!) When you take this angel home today show it to someone and tell them the angels said, “He is not here. He is risen!” Let’s practice saying it together.

Procedure: Using the “Sewing Card” pattern from the Resource Page, cut out an angel shape from the poster board or plate for each student. Approximately every $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, punch a hole along the edge of the angel. Cut one piece of yarn for each child long enough to weave in and out each of the holes. Tie knot in one end of yarn. The children may need help getting started

Teacher tip: Wrap masking tape around one end of the yarn for the “needle”

Close

Angels are God’s messengers. Who remembers what the angel told the women? (He is not here. He is risen!)

Go!**Peek-a-Boo Eggs****OBJECT LESSON**

Materials: Large plastic egg, modeling clay, small crosses, small silk flowers, small plastic animals, decorating trims such as rick rack or ribbon, stickers

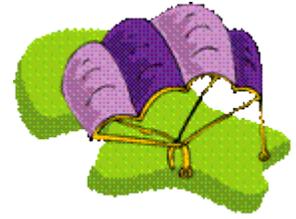
Quest Connection

Everyone look inside your egg and tell me what you see. Do you see an empty cross? Jesus is not there. Why is Jesus not on the cross? Because He is risen. Inside your Easter egg is the very special story of Easter. Jesus died on the cross, but He is no longer there. He was buried, and God raised Him from the dead. Remember what the angels said: “He is not here. He is risen.”

Procedure: Before class make a hole at one end of the egg large enough to peek into. Do this for each child. Take a small amount of clay to form hill to hold cross and other decorative items. Place at opposite end of the egg of the hole to look through. Help children place their crosses and other items in the clay. With items straight and secure, put glue along the edge of the egg and snap together. Decorate the outside with sewing trims and or stickers.

Close

The story inside our egg is the most important one that ever happened. Remember to thank God for His Son Jesus!

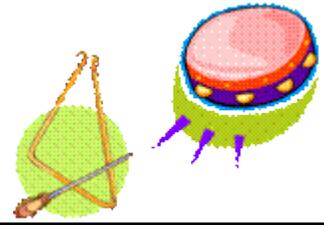
Go!**He Is Risen Parachute Game****GAME****Materials:** Parachute or large sheet**Quest Connection**

We are going to play a game today with a parachute (or sheet). We are going to make a tomb or grave out of the sheet. Who remembers how many days Jesus was in the grave? (Three.) We are going to count to three and then lift the sheet above us. Let's try it. Try it without a child under the sheet. **Now we need someone to volunteer to be Jesus.** Try the game as in the listed procedure.

Procedure: Spread the sheet out on the ground. Evenly space the children around the sheet. The children will hold on to the edge of the sheet with both hands. Have all the children stand while holding onto the sheet. Choose one child to go under the sheet. At the count of "one day, two days, three days," all the children pull up the sheet over their heads, while the child under the sheet runs out. All the children yell, "He is Risen." Let each child take a turn going under the sheet.

Close

What did the angel say when the women found the empty tomb? (He is not here. He is risen!)

Go!**Resurrection Music Celebration****MUSIC****Materials:** Rhythm band instruments**Quest Connection**

Everyone was so happy when they realized that Jesus had risen from the grave! One way that we show we are happy is by singing! We are going to learn a new song today about Jesus.

Procedure: Teach the students the following lyrics to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It”

He is risen from the grave, Jesus Christ

He is risen from the grave, Jesus Christ

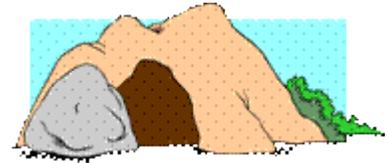
He is risen from the grave

Now I know that I am saved

He is risen from the grave, Jesus Christ

Close

This would be a wonderful song to teach your family! Let us always remember to be happy because of God’s Son, Jesus!

