LIFE OF JESUS

Pre-Primary Curriculum

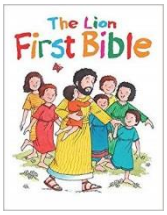
Based on the Gospels from the Lion's First Bible

Term 4

GOD'S RESCUE PLAN

Pre-Primary Curriculum

Based on the Gospels from the Lion's First Bible



The Pre-Primary Curriculum is a 2 year curriculum for 3-5 year olds. The overall aim of this curriculum is to give the children an understanding of the big rescue story of the Bible. The hope is this will give them a foundation to build on as they study books of the Bible in future years at Kids Church and that it will help them fit these books into the context of the whole story.

'God's Big Story' is based on the Big Picture Story Bible which tells the overarching story of how God made the world and people to live as God's people in God's place under God's rule. It tells the sad story of how people rejected God's rule time and time again. But God still loved his people and promised right back at the beginning to send a 'Forever King'. He sent Jesus to rescue us so we can look forward to living in God's 'Forever Place', Heaven. The aim is to give children an understanding of God's Big Story of salvation over the course of a year.

'God's Rescue Plan' goes into more detail on the book of Exodus (term 1), Kings and Prophets (term 2) and the Gospels (term 3 and 4).

This term 'God's Rescue Plan' is based on the Life of Jesus using The Lion First Bible. The aim is to give children an understanding of God's Rescue Plan, how Jesus is God's perfect forever King who came to die and rise again to rescue us.

Each lesson includes song suggestions, a Bible story, discussion questions and activity ideas. Kids will also learn a memory verse over the course of each term.

Term 4 Songs

Isaiah 53:6 (Baa Baa Doo Baa Baa, Colin Buchanan)
God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
Jesus is the mighty, mighty King (Follow the Saviour, Colin Buchanan)
Blind Bartimaeus (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
God Gave me two Eyes (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)
Easter Friday (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

God's Rescue Plan Curriculum Overview

Term 4 Life of Jesus – Lion First Bible

Week	Story	SMS (Simple Message Statement)	Visual Images	Memory Verse	Just for Leaders (Bible Passage of Story)
1	God Celebrates	God celebrates every time a person repents and chooses to follow him.	Sheep	The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**	Luke 15:1-7
2	God's Invitation	God invites us to come to his party in heaven, we need to make a choice.	Party Invite		Luke 14:15-24
3	Who is Jesus?	Jesus is God's promised King.	Question mark		Matthew 16:13-16, 21-23 & 17:1-13
4	Blind Bartimaeus (People Jesus saves)	Blind Bartimaeus trusted Jesus and followed him.	Eyes		Mark 10:46-52 (John 8:12)
5	Jesus saves sinners (People Jesus saves)	Jesus came to save sinners.	Picture of Zac in tree		Luke 19:1-10
6	Jesus in Jerusalem	Some people understand Jesus is God's Promised King and some people don't.	Crown		Matthew 21:1-17 & 26:14-16
7	Jesus knew God's Plan	Jesus knew God's rescue plan was for him to die to save people.	Bread and juice		Matthew 26:17- 56 & John 13:1-30 & 14:
8	Jesus dies on the cross	Jesus died to forgive people for their sins.	Cross		Matthew 27/Mark 15/Luke 22-23/John 19
9	Jesus is Alive	God's rescue plan was to bring Jesus back to life showing his power over death.	Tomb		Matthew 28/Mark 16/John 20-21
10	God's Good News	Jesus followers are to tell everyone God's good news.	Person with speech bubble	This is the Christmas Party week so won't be a full lesson.	Matthew 28:16-20/Acts 1:1-11

