

# GOD PROVIDES A WAY



God provides  
an ark



God provides  
a cross



God provides  
an empty tomb



God provides  
a rainbow

Family  
Conversation Guide  
04.17.2022

## WEEK 3

### April Theme:

God Provides a Way!

### Monthly Memory Verse:

I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

**Genesis 9:13** (NIV)

### Monthly Challenge Verse:

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:19**

### Week of April 17

Main Idea: **God provides an empty tomb.**

Life Application: **No matter what, we can have hope in Jesus.**

Parents, use *The Action Bible* as you lead your kids, and also use your own Bible to read through some of the verses listed that will help them understand. This week, please prepare for discussion by listening to the sermon together and using *The Action Bible* as you walk through **the story of Easter** with your family. Have your kids turn to **pages 709-719 in *The Action Bible***, and in your Bibles, **John 20-21**.

1. Last week, we learned about **Jesus' death on the cross**, and that He gave His life for a reason- **so that we could be forgiven of our sins** and be in His family forever.
2. After Jesus' body was taken down from the cross, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus asked Pilate for His body and they placed it in a tomb, in Joseph's garden. **Why were the chief priests and Pharisees worried?** (**Page 709**- *They knew that Jesus had said He would rise from the dead after 3 days- if people thought Jesus was raised from the dead, more people would believe He was the Son of God*) **What did they decide to do?** (*They had a heavy stone placed over the entrance to the tomb, and soldiers outside to guard it to make sure that Jesus' followers did not take His body away*)
3. **What happened before sunrise on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day?** (**Page 710**- *There was an earthquake and an angel rolled the stone away from the tomb. The guards ran away.*) **Who came to the tomb that morning and what did they discover?** (**Pages 710-711**- *Mary Magdalen and other women found that Jesus' body was gone and an angel told them that Jesus was risen! The angel told them to tell Jesus' friends that He was risen.*)
4. (Read **pages 711, 712**) Peter and John also went to the tomb and discovered that Jesus was gone. Then Mary met Jesus when she returned to the tomb and she did not recognize Him right away, until He spoke to her. **Can you imagine how she must have felt, after realizing that Jesus really had come back to life? How would you feel?**
5. **When the priests heard about what had happened at the tomb, what did they tell the soldiers to do?** (*They paid the soldiers to lie and say that the disciples of Jesus stole His body.*)
6. Read pages **713-717**. Even though the soldiers lied about Jesus, there were many people who saw Jesus after He was raised from the dead. Jesus wanted them to see His scars and know He was raised from the dead so they would believe in Him. Also, they needed to know of His love for them. He even forgave

Peter for denying Him three times. **On page 717, what did Jesus tell Peter to do?** (*To feed His sheep and take care of His followers*)

7. Before He returned to heaven, Jesus spent time with the believers-performing miracles, teaching them, and telling them what He wanted them to do. **What did He want them, and all of us, to do?** (**Page 717, Matthew 28:19-20.** *He told them to share the good news with the whole world.*)

### **Digging Deeper** (For older kids or those who want to know more)

In **John 20-21**, Jesus appeared many times to His followers before He returned to heaven. This increased the faith of the believers and many more people came to faith in Jesus. Here are the people who saw Jesus in person in the days following His resurrection:

- In **John 20:11-18**, Mary is weeping outside the tomb when Jesus appears to her.
- In **John 20:19-20**, the disciples were in a locked room because they were afraid, when Jesus suddenly appeared to them. **What did Jesus say to them?** (*“Peace be with you.”*) **How did He prove who He was?** (*He showed them His hands and His side.*)
- When Thomas was told that Jesus had appeared to the disciples, He doubted them. In **John 28,24-29**, Jesus appears to the disciples again in a locked room. Again, He says “Peace be with you.” **How did He help Thomas believe?** (*he showed his hands and side and let Thomas touch them.*) Thomas believed because He saw the proof that Jesus had risen from the dead. **What did Jesus say about people who have faith in Him even though they cannot see Him in person?** (**John 20:29**- *they will be blessed.*)
- In **John 21:1-14**, Jesus appeared to seven disciples as they were fishing. **What did Jesus do to show His power to them?** (*Jesus performed a miracle by telling them to cast their nets into the sea again after they had not caught any fish all night, and they had a net full of fish.*) **What did Peter do when this happened?** (*He knew it was Jesus and he jumped out of the boat to go to Him!*)
- **What did Jesus do to restore His relationship with Peter?** (*He asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Peter said that He loved Jesus, and Jesus told Peter to feed His sheep. He then said to Peter, “Follow me.”*)

Many people saw Jesus and told about it- they were witnesses to His resurrection. If the resurrection is true, and if we believe and follow Jesus, our life in eternity with Him in heaven is guaranteed. We will be in heaven with those who have gone before us, and with Jesus!

**How can we be followers of Jesus? All we have to do is pray. It's as easy as ABC!**

**A: ADMIT** that we are sinners

**B: BELIEVE** that Jesus died for our sins and to give us life with Him forever, and

**C: CHOOSE** to follow Him.

**Pray:** *Jesus, Thank You for loving us so much that You would give your life for us! We know that You want us to follow You and tell others about You! In Jesus' name, Amen.*

### **Family Challenge:**

1. For younger kids, go to the Bible App for Kids, A Happy Sunday.
2. With older kids, watch this music video together ("Forever" by Kari Jobe) and discuss how it compares with what you have learned about Easter:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4zElHmBTr8>
3. Enjoy Easter traditions with your family, and also start a new tradition. Here are some ideas:
  - Every year, use Resurrection Eggs to tell the true reason for Easter-Jesus giving His life for us on the cross and rising from the dead after 3 days so that we could be saved.
  - Invite neighbors and friends to an Easter egg hunt. In some of the eggs, include reminders of the true reason for Easter. If you want, use the items from resurrection eggs. Or, write parts of the story on slips of paper to include in some of the eggs. After all of the eggs have been found, have children open them and talk about the Easter story together.
  - Make resurrection rolls
  - Decorate an Easter tree
  - Watch the same Easter movie together every year
  - Paint wooden keepsake eggs- some can be decorated with a cross, a palm branch, communion cup and bread, etc. Or, kids can be free to create something that makes them think of Easter and new life- like a flower, a butterfly, clouds, etc. Use acrylic paint and seal with a multi-purpose sealer.
  - Make a resurrection garden together.
  - Buy an Easter lily to enjoy during the season, and plant it so that it will come back every year.