

# GOODNESS / Week 2

A heart that reflects the  
excellent character of God



GOSPELS

*“A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.” LUKE 6:45*

## PARENT DEVO

*(Parents, this is for you to do ahead of time as you prepare your hearts to lead your kids.)*

**READ** Matthew 28, Luke 24 & John 20. Describe what you think the women and disciples thought when they saw the empty tomb and then later when they saw Jesus face to face. Why is His resurrection the best news the world has ever heard?

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Jewish leaders would have easily stopped the disciples if they could have produced a body. Obviously that wasn't possible and the disciples changed from fearful cowards to courageous leaders willing to die for the Good News that they knew was true.

**REFLECTION:** In Revelation 21:3-7 we see the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to come back. Think about this: one day we will get to experience unimaginable joy like the disciples did when they saw Him alive again. Take time this week to rejoice in what the Good News of Jesus' resurrection means to you.

**PRAY:** Thank God for who He is, how He defeated death and the hope you now can have in Him. Ask Him to help you reflect His goodness to others this week.

## HELPFUL HINTS BEFORE YOU START:

- The Finish Line is the key teaching point of the lesson
- Everything in **BOLD** is meant to be read out loud. The rest is either answers to questions, instructions, or suggestions for supplies
- You will need a Bible and the **Gospel Joe PDF** found in the Elementary Kids Kit online

**FINISH LINE: THE GOOD NEWS OF OUR GOOD GOD: JESUS IS ALIVE!**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Jesus came down from heaven to earth and lived a perfect life. That means He never sinned. Even though Jesus was perfect, He was arrested and killed on the cross.

## **READ MATTHEW 28:1-10**

- **Who moved the stone and spoke to the women at the tomb?** (An angel)
- **What did the angel say?** (Don't be afraid, He isn't here! He is risen from the dead.)
- **What did the angel instruct the women to do?** (Go quickly and tell the disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead.)
- **Did they obey?** (Yes! They ran to tell the disciples.)
- **Who did the women meet on their way to the disciples?** (Jesus!)
- **What did the women do when they met Jesus?** (They ran to Him and worshipped Him.)
- **Look back at verse 8, how did the women feel?** (frightened and also filled with great joy)
- **How do you think you would have felt if you had been at the tomb that very first Easter morning?**

**When we remember Jesus' sacrificial life, death, and resurrection, our response should be to worship Him too! Let's take some time in our activity to remember this Good News!**

## **ACTIVITY – Gospel Joe Cards**

**Supplies:** “Gospel Joe Cards pdf” (found in the Elementary Kids Kit)

**Directions:** Along with this week’s lesson, there is a pdf with our “Gospel Joe Cards”. This is a resource we use with our older elementary kids to help walk through the Gospel using verses in Romans. Feel free to print these out or pull them up on a device as you go through the following questions together. There are the verses and follow up questions for each card below.

1) **Our Problem** – Read Romans 3:23

- **We are all sinners, but God is Holy (perfect)! Because of our sin, we are separated from God.**
- **What is sin?** (Anything we think, say, or do that don’t please or honor God.)
- **What are some sins you’ve done?**

2) **Our Punishment** – Read Romans 6:23

- **No matter how hard we try, we can never be holy. The Bible tells us that because of our sin, we earn death (separation from God forever).**
- **What separates us from God?** (Our sin separates us from a Holy God.)

3) **Our Question** – Read Romans 3:10

- **So we are left with a BIG QUESTION...How can we have a relationship with God?**
- **Can we fix this problem ourselves?** (No)

4) **God’s Answer** – Read Romans 5:8

- **Because God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus lived a perfect life and died on a cross so that He could take the punishment we deserve for our sin. He came back to life 3 days later!**
- **How did God show His great love for us?** (By sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.)

5) **Your Choice** – Read Romans 10:9

- **We can be saved and have a relationship with God when we admit we are sinners and believe in Jesus who paid the debt we owe for our sin.**
- **What’s the only way to have a relationship with God?** (When we ADMIT that we are sinners, BELIEVE that Jesus died for us, and CONFESS that He is Lord of our life, we are saved).
- **Who do you know that needs to hear this Good News?**

6) **Your Reward** – Read Romans 8:16-17a

- **When we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus, we become CHILDREN OF GOD!**
- **What reward to we have when we but our faith in Jesus?** (We are God’s children and will be with God in his glory forever.)

**REMEMBER:** Before Jesus left the earth to go to heaven, He told the disciples that their mission was to share this good news with others. We have been invited into this mission too!

- Let your kids practice sharing the Gospel with each other using the Gospel Joe Pictures.
- Brainstorm ways that your family can stay connected with your friends and family members who may need to hear about this good news.