1. GOD CELEBRATES

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: God celebrates every time a person repents and chooses to follow him.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** Isaiah 53:6 (Baa Baa Doo Baa Baa, Colin Buchanan)
Online Resource coloured and prepared	**INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)** **Play the Parable of the Lost Sheep Game:** http://craftingthewordofgod.com/2014/02/15/the-parable-of-the-lost-sheep-game/ **Post-Game Discussion:** In today's true story Jesus tells a story about a shepherd. The shepherd has lost one of his sheep and he has to go and find it. Jesus tells the people how God is just like this shepherd and people are like his sheep – he wants every one of his people to repent and follow him. Do you remember what the word repent means? Let's have a look at our Word of the Day card from earlier this year. Repent means 'Stop sinning and turn back to God'.
	RECAP Remember where we finished last term, we were learning about how Jesus had power over nature, sickness, death and sin. This term we're going to keep learning about Jesus' life and how he came to rescue people like you and me.
Story Image: Sheep The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read The Lost Sheep p.378-385 and talk about the following things as you read • p378 Some people thought that Jesus should only talk to good people but Jesus knows no one is good and that everyone needs to hear his good news so he told a story. • p379 Can you see the shepherd counting his sheep? Wow 100 sheep is a lot! • p380 What did the shepherd do when he found out he'd lost a sheep? Let's see if he finds it. • p381-382 What did the man do when he found his sheep? • p383 Jesus says God is like the shepherd and people are like the sheep. When we don't know and trust Jesus we're lost but when we turn back to him and trust him God has a party! He loves it! • p384-385 Jesus tells us more about what it means that he's the shepherd. He tells people that he is going to die for his people.
	OR **Recap by watching:** The Lost Sheep video http://www.max7.org/en/resource/lostsheep

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- What were the people grumbling about at the beginning?
- What happened in the story Jesus told?
- What did the shepherd do when he found his lost sheep?
- Who did Jesus say God is like in the story?
- Who are people like?

God is like the shepherd and people are like sheep. When we don't know and trust Jesus we're lost. God wants to find us and
God celebrates every time a person repents and chooses to follow him.

- Who is the good shepherd?
- What did Jesus say he is going to do for his sheep?

Jesus tells us he is going to die for his sheep. Remember we know that's what Jesus did – he died so he could rescue people, so we can choose to follow him, to be one of his sheep.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that you love to have people repent and follow you. Please help each of us to stop sinning and trust in you. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm people you know who don't know and trust Jesus. Kids may need suggestions – family members, neighbours, friends at kindy, teachers. Ask God to help these people hear the good news and repent and follow him. Remember God loves people to do this. Ask each child to pray for the person they thought of. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray/pray on their behalf if they're really struggling). Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence). Dear God, thank you for… please help them to hear the good news about Jesus and want to start trusting him. In Jesus name Amen

SONG

God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

TV/Computer/CD player

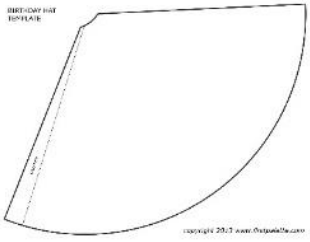
CRAFT Idea: Party Hats

Party hat template: http://www.5zin.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/birthday-hat-template-2015-mgpaew9m.jpg

Coloured pens/pencils

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Hide Sheep around the room.



2. GOD'S INVITATION

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: God invites us to come to his party in heaven, we need to make a choice.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** Isaiah 53:6 (Baa Baa Doo Baa Baa, Colin Buchanan)
Masking tape Things for players to choose	**INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)** *Choices Game* Place a masking tape line down the middle of the room. Have a list of different things to choose from such as: lollies/chips, swimming/running, watching TV/playing on ipad, chocolate/vanilla, dress/pants etc. Kids have to choose which one they like best by running to that side of the room/tape. Post-Game Discussion: There are lots of choices that we make each day. In today's story Jesus tells another story about a party. Lots of people get invited to the party but only some people choose to go. The bible tells that heaven is like a big forever party. We are all invited but we have to choose if we accept the invite.

Story Image: Party Invitation
The Lion First Bible
 	
	STORY
	Read The Best Party Ever p.398-403
	• p398 Can you see the people at the party? What is the party the person talking to Jesus wants to go to? The one in God's Kingdom – that's talking about heaven, we can live with God now and forever if we choose to accept Jesus' invitation.
	• Jesus tells a story about how people have a choice to make about his invitation. Some people will say no and some say yes
	• p399-401 – how did the man feel about people saying no to his party?
	  • What did he do when the first people say no?
	  • Did those new people invited come?
	• p402-403 Can you see all the people enjoying the party? What about the first people the man invited, did they come? No they missed out!
	Do you know that God wants everyone to come to his party, to live with him forever in heaven but not everyone will say yes. God invites us to come to his party in heaven, we need to make a choice. Are we going to say yes by trusting Jesus?