Go!**Resurrection Reenactment****DRAMA**

Materials: Sheet or blanket large enough to cover a table, biblical costumes (optional), assistant halo or angel costume (optional), cardboard stone

Quest Connection

Let's pretend to be the friends who came to Jesus' tomb. Let's make our faces look really, really sad. And, we will be really, really quiet. Follow me as we walk to the tomb. At this time, have the children follow you as you take them for a walk through the church or outside if weather is permissible. Upon returning to your classroom, the tomb will be in place. **We've come to the place Jesus is buried. Let's go inside.** One or two at a time will go into the tomb where they will see the angel. The angel may say, **who did you come to see?** Allow children to answer. **He is not here. He is risen.**

Procedure: Prepare children to go on a walk like the walk Mary and her friends did on Resurrection morning. They should have on sad faces and be very quiet. Take children on a walk throughout the church (not disturbing other classes) and back again to your classroom. While you and your class are walking to the tomb, your assistant will cover the table with a sheet or blanket creating the tomb. Place the cardboard stone off to one side. The assistant can be sitting inside the tomb as an angel. Allow each child to go inside the tomb to see if Jesus is there. The angel should say, **He is not here. He is risen.**

Close

We should always remember to be happy for the same reason. Jesus has risen from the dead!

Go!**Dot Painting****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Materials: Pastel paints (mix primary colors with white), styrofoam meat trays or paper plates and a copy of the teacher Resource Page “Dot Painting” for each student

Quest Connection

Show students the worksheet. **Who can tell me about this picture?** (It is a picture of a tomb where Jesus was buried.) **We are going to use some beautiful spring colors to paint it. We know that when Mary and her friends came back to the tomb they were happy. Why?** (He is risen!)

Procedure: Pour very small amounts of the different color pastel paints on the meat trays. Demonstrate to the students how to make a single dot by dipping the very end of the cotton swab into a color of paint. Make a dot on the picture. Show them how they can fill in the picture with different colors of dots. Encourage them to add landscaping details on the entire page.

Close

You can take this picture home and tell your family the wonderful story about Jesus!

Go!**Resurrection Buns**

FOOD (Be sure to check for food allergies!)

Materials: Frozen bread dough, one bag marshmallows, cinnamon-sugar mixture, butter (melted)

Quest Connection

We are going to make something to help us remember our Bible Story.

Procedure:

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. Take bread dough (thawed in fridge) and cut into squares about 1/4 inch thick.
3. Fold the dough around the marshmallow.
4. Dip the ball of dough in the melted butter and then roll it in the cinnamon-sugar mixture until covered.
5. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 325 degrees for about 10-15 minutes or until golden brown.

Close

What happened to the marshmallow? It is gone! How does that remind you of what happened when the women went to Jesus' tomb early in the morning?

