

### References

Matthew 9:18-26;  
Mark 5:21-42; *The  
Desire of Ages*,  
pp. 342, 343



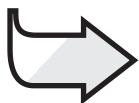
### Memory Verse

“Jesus said . . . , ‘I am  
the resurrection  
and the life’”  
(John 11:25).



### Objectives

The children will:  
**Know** that we  
worship a God who  
gives and sustains life.  
**Feel** joyful and certain  
that God wants them  
to have life here and forever.  
**Respond** by giving God their  
fears concerning death  
and separation from family.



### The Message

We worship a God  
who gives eternal life.

# Dead or Alive?

## Monthly Theme

Worship makes us joyful every day.

## The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue and an elder, humbly asks Jesus to heal his dying daughter. Jesus heads to Jairus’ house, but is delayed by all the needs on the way. A messenger reports that the child is dead. When they arrive at Jairus’ house, Jesus sends away the hired mourners and goes into the girl’s room with her parents and three disciples. He tells the girl to get up, and she comes to life!

## *This is a lesson about worship.*

Jesus is the giver and sustainer of life. He assures us that He wants us to have abundant life here and in the world to come. Because of Him, we don’t have to fear death. As Jairus’ family was grateful to Jesus for giving them their daughter back, we also worship Him because of these gifts.

## Teacher Enrichment

Jairus was the ruler of the synagogue. He was responsible for good management of the synagogue and was one of the most important and respected men in the community.

Jewish mourning customs were vivid and detailed. Immediately after death a loud wailing was set up to inform everyone of the death. The mourners tore their garments until the skin was exposed. Fathers and mothers tore on the left side (over the heart), and all others on the right side.

## Room Decorations

See Lesson 9.

## Program Overview

| Lesson Section                     | Minutes  | Activities  | Materials Needed  |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|---|
| Welcome                            | ongoing  | Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled             | none  |
| <b>1</b> Readiness Options         | up to 10 | A. <i>Scariest Sculptures</i><br>B. <i>What Happened?</i> | modeling clay or sheets of aluminum foil<br>Bible   |
| <b>Any Time</b> Prayer and Praise* | up to 10 | Fellowship<br>Songbook<br>Mission<br>Offering<br>Prayer   | none<br><i>Sing for Joy</i><br><i>Children's Mission</i><br>offering container<br>prayer diary      |
| <b>2</b> Bible Lesson              | up to 20 | Experiencing the Story<br>Memory Verse<br>Bible Study     | none<br>Bibles<br>Bibles  |
| <b>3</b> Applying the Lesson       | up to 15 | <i>Top Five</i>   | Bible, bell or other noisemaker, chalk-board and chalk or white board and marker, paper and pencils |
| <b>4</b> Sharing the Lesson        | up to 15 | <i>No Fear Pennant</i>                                    | felt, pella, or construction paper, markers (optional: dowels, stapler, or glue), rulers            |

\*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

## Welcome

Welcome children at the door. Ask how their week has been—what they're pleased/troubled about. Ask them if they would like to share anything from their Bible lesson this past week. Have them begin the readiness activity of your choice.



## Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

### You Need:

- modeling clay or
- sheets of aluminum foil

### A. Scariest Sculptures

As the children arrive, give each person a lump of modeling clay or a sheet of aluminum foil. Ask them to think of something they are afraid of and then make something to represent that fear. Assure them that it doesn't have to look exactly like the real thing, but just enough like it so everyone can guess what it is. When everyone is finished, have them show and tell about their scary sculptures.

### Debriefing

As each child shows his or her sculpture to the entire group, ask: **What does this look like?** Ask the child: **Did your classmates guess right about your fear? Explain how your sculpture looks like the thing that scares you or what it tells about what you are afraid of.**

Say: **It's normal to feel scared of things that you can't control. But our God is big enough to help us through scary times. And He will stay close to us. You can trust Him, for He is so powerful that He created life. Today's message tells us more:**



**WE WORSHIP A GOD WHO GIVES ETERNAL LIFE.**

Say that with me.

### B. What Happened?

Ask a volunteer to come up front and close his or her eyes. While his or her eyes are shut, ask several children to switch places. Then call out, "Wake up, \_\_\_\_!" Ask the child to identify what changed in the classroom. Repeat the game several times. (Each time, change something different, such as something about your clothes, something obvious on the wall, turning the lights on/off, etc.)