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- What was Jesus' story about?
- The man invited some people to the party, what did those first people say when they were told to come?
- Did they want to come?
- The man was very upset about this but what did he do next?
- Did he find people to come to his party?
- This was a story Jesus told to people but remember Jesus is inviting people to come to something, can you remember what that was from the beginning of today's story?

Jesus was inviting people to belong to God's Kingdom, to trust him so they could live with God forever in heaven. God invites us to come to his party in heaven, we need to make a choice.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Let's thank God for his invitation and ask him to help us make a choice.

Dear God, Thank you that you invite us to come to your party in heaven. Please help us to make a decision about whether we will trust you and go to this party. In Jesus name Amen.

Talk to the kids about how they can pray for themselves to ask God to help them make a decision about this invitation. (Remember some of them will have already decided to say yes).

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Leaders, talk about how you have decided to say yes to Jesus' invitation to his forever party in heaven. Ask the kids if they can think of other people in their lives who have said yes to this invitation – parents, siblings, friends, other people at church such as pastors (remember some children won't have parents who trust Jesus).

Take turns praying for each of these people... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, thank you for (insert name). Thank you that they have decided to say yes to your party invitation. In Jesus Name Amen.

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player

God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Make a party invitation, inviting kids to God's party. Write the passage Luke 14: 15-24.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Party Games

3. WHO IS JESUS?

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Jesus is God's promised King.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
	INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action) *Who am I?* Think of some characters/animals/people kids will know and have a list of clues. Have the children guess who it is. End with Jesus Who am I? I am a man. I lived on earth a long time ago. I am a King. I died but I didn't stay dead. I am God. I am God's promised King. Who am I? Jesus!
Story Image: Question Mark The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read Who am I? p. 404-409 • p404-405 Can you see Jesus walking and talking with his special friends? o Who did Peter say Jesus was? • p406 What was Peter upset about? o Peter didn't understand but Jesus explains he has to do what God his Father wants him to do. • p407 Can you see Jesus on the mountain? It must have been strange for Peter, James and John to see Jesus like this but let's see what happened next. • p408-409 What did the voice tell Peter, James and John? They were scared but this helped them believe Jesus really was God's promised King. [Later (after Jesus' resurrection) they could write this story down for everyone else to hear about it.] Peter thought he understood who Jesus was. He knew he was God's promised King but he had to learn what Jesus had come to do. Jesus, God's promised King had to die to rescue people.

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- What did Jesus ask his special friends?
- Who did Peter say Jesus is?
- What did Jesus say was going to happen to him?
- What did Peter say about Jesus dying?
- What did Jesus say he had to do?

Peter didn't understand yet what Jesus had to do to rescue people. Jesus had to obey his Father, he had to obey God. Jesus had to rescue people but he would come back to life.

- What did Peter, James and John see happen to Jesus up the mountain?
- What did the voice say about Jesus?

This was a secret until after Jesus came back to life. Then they could tell everyone what they saw and how it helped them believe Jesus is God's Promised King.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Let's thank God for keep his promises and sending his promised King to rescue us.
Dear God, Thank you for keeping your promise and sending your promised King. Thank you that Jesus was willing to die to rescue people. Help us to believe in Jesus, your promised King.
In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

What makes Jesus the best king? He has power to take away my sin, he has power over death, he came to save us, power over sickness…
Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)
Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).
Dear God, thank you for Jesus, he's the best king because…Amen

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Jesus is the mighty, mighty King (Follow the Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

Coloured pens/pencils

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea:

1. Memory Verse Take home - Print the memory verse on A5 or smaller for the kids to decorate and then laminate to take home.
2. Create crowns with the Big Idea on it.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.
PLAY: Kings and queens with crowns