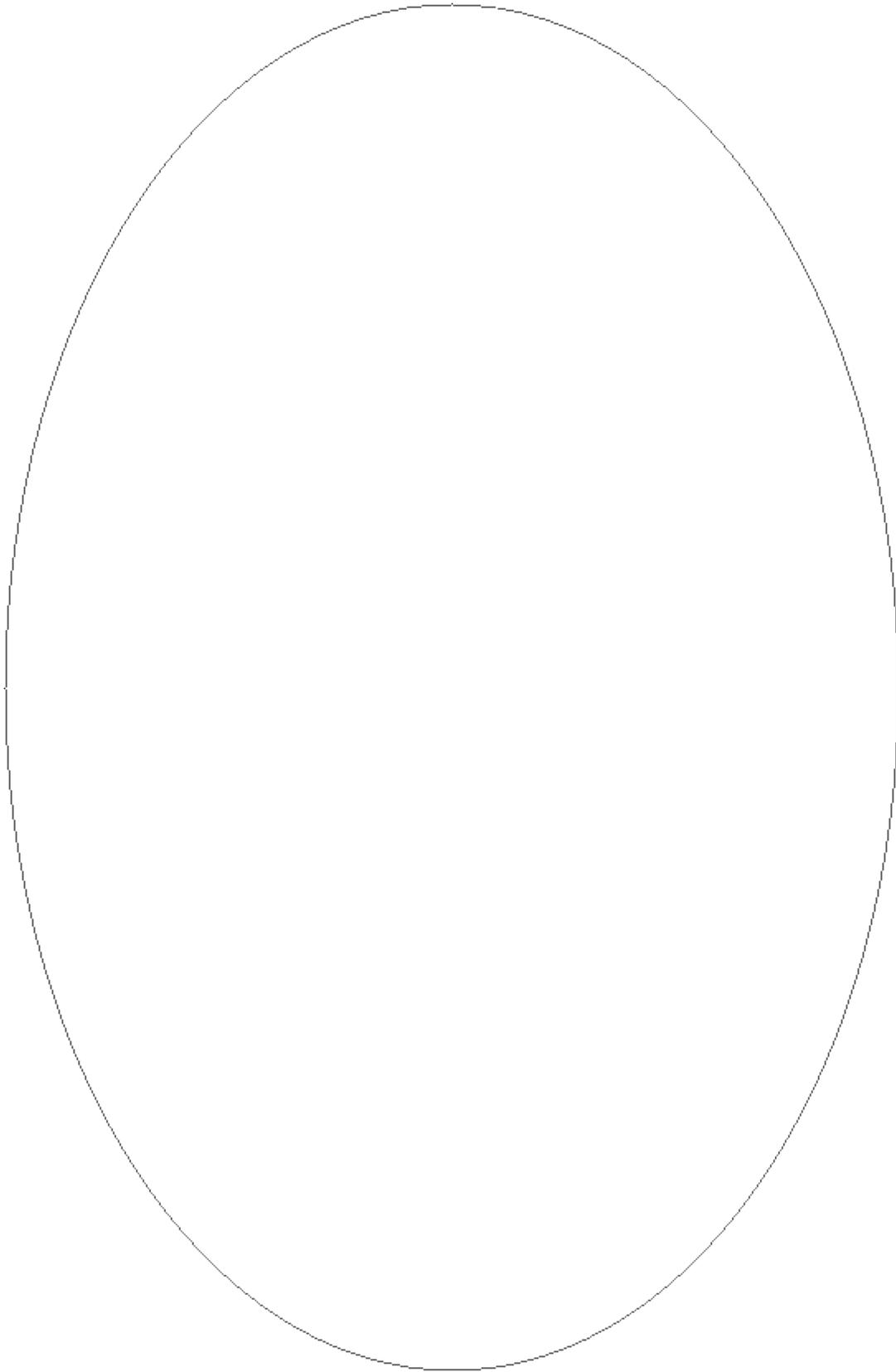
Go!**In Three and Out****GAME****Materials:** Hula hoop**Quest Connection**

We know that Jesus was in the grave (or another word for the grave is the tomb) for three days. What happened after the three days? (He rose from the grave.) We are going to play a game today that will remind us of Jesus on that special day when He came out of the grave.

Procedure: Hold the hula hoop slightly above the ground. Students will line up on one side of the hoop. When you say “go,” the first student will jump through the hoop, count to three on the other side of the hoop, jump back through the hoop and say the memory verse loudly “He has risen!” The student will then go to the end of the line. Continue doing this until all students have gone through the hoop.

