

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter

April 22, 2024 -  
April 28, 2024

Pre-K  
Message

**SCRIPTURE:** John 15:1-8

**THEME:** The Living Lord Produces Active Faith

**SONG:** CW21 695/ CW93 469 - Take My Life and Let It Be

**VISUAL:** A branch from an apple tree or another fruit tree (or any tree branch), poster board, markers

## OBJECT LESSON

Show a branch that you have removed from a tree (ideally, a fruit tree). Tell the children, "I'm going to wait for this to grow apples (or another type of fruit) for me!" Let them think about that for a moment, and then ask why that won't work. Point out that the same is true for vines that grow fruit, like grapevines. If we just cut off a branch from the vine, that branch is not going to grow grapes for us. Tell the children that in today's Bible reading, they are going to hear about a vine and its branches.

## BIBLE TRUTH

Tell the children that for the next few weeks, they are going to be hearing things that Jesus told his disciples the night before he died on the cross. Read Jesus' words from John 15:1. Ask who Jesus said is the vine. (Jesus). Who is the gardener? (God the Father)

Read verses 2-5. Ask who the branches are. (Christians; Jesus' followers; us) Continue by reading verses 6-8. Point out that Jesus said that in order for us branches to grow fruit, we need to remain attached to someone. Ask to whom we need to remain attached, or connected, in order to grow fruit. (Jesus) Ask what we can do without Jesus. (nothing)

## DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Draw a large vine on poster board, and label it "Jesus." Draw branches coming off it, and write on the branches the names of some of the children. Explain that our "fruits" are good things we do because we love Jesus. Ask children to name some of those. For each good action named, draw a circle onto a branch.

Remind the children that Jesus died and rose for them. Because he saved us and because we have been given faith in him, we are God's children. As Jesus' followers, we can now do good things out of love for our Savior, and God is happy when we do. Those good things we do are our "fruits." Encourage the children to thank Jesus for saving them by producing "fruit."

## PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on a cross and rising from the dead in order to save us! We want to stay connected to you always. Give us a strong faith that leads us to want to produce "fruit" for you in everything we do. Amen.



# HEART IMPRINTS

# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter

April 29 , 2024 -  
May 5, 2024

Pre-K  
Message

**SCRIPTURE:** John 15:9-13, 17

**THEME:** Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours

**SONG:** CW21 583 - God Loves Me Dearly

**VISUAL:** A heart cut from red construction paper

## OBJECT LESSON

Ask for several volunteers to stand in a row across the front of the worship area. Hand a child on one end a red construction paper heart, and have that child name something loving and kind they could do for the next child (examples: hold the door open for them, share a snack, invite them to play a game at recess) and hand the next child the heart. Point out that when someone does something loving and kind for us, often that makes us happy and makes us want to be kind to someone else. Ask the child now holding the heart to name something loving and kind they could do for the next child, and pass the heart to that child. Continue in this way until you get to the end of the line of volunteers. Explain that today's Bible passage talks about love that is being passed from one person to the next.

## BIBLE TRUTH

Remind the children that they are hearing things that Jesus told his disciples the night before he died on the cross. Read Jesus' words from John 15:9. Ask who Jesus said loved him. (God the Father) Ask who Jesus said he loves in the same way. (his disciples, which includes us)

Read verses 10-13 and 17. Ask what Jesus commanded us, his followers, to do. (love one another) Point out that Jesus said that the greatest love you can show someone is to be willing to die for them.

## DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Ask the children to name some of the loving things Jesus did for people that he met while he lived on the earth. (He taught people God's Word, healed them, provided food for them, calmed storms, and more.) Ask what the most loving thing Jesus did for all people was. (He suffered and died to save us.) Point out that Jesus showed us the greatest love possible when he died and rose again for us. Now he wants us to show love for one another. Ask the children to name some specific ways that they can show love for one another and for the people who take care of them.

## PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for showing amazing love for us by suffering and dying for our sins! Teach us to look for ways we can pass your love along to everyone we meet. Just as you loved us enough to die and rise for us, we want to love one another. Amen.



# HEART IMPRINTS

# 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter

May 6 , 2024-  
May 12, 2024

Pre-K  
Message

**SCRIPTURE:** John 17:11-16

**THEME:** We Will Overcome This Broken World

**SONG:** CW21 584 - Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

**VISUAL:** Two houses built from LEGO® or similar building blocks; signs saying “Home on Earth” and “Home in Heaven”

## OBJECT LESSON

Ask for a child volunteer to take off their shoes. Position the child and two labeled houses made from building blocks in the front in this order: child, house with “Home on Earth” sign, house with “Home in Heaven” sign. Explain that right now we live on Earth, but someday we will live in heaven. Ask whether we will have any troubles in heaven. (no) Then ask whether we have troubles now, on earth. (yes) Have the children name some, and each time a trouble is named, remove one building block from the “Home on Earth” and drop it on the floor until you have blocks scattered all over the floor by the “Home on Earth” sign.