4.BLIND BARTIMAEUS

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Blind Bartimaeus trusted Jesus and followed him.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** Jesus is the Mighty Mighty King (Remember the Lord, Colin Buchanan)
Blindfolds	**INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)** *Blindfold games* Make a simple obstacle course. Put children in pairs, one blindfolded and the other not. The one who can see needs to lead the blindfolded person through the course. Post-Game Discussion: Ask the blind folded person if it was easy or scary to trust their friend to lead them along when they couldn't see? It would be very hard to be blind, especially a long time ago when Jesus was on earth. In today's story there was a blind man called Bartimaeus, he had to beg for money because he could work. But Bart had heard about Jesus so let's find out what he does.
Story Image: Eyes The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read I can see p.410-413 • p410-411 Can you see Bartimaeus sitting begging? Can you Jesus and the people walking past? Does Jesus have the power to heal Bart? Yes we've seen in other stories that Jesus can heal people and Bart knows that too! Let's see what Jesus does • p412-413 Wow Jesus heals Bartimaeus because he trusted Jesus. What did Bart decide to do after Jesus healed him? Bartimaeus trusted Jesus to heal him and then he followed Jesus! That's what Jesus wants everyone to do, to follow him.
	DISCUSSION Let's see how you went listening to today's story - What was wrong with Bartimaeus? - Who did he hear coming? - What did he want Jesus to do? - Did Jesus heal him? - What did Bartimaeus decide to do after Jesus healed him? Bartimaeus had heard about Jesus. He knew who he was and what he could do and he asked Jesus to heal him. Bartimaeus trusted Jesus to heal him and then he followed Jesus. We can't follow Jesus down the road like Bartimaeus could but we can follow him by trusting him and living the way he wants us to.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Let's thank God for Bartimaeus and ask God to help us trust Jesus too

Dear God, Thanks that Bartimaeus trusted and followed Jesus. Please help us to trust Jesus and follow him too. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm things we can thank God for. Help them think of what they can thank God for from today's story.

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)

Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, thank you for…Amen

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player

God gave me two eyes (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils
Paddle pop sticks
glue

While you're doing your activities listen to the song 'Blind Bartimaeus' from J is for Jesus, Emu Music

CRAFT Idea: Make Bartimaeus - http://craftingthewordofgod.com/2013/06/25/blind-man-healed-mask/

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Play the blind fold game again.

5. JESUS SAVES SINNERS

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Jesus came to save sinners.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** God Gave me two Eyes (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
chairs, cushions etc, blindfolds	**INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)** *Safe in the Sheep Pen* - Jesus is seeking the lost (The Encyclopaedia of Bible Games for Children's Ministry p. 118) Place the chairs/cushions in a circle with the backs facing in. This is the sheep's pen. Leave a space where the kids can move into and out of the pen. One player will be blindfolded and become the 'Seeker'. The rest of the children will scatter and walk around the seeker saying 'baa'. When the seeker reaches out and touches a sheep, that sheep will go back to the pen. Leader – says "Good you've found a sheep, now he can rest safely in the pen." The other sheep will stop and applaud for 3 seconds. Then the seeker will continue until all the sheep are in the pen. Play can continue with new seekers. **OR** *Play stuck in the mud* Post-Game Discussion: Sometimes the bible talks about people as lost sheep (week 1 reminder). In today's story we're going to learn Jesus came to save sinners – lost people like Zacchaeus.
Story Image: Zac in the tree The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read A Nasty Little Cheat p. 414-417 • p414-415 Can you see Zacchaeus climbing the tree? Jesus saw him and wanted to visit his house. Let's see what everyone else thought about that. • p416 Zacchaeus wasn't a nice person, he stole money from other people so did the people like that Jesus was going to his house? • p417 When Zac met Jesus he changed. He knew that God wanted him to live differently. Jesus knew that Zac was someone who was lost, he didn't know God and he needed rescuing. Now Zac knows God and he's been found. Do you remember what God does when people stop sinning and turn back to him? He celebrates, there's a party!

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- Who wanted to see Jesus? What did Zac do so he could see him?
- Was Zac a nice, kind person? *No,* what did he do that people didn't like?
- Did that stop Jesus being friends with him?