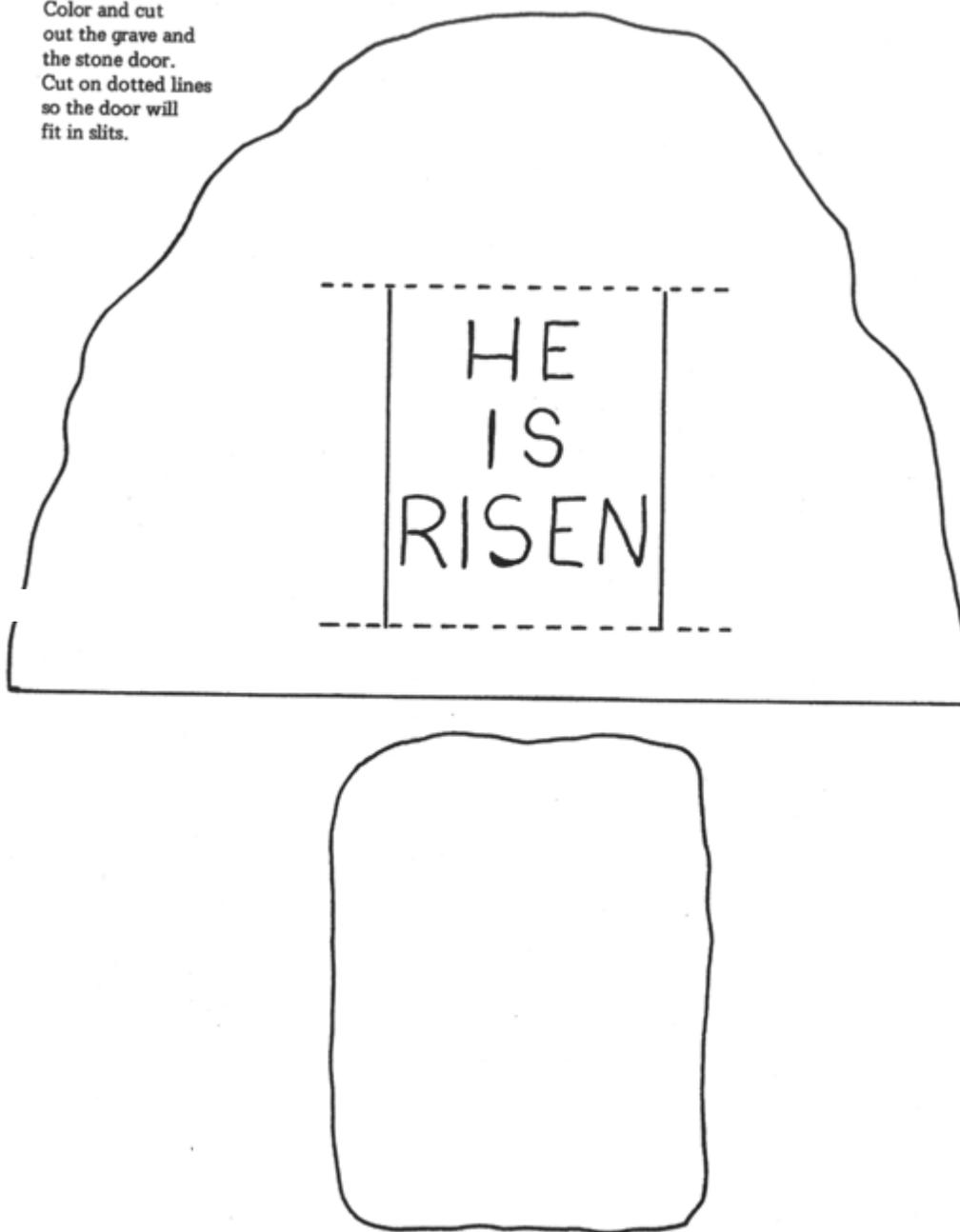
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Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son Jesus! Amen

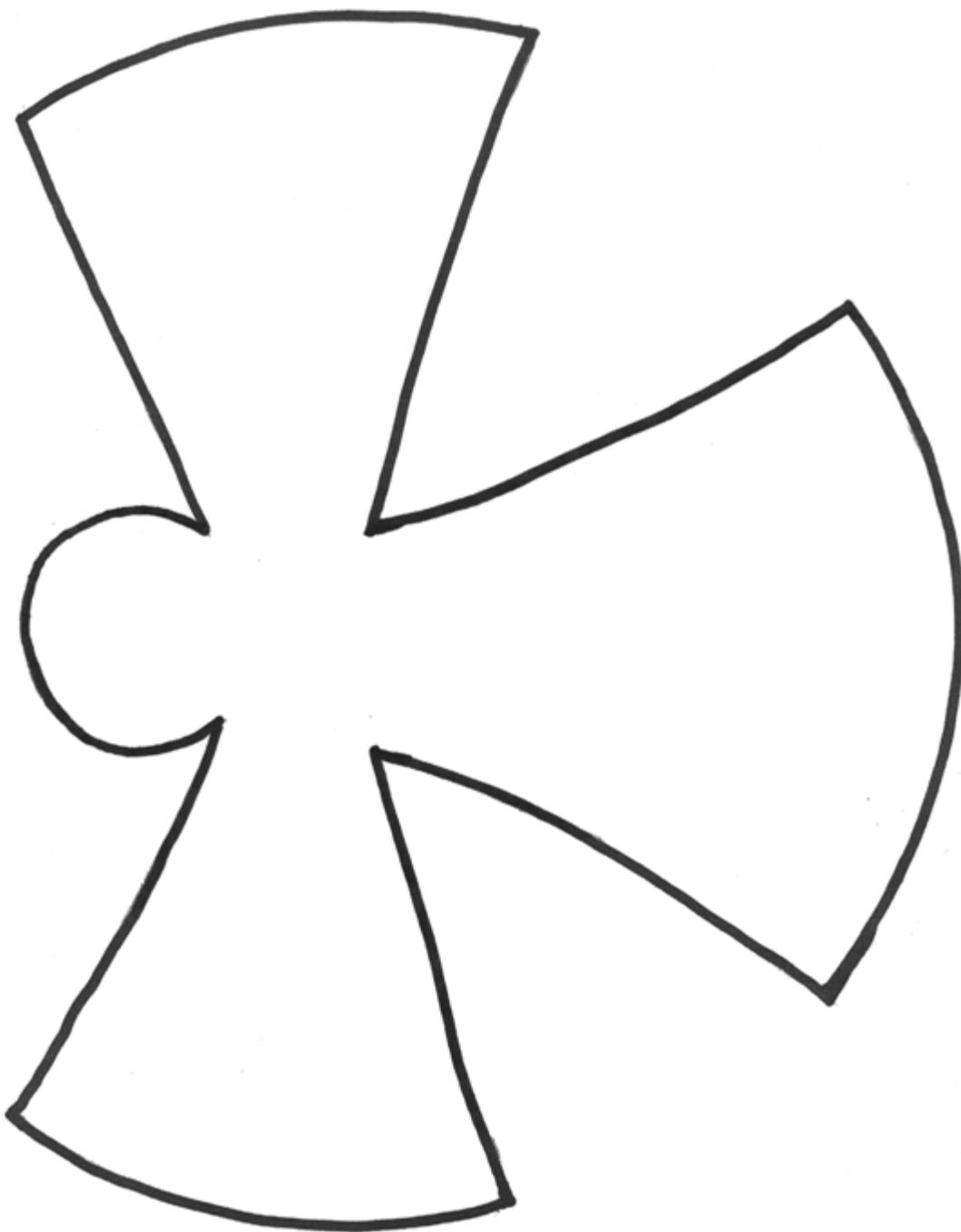


Resource Page—Dot Painting

Color and cut
out the grave and
the stone door.
Cut on dotted lines
so the door will
fit in slits.

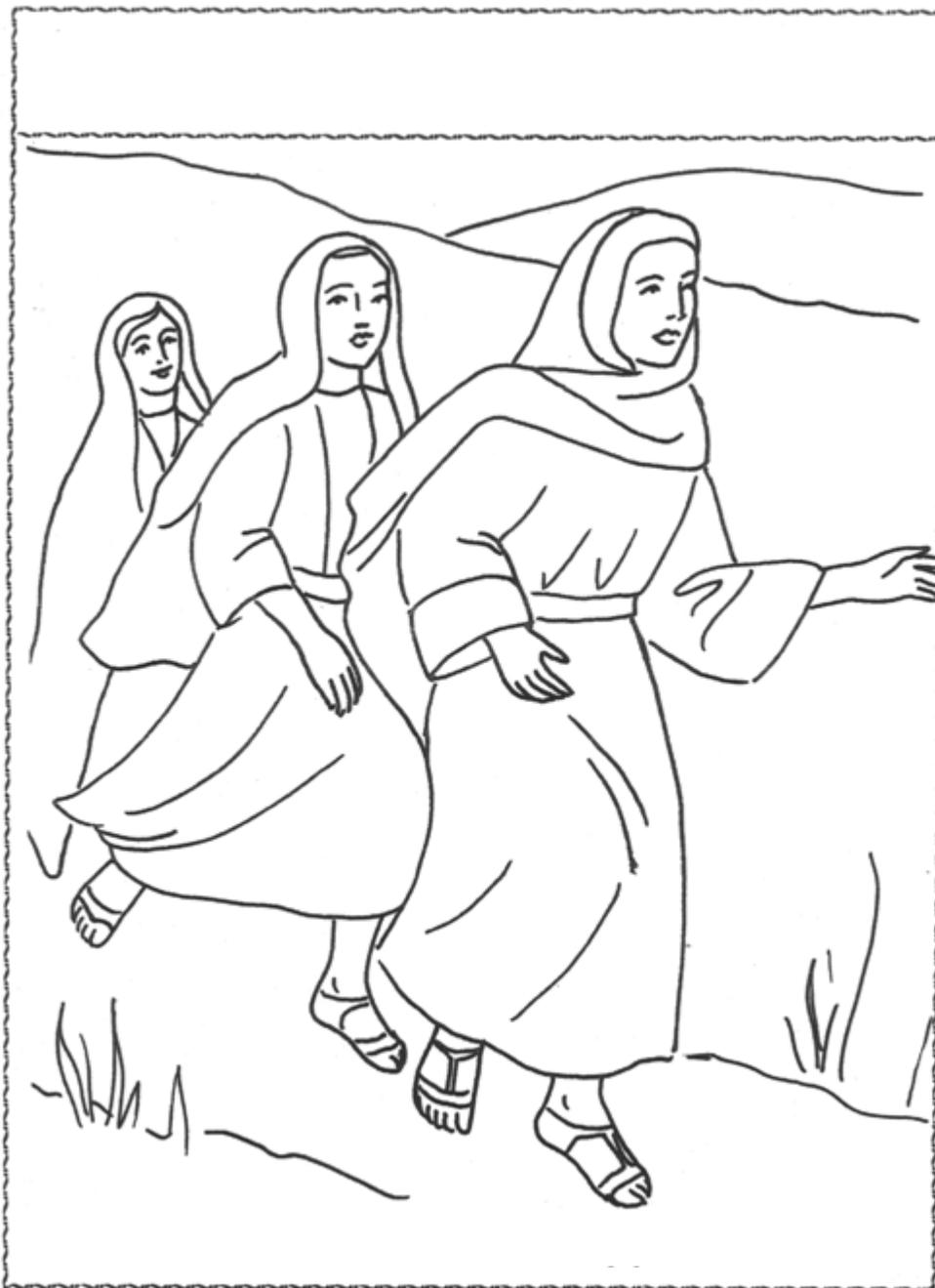


**Resource Page—Angel
Pattern**



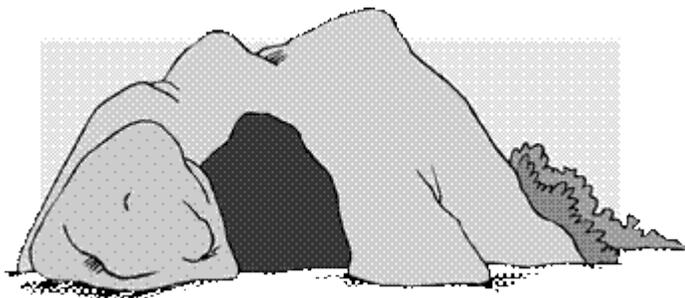
Worksheet—Women Running

What is the good news the women are running to tell their friends? Can you draw the sun coming up?



Journal Page

Draw a picture of how you would look if you went with the women to Jesus' tomb that morning.



“He is not here!” (Luke 24:5).

Worksheet—He is Risen

Jesus is Alive!

Matthew 28:1-10

Jesus did not do wrong, but some people said He did, and put Him on a cross until He died. He was buried in a cave in the rock. Some women went to His grave, but He was not there. An angel was there, who said, "Jesus is risen, and is not dead. Go tell your friends He is alive and they will see Him." Jesus' friends did see Him, and they were very glad. Jesus told them He must go to His Father, but He will come back."

* * * *

Color only the spaces marked X, and you will find something from our lesson.