Ask the volunteer whether they would like to close their eyes and walk through the broken building blocks on the floor to get to the “Home in Heaven” house. Ask, “What if I would help you and make sure you wouldn’t step on any blocks?” Point out that you could help the child get safely through the “troubles” on the floor. (Demonstrate, if the child is willing.)

## BIBLE TRUTH

Remind the children that they are hearing things that Jesus told his disciples the night before he died on the cross. Read Jesus’ words from John 17:11,12. Point out that Jesus was saying that he was no longer going to be in the world. Ask why he was going to be leaving, making a cross shape with your arms to cue if needed. Ask, “Who had been protecting Jesus’ disciples until that night?” (Jesus had.) “What did Jesus now ask his Father to do?” (protect them)

Read verses 13-16. Point out that Jesus said he would be coming to his Father. Ask where Jesus would go after he had died and then risen, pointing upward to cue if needed. Explain that when Jesus said that his disciples are not of the world, that meant their real home was in heaven, just as Jesus’ real home was in heaven. Jesus was asking his Father to protect his followers from the evil one, the devil, until it was their time to go to heaven.

## DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Ask, “Which place did Jesus say is our real home: this broken world (point to the blocks on the floor) or heaven?” Explain that right now we need to stay in this broken world that has many troubles. Ask, “But who helps us get through the troubles here?” (God does.) Explain that God will bring us safely to heaven someday. Ask, “Why do we get to go to heaven?” (because Jesus died and rose for us) Encourage the children to thank and praise God for sending Jesus to save us and for leading us safely through the troubles in this world to heaven.

## PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for loving us so much that you sent your own Son to suffer and die so that we can go to heaven someday. Please protect us while we live in this broken world, and lead us safely to our heavenly home. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.



# HEART IMPRINTS

## Pentecost

May 13, 2024–  
May 19, 2024

Pre-K  
Message

**SCRIPTURE:** John 16:4-7

**THEME:** Christ Has Not Left Us Alone

**SONG:** CW21 593/ CW93 183 - Holy Spirit, Light Divine st.1

**VISUAL:** A board game for young children, cookies, and a TV or picture of a TV

### OBJECT LESSON

Ask the children to think of their favorite baby-sitter—who could possibly be their grandparents. Ask the children what their baby-sitters or grandparents let the children do when they baby-sit, and what their sitters do with them. Cue by showing a board game, cookies, and a TV or picture of one. Point out that sometimes when parents need to leave you for a while, they have someone special stay with you.

### BIBLE TRUTH

Remind the children that they are hearing things that Jesus told his disciples the night before he died on the cross. Read Jesus' words from John 16:4-6. Point out that Jesus was saying that he was going to return to the one who sent him. Ask who sent Jesus to earth to save us. (God the Father) Remind the children that Jesus was going to go back to his home in heaven with his Father. Ask, "How did the disciples feel because Jesus was leaving them?" (Sad—cue by making a sad face if necessary.)

Explain that in the next verse, Jesus told his disciples some good news to cheer them up. Read verse 7. Ask, "Did Jesus say that it was good or bad for his disciples that he was going away?" (good) Point out that Jesus said that because he was leaving the disciples, he would be able to send the Advocate (or Counselor, depending on the Bible translation you use) to them. Tell the children that the Advocate (Counselor) is another word for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God, just as God the Father is God and God the Son, Jesus, is God

### DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Point out that Jesus was leaving, but he sent someone special to stay with his disciples and with us! Explain that the Holy Spirit lives inside the children, pointing to each child specifically. (e.g. The Holy Spirit lives in Jamie. The Holy Spirit lives in Aiden. Etc.) Ask the children to raise their hands if they have the Holy Spirit living inside them. (All hands should be raised.) Ask the children to point to where he lives. (The children should point to themselves or their hearts.) Explain that the Holy Spirit works to make our faith stronger every time we hear God's Word. The Holy Spirit also makes it possible for us to show our love for God by doing the things he wants us to do. We are thankful for the Holy Spirit!

### PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving us the gift of faith in Jesus! Please help us show our love for God by all the things we do. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



**HEART  
IMPRINTS**