No, Jesus knew that Zacchaeus needed to be found by God. He needed to start trusting and following Jesus.

- Did Zac change after he became friends with Jesus?

Yes, Zacchaeus knew he needed to live differently now that he followed Jesus. He wanted to give money back to the people he stole from and he wanted to give money to people who needed it more than him (poor people).

Jesus said these are the people he came to save. Remember the other people were grumpy that Jesus went to Zac's house because they didn't like him. They thought Jesus shouldn't spend time with people who weren't nice but Jesus said these are the people he came to save. Jesus came to save sinners – people who don't trust Jesus just like Zac.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Let's talk to God.

Dear God, Thanks that Jesus came to save sinners. Thanks that he didn't just come to save good or nice people but he came to save everyone who decides to trust in him. In Jesus name Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Have a picture or name of each of your children in the group in a bag/box. Have the kids choose 1 person from bag/box to pray for.

Take turns praying 'Please help _____ to trust you and live the way you want him/her to.' (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence or do a repeated prayer with them).

(Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray, pray with them/for them if they need help)

SONG

TV/Computer/ CD player

Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Put Zacchaeus in the tree - http://craftingthewordofgod.com/2013/04/20/zacchaeus/

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Create a tree out of blocks etc. and have a person to be 'Zac' to retell the story.

6. JESUS IN JERUSALEM

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Some people understand Jesus is God's promised King and some people don't.

RESOURCES	LESSON
	SONG
TV/CD player	Jesus is the Mighty, Mighty King (Follow the Saviour, Colin Buchanan)
	INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)
Green paper palm branch picture	*God's Promised King puzzle* - Give each child a green palm branch picture that has "GOD'S PROMISED KING" written on the puzzle and CUT into several pieces. Let each child put their puzzle pieces together and when they have completed putting the pieces together they will SHOUT OUT what their puzzle says! "God's Promised King". Tell the children these words before starting. **OR** *Triumphal Entry Relay Race* - Divide into 2 teams or more (unless class is very small and then just have children take turns). Have a cape and a palm branch at the other side of the room. Children will run to put on the cape and grab the palm branch and wave it as they come back to give it to the next team player. THAT player will put on the cape and wave the palm branch to the other side of the room, take it off and leave it there. The next player on the team will run down and do the same as the first player did until everyone on the team has taken a turn.
Story Image: Crown The Lion First Bible	**STORY** Read A Donkey for the King p.422-423 • p422 – the young donkey had never been ridden before – this could have been dangerous for Jesus. • p423 – look at all the people – were they happy to see Jesus? Did they think he really was God's Promised King? • **Pause at the end of page 423** – Where did Jesus finish? *At the temple. Let's see what happened when Jesus arrived at the temple.* • Continue reading from p424 – Has anyone been to the markets? Or heard someone shouting at a fruit shop to come buy fruit?

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- What town did Jesus ride into? What did he ride on?
- What were the people with the palm leaves shouting? Were they happy to see Jesus?
- What did Jesus find when he entered the temple?
- Were people using the temple the right way? What was the temple for? *A quiet place for people to pray*
- What did Jesus do when he saw them use the temple like a market?
- What did the men in charge feel? *Angry, jealous*
- What else did Jesus do when he was at the temple? *Healed people.*
- What did the men in charge want to do about Jesus?

In this story we see people being excited about Jesus coming into Jerusalem, waving leaves and shouting "Here comes God's Promised King!" At the temple, we see other people who didn't care about what the temple was for by using it like a market or shop. The men in charge of the temple also didn't understand who Jesus was. They didn't understand that he was God's promised King that is why they were jealous and wanted to get rid of Jesus. This was all a part of God's rescue plan. Judas one of Jesus' special friends was also part of God's rescue plan. Next week we will find out what happens to Jesus and what the secret plan was from the men in charge and Judas, one of Jesus' special friends.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you for showing us in the story that some people understand who you are, God's promised King, and some people don't. We know this is still true today. Help us to keep telling others about who you are so they can understand too. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm people who may not know about Jesus in the children's lives.