### Debriefing

Ask: **How do you feel when you discover changes that you didn't know were going to happen?** (OK; like change; don't like change) **How do you feel when you have to go to sleep?** (OK; don't like it) **What can change while you are asleep?** (almost anything) **How do you feel when you wake up in the morning?** (sleepy, rested, happy, grumpy, etc.)

Read aloud 1 Corinthians 15:51. Say: **This verse tells us that death is just like sleep. Will everyone experience death?** (No. Some will still be living when Jesus comes again.) **What will happen to some of those who do not experience the sleep of death?** (They will be changed when Jesus comes; they will have eternal life.)

### You Need:

- Bible

**When Jesus lived on earth, He brought some people back to life. And He will do that when He comes again. In today's story we will learn more about this. Our message tells us that ...**



**WE WORSHIP A GOD WHO GIVES ETERNAL LIFE.**

**Say that with me.**



## Prayer and Praise

Any  
Time



### Fellowship

Report the children's joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Review last week's memory verse and allow time for sharing favorite experiences from last week's lesson study. Give a special, warm greeting to visitors and introduce each by name. Acknowledge birthdays or special events.



### Suggested Songs

- "When He Cometh" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 93)
- "Soon and Very Soon" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 89)
- "God Is So Good" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 13)
- "Anywhere With Jesus" (*Sing for Joy*, no. 45)



### Mission

Say: **"Missionary" means sent. Jesus was the best missionary ever. He was sent from heaven to show and tell us about the God who gives life now and forever. Today we will hear about other missionaries here on earth.** Use a story from *Children's Mission*.



### Offering

Say: **You don't need to have any special reason for giving an offering. You can give it just because you are thankful to be alive. Giving an offering is an expression of praise and thanks.**

**You Need:**

- offering container



### Prayer

Ask if there are any problems, worries, concerns or victories from God to write in the class prayer diary. Make a prayer circle, standing and holding hands. Address your prayer to the Life-giver. Encourage each child to add a prayer sentence praising God for one thing.

**You Need:**

- prayer diary from previous weeks

## Bible Lesson

### Experiencing the Story

Say: **During this story, when you hear certain words, I want you to do or say something. Let's practice.**

| When they hear:            | They do:                           |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Jairus</b>              | Thumbs-up.                         |
| <b>love, loved, loving</b> | Hug themselves.                    |
| <b>death, dying, dead</b>  | Wipe eyes as if wiping tears away. |
| <b>Jesus</b>               | Point upward.                      |

Practice these responses a few times, then proceed with the story. (It might be helpful to have an adult lead the actions.)

### Read or tell the story.

**Jairus** [thumbs-up] was a religious leader who lived at the time of **Jesus**. [Point upward.] Now **Jairus** [thumbs-up] had a 12-year-old daughter whom he **loved** [children hug themselves] dearly. One day the girl became sick. **Jairus** [thumbs-up] did everything he could think of to show his **love** [children hug themselves] and help his daughter get well. But she only grew weaker. **Jairus** [thumbs-up] hated to leave her bedside. So he sent his servants to call doctors and nurses. But nobody could help.

Then **Jairus** [thumbs-up] thought of **Jesus** [point upward]. **Jesus** [point upward] was their last hope. So after one last whispered word of **love** [children hug themselves] for his daughter, **Jairus** [thumbs-up] hurried as fast as he could to Matthew's house.

"My only daughter, whom I **love** [children hug themselves] is desperately sick. Please come to my house and put Your hands on her," **Jairus** [thumbs-up] told **Jesus** [point upward]. "Then she will get well."

**Jairus**' [thumbs-up] faith made **Jesus** [point upward] happy. **Jesus** [point upward] immediately turned to leave with **Jairus** [thumbs-up]. His disciples followed. But a large crowd was waiting outside for **Jesus** [point upward]. The people crowded around **Jesus** [point upward] as He walked. Everyone wanted to be near Him. They may have even pushed and shoved one another.

Suddenly **Jesus** [point upward] stopped. "Who touched Me?" He asked.

"With all these people, Lord, You're asking us who touched You?" Peter couldn't believe **Jesus** [point upward] had asked such a question.

**Jesus** [point upward] looked around at the faces in the crowd. Finally a woman stepped forward.

"I am the one who touched You," