

DEEP

Lesson #4

What Happens After We Die on Earth?

The purpose of this lesson plan is to:

- Create a fun and interactive learning experience
- Provide teaching options in addition to the Leader Q Card
- Creatively revisit the Bible story featured in the teaching video
- Give kids an opportunity to further explore the application point

PROGRAM

Activity	Length of Segment	Running Time
Q Card: Discussion	15 minutes	Start-15 minutes
Picture: Bible Story	5 minutes	15-20 minutes
Play: Learning Activity	10 minutes	20-30 minutes
Plan: Group Commitment	5 minutes	30-35 minutes
Prayer: Prayer Cards	5 minutes	35-45 minutes

PREP

You will need:

- Tri-folded paper for travel brochures (one per kid)
- Art materials for travel brochures (pencils, markers, crayons, stickers, etc.)
- Heaven Bible Verse Sheets (one per kid, or groups can share - master at the end of this lesson)
- Sample Destination: Heaven travel brochure (optional - 1 per small or large group)
- Story Props (optional)
- Prayer Cards (1 per kid)
- MAP Books (1 per kid)

PICTURE

(The Bible Story)

In this portion of your class time you have the opportunity to review the Bible verses presented earlier in the teaching video. The object is to paint a picture that kids will understand and remember. When reading the verses, remember you are painting a picture for your viewers. Have fun and explore your creativity. Here are some ideas to make your storytelling more memorable:

- You could ask the kids to act out the story as you read it aloud
- Try using props like: large stone, burial garments for Lazarus
- The characters in the story are: Jesus, Martha, Mary, Lazarus

John 11:17-45

When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem, and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss. When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask."

Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

"Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day."

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?"

"Yes, Lord," she told him. "I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God." Then she returned to Mary. She called Mary aside from the mourners and told her, "The Teacher is here and wants to see you." So Mary immediately went to him.

Jesus had stayed outside the village, at the place where Martha met him. When the people who were at the house consoling Mary saw her leave so hastily, they assumed she was going to Lazarus' grave to weep. So they followed her there. When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled. "Where have you put him?" he asked them.

They told him, "Lord, come and see." Then Jesus wept. The people who were standing nearby said, "See how much he loved him!" But some said, "This man healed a blind man. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Jesus was still angry as he arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. "Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them.

But Martha, the dead man's sister, protested, "Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible."

Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?" So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent me." Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And the dead man came out, his hands and feet bound in graveclothes, his face wrapped in a headcloth. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him go!"

Many of the people who were with Mary believed in Jesus when they saw this happen.

PLAY

(Learning Activity)

In this portion of your class time you will lead your class in a fun and exciting activity that will help your kids apply the Bible lesson to their everyday lives.

“Destination: Heaven”

HOW TO START:

- Hand out one tri-fold travel brochure paper to each kid
- Hand out art supplies (markers, pencils, crayons, stickers, etc.)
- Hand out the Heaven verse sheets, or place them on the floor/table to share

ACTIVITY:

- Say, “This activity is called Destination: Heaven. This activity will help us to think about Heaven, the beautiful place God has prepared for everyone who accepts Jesus.”
- Explain to the kids that they will be creating their own travel brochures that tell about Heaven
- Show the kids the sample Destination: Heaven travel brochure (optional)
- Encourage the kids to answer the following questions in their brochures using words and/or pictures:
 - What is in Heaven?
 - What happens in Heaven?
 - Who is in Heaven?
 - What does Heaven look like?
 - How can I go to Heaven?
 - Why would I want to go to Heaven?
- Read the Heaven Bible verses together off of the Heaven Bible Verse Sheet
- Kids can use the information in these verses about Heaven to create their brochures
- Ask the kids to share their brochures with the group when they are finished

HEAVEN BIBLE VERSES:

- John 14:2 - In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (NKJV)
- Revelations 21:4 - He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” (NLT)
- Revelations 7:16-17 - They will never again be hungry or thirsty; they will never be scorched by the heat of the sun. For the Lamb on the throne will be their Shepherd. He will lead them to springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe every tear from their eyes.” (NLT)
- Revelations 14:2-3a - And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of mighty ocean waves or the rolling of loud thunder. It was like the sound

of many harpists playing together. This great choir sang a wonderful new song in front of the throne of God... (NLT)

- Revelation 21:21- The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass. (NLT)
- Revelation 21:27 - Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (NLT)
- John 3:16 - For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (NLT)

ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

- For Younger kids: Make your brochures together step by step and encourage the kids to draw pictures

PLAN

(Group Commitment)

In this portion of your class time you have the opportunity to lead your group to make a commitment. You may select any ONE of the options provided or your group may create its own. Encourage the kids to write their commitments on their Prayer Cards so you can be praying for them during the week.

Commitment Options:

- If you are sad because someone you loved has passed away, talk with an adult about it. Share your sadness and talk about the things you miss the most about him/her. Ask God to comfort your sadness.
- Think of someone who does not know Jesus. Pray for him/her this week. Ask God to open his/her heart to Jesus, and ask for God to help you talk about Jesus with him/her.
- Memorize a Bible verse about Heaven. Thank God this week for preparing such a beautiful place for you to live in forever.

PRAYER

In this portion of your class time, have your kids fill out the Prayer Card. Take the cards home and pray for your kids throughout the week. End your time together by praying for your group commitment.

Hand out prayer cards

- Ask kids to fill in their commitments in the space provided
- Ask kids to fill in their prayer requests in the space provided
- Collect cards so you can take them home and pray for your kids
- Close in prayer

God, we love you so much, and we thank you for everything you have given to us. We thank you that you are always with us even in our deep sadness.

Thank you for creating a beautiful place like Heaven for us where there are mansions, music, no more death, and no more crying. Help us to share Jesus with others so that they can go to Heaven with us someday too. Help us to be encouraged by the hope of Heaven as we experience tough things this week, and please help us to do the things we have committed to do. In Jesus' name, amen.

Remember to...

- Hand out the MAP Books
- Remind the kids to complete them and bring them back next week

HEAVEN BIBLE VERSES

John 14:2

In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (NKJV)

Revelations 21:4

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." (NLT)

Revelations 7:16-17

They will never again be hungry or thirsty; they will never be scorched by the heat of the sun. For the Lamb on the throne will be their Shepherd. He will lead them to springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe every tear from their eyes." (NLT)

Revelations 14:2-3a

And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of mighty ocean waves or the rolling of loud thunder. It was like the sound of many harpists playing together. This great choir sang a wonderful new song in front of the throne of God... (NLT)

Revelation 21:21

The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass. (NLT)

Revelation 21:27

Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (NLT)

John 3:16

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (NLT)