Ask who would like to pray for the people they have mentioned. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)

Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, I pray for…help them to know you…Amen

SONG

Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

TV/Computer/CD player

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Palm Leavehttp://biblekidsfunzone.com/crafts/dirpalmbranches.html

Coloured pens/pencils

http://www.sundayschoolkids.com/activities-lent-easter/1-fanpalm-instru.htm

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Use the palm leaves to retell the story.

7. JESUS KNEW GOD'S PLAN

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: knew God's rescue plan was for him to die to save people.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** God Knows (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
	INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action) *Wipe Tag* (Jesus washes the Disciples' Feet) All players take their shoes and socks off. Children find partners and stand facing each other. All players have a baby wipe. Goal of the game is to try and wipe their partner's feet without being tagged by their partner. No kicking and if limited space, partners play 1 at a time. Each round is only 1 minute long. Post-Game Discussion: Was it easy or hard to not have your feet wiped? Does washing/wiping someone elses feet seem like a nasty job? Sometimes doing things no one likes to do is showing that you really care. In today's story, we see Jesus showing his special friends how to show love and care by doing things you may not want to do.
Story Image: Bread and Wine The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read A Last Meal Together p.428-435 • p428 – Does anyone remember the name of the special meal to remember God rescuing his people in Egypt? *Passover* • p429 – This is just like the game we played – Jesus didn't mind doing the nasty job, and we shouldn't either. • p430 – Show the Visual Image of the bread and cup of wine to help remember this story. • p431 – Re-read the SMS for the day – *Jesus knew he had to die.* • p432 – Do you know another name for the Special Helper God will send? *The Holy Spirit* • p433 – *Jesus knew death would be painful. But he knew he had to die. Just like washing his friends feet – it was a nasty job, but because he cares he had to do it.*

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- Who was Jesus with for the special meal?
- What did Jesus do before they sat down to eat?
- What did Jesus say about the bread?
- What did Jesus say about the wine?
- What was he trying to tell his special friends about what would happen? *Jesus told them he had to die but would come back to take them to be with God.*
- Who was Jesus going to send to be with them? *His Special Helper or The Holy Spirit*
- Where did Jesus go to pray?
- Who lead the soldiers to Jesus?
- What did Jesus' special friends do? *Tried to help, but then ran away.*
- When Peter followed the soldiers and people asked if he knew Jesus, what did he say?
- Did he remember what Jesus had told him about what was going to happen?

Jesus knew all along that all these things were going to happen. He knew that Judas would lead the soldiers to capture him. He knew what was going to happen. This is amazing as Jesus let everything happen to save us. He knew it would be painful, but he knew it needed to happen as part of God's plan to rescue and save us.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thank you that Jesus knew that he had to die to help save us. Thank you that he was teaching his special friends that sometimes you need to do the nasty things to show that you love and care. Thank you that Jesus loves and cares for us so much. Amen

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm ways we can show that we love and care for others.

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)

Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, help us to show love to …by…Amen

SONG

TV/Computer/CD player

Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Sequencing Activity - Use pictures of from the story for students to cut and put in order.

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: wash the children's feet like Jesus did in the story - buckets, water and towels.

8. JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Jesus died to forgive people for their sins.

RESOURCES	LESSON
	SONG
TV/Computer/CD player	Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)
	INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)
	Power of the Cross http://www.kidssundayschool.com/838/preschool/power-of-the-cross.php
Masking tape, paper	Use the masking tape to create two parallel lines eight to ten feet apart. There should be plenty of room for the children to line up behind one of the lines. The lines will represent the edges of a deep canyon. Use masking tape to create a large cross, and place it between the two lines like the pictures shown. After the story you will have the children use the cross like a bridge to walk across to the other side of the canyon to be with God. Have the children all line up behind one of the lines before continuing.
	Game #1 – before story
	Say: Sometimes we do things that are wrong. Can you give examples of something that is wrong? When we do something that is wrong, no matter how small, it is called sin. Sin separates us from God. Let's pretend that these 2 lines are the edges of a deep cliff/canyon/river etc. We are on one side, God is waiting for us on the other. However, because we sometimes do things that are wrong we can't get across. Do you think you can jump all the way over to the other side? Let's have a try.
	Post–Game Discussion: Could you do it? Was it easy? In today's story we will see how we can get over to God.
Story Image: cross The Lion First Bible	**STORY**
	Do you remember what happened last week? When Jesus was praying in the garden, what happened? (Teachers can refer or show last week's pictures for easy recall) So the soldiers had taken Jesus. Let's see where they take him.
	Read The Saddest Day p.436-441
	• p437 – The Roman Governor knew that Jesus didn't do anything wrong. He knew he didn't deserve to be punished. • p439 – The sign above Jesus was making fun of Jesus. They didn't believe he was God's promised King.

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- Where did the soldier's take Jesus?
- What did the Governor say about Jesus? *He did nothing wrong and wanted to let Jesus go.*
- What did the crowd shout angrily?
- Where did the soldier's take Jesus to die? *Skull Hill*
- What did they do to Jesus? *Nail him to the cross*
- What did Jesus pray when he was on the cross? *Father, forgive them*
- Where did they take Jesus' body?

This is an amazing part of God's plan. This is the part Jesus came to earth for – to die so he could forgive our sins! Jesus knew that this was God's plan for his life all along. He knew it would be sad for this friends and that they wouldn't understand. But he had to die so we can be friends with God again. Let's go back to our river/canyon/cliff

Continue Game #2 & Discussion:

Jesus died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. When we say we are sorry, Jesus forgives our sins and he makes a way for us to get across to where God is in Heaven. (Take the poster board pieces and create a cross between the two lines. Quickly tape the pieces together for added stability.)

The cross is like a bridge. Because of Jesus, we have a way to get back to God. (Let the children walk across to the other side while holding hands.)

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thanks that you sent Jesus to die to forgive our sins. Thank you that we can now be friends with you again. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

How does this story today make you feel? Happy, sad…these feelings are ok to have when reading this part of God's story.

Brainstorm reasons for feeling this way about the story today and pray about them telling God how you feel. Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray) Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, I felt …about this story…but thank you for dying for me. Amen.

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Easter Friday (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)

Coloured pens/ pencils

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Paper Plate, or hand print with Big Idea
http://www.theseedsnetwork.com/3-d-craft-celebrating-the-true-meaning-of-easter/

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

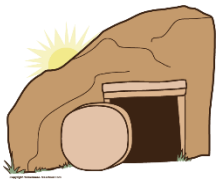
PLAY: the Power of the Cross game again

9. JESUS IS ALIVE

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: God's rescue plan was to bring Jesus back to life showing his power over death.

RESOURCES	LESSON
TV/Computer/CD player	**SONG** Easter Friday (J is for Jesus, Emu Music)
clear space, small blanket	**INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)** *Are you sleeping?* (Theme Games 2, p. 14-15) Players hold hands in a circle with one volunteer to be the 'sleeper'. The sleeper goes in the middle and lies or crouches down with the blanket over their head and shoulders, pretending to be asleep. The rest of the players, hold hands, walk around in a circle chanting: One, two, three. One, two, three. Are you sleeping? Can't catch Me! When they shout 'Me' the sleeper jumps up and tags someone who then becomes the next sleeper. Post-Game Discussion: How did you feel when the sleeper threw off the blanket and jumped up? Were you expecting it? Did you know what was going to happen? Were they really sleeping? In today's story we will see how Jesus' special friends felt after Jesus was buried in the tomb.
Story Image : Tomb The Lion First Bible 	**STORY** Read The Happiest Day p.442-447 • p442 – Do you remember what the grave Jesus was put in called? *Tomb* Show Visual Image • p444 – Did the special friends believe the women? • p445 – *It was only when John and Peter saw the body had gone they believed that Jesus was alive.* • p446 – Have you ever felt happy and sad at the same time? • p447 – What did Jesus' special friends touch and want to see to believe Jesus was real? *His hands and feet from the nails*

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- Where was Jesus buried?
- Who went to visit Jesus?
- What was something they saw when at the tomb?
- What did the Angel say?
- Who did the women go and tell the news to?
- Did the special friends believe the women?
- Who went to the tomb to see for themselves?
- Who was the first person to SEE Jesus?
- How did she feel?
- What did Jesus do to show he was real to his special friends?

This is the best part of God's Rescue Plan! This is where Jesus shows everyone that He is God. That he has power over death by coming back to life! Jesus showed himself to his special friends to prove that he is alive after they watched him die. We too can believe this.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thanks that Jesus was able to show that he had power over death by coming back to life. What an amazing rescue plan you had for us. Thanks for sending Jesus to die and come back to life so we can be friends with you again. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm things we can thank God for. Help them think of what they can thank God for from today's story.

Ask who would like to pray for each of the things discussed. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray)

Take turns praying … (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence).

Dear God, thank you for…Amen

TV/Computer/CD player

SONG

Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

Coloured pens/pencils

CRAFT Idea: Tomb http://www.trueaimeducation.com/resurrection-craft-for-easter/

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Sleeping Jesus/Tigers – use a timer to lye still, then count to 3 for them all to wake up. Those that move before the count are out.

10. GOD'S GOOD NEWS

The Lion First Bible

MEMORY VERSE: The Son of Man came to look for the lost and save them. **Luke 19:10**

BIG IDEA: Jesus followers are to tell everyone God's good news

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RESOURCES

TV/Computer/CD player

Story Image: Person with speech bubble
The Lion First Bible

LESSON

SONG

Super Saviour (Super Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

INTRO ACTIVITY (eg. Game/Imaginary Play/Questions requiring an action)

Case of the Missing Person (Jesus returns to Heaven)

Aim of the Game: for the kids to figure out who is missing from the class.

How to play: Clear the room of any obstacles. Players stand in the middle of the room and close their eyes. Players keep their eyes closed while you move/lead them to a new location in the room all facing different directions. Choose 1 child to hide in the room or just outside the door. Whisper to that child to open their eyes and lead outside or to the hiding place. Once this person has hidden everyone opens their eyes to guess who is missing. (If class size is small, replace with a missing item)

Post-Game Discussion: Was it hard to guess who or what was missing? Did you like leaving or hiding? In today's story, we will hear about Jesus leaving his special friends.

STORY

Read Jesus Goes Home p.452-455

- p452 – What did Jesus do that God wanted him to do? *Die on the cross and rise again*

What does Jesus tell his special friends to do? *Go and make more friends of Jesus.*

DISCUSSION

Let's see how you went listening to today's story

- What did Jesus tell his special friends to do? *Go and make more friends of Jesus. Go and tell them how God wants to rescue them to make them safe.*
- What was Jesus' answer to his special friends about when he will be back? *God will decide*
- What did the friends remember about what Jesus said? *He will be with you always even until the end of the world.*

Jesus told his special friends that God would send a special helper (the Holy Spirit), that's how he'll be with them always. And that's how he'll be with everyone who follows him. And Jesus wants all his followers to tell everyone about him and how he wants to rescue them that means us too.

PRAY

REPEATED PRAYER (encourage the children to pray these words after you, pause after each phrase for them to copy):

Dear God, Thanks that you planned to rescue us. Thank you that you will always be with us by your Holy Spirit. Help us to tell others about your rescue plan. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER (encourage each child to pray):

Brainstorm people who may not know about Jesus in the children's lives. Ask who would like to pray for the people they have mentioned. (Remember expect kids to pray, help each child to pray). Take turns praying ... (If the kids need help, leaders start the sentence for them and the kids finish the sentence). Dear God, I pray for…help them to know you…Amen

SONG

Jesus is the mighty, mighty King (Follow the Saviour, Colin Buchanan)

TV/Computer/CD player

Coloured pens/pencils

ACTIVITIES (eg. Craft/Game/Play dough/sequencing)

CRAFT Idea: Jesus Returns to Heaven http://www.catholicicing.com/ascension-of-jesus-crafts-for-kids/

WORKSHEET: This can be either done during class or to take home.

PLAY: Party Games to finish the year.

Pre-Primary Curriculum

Based on The Lion First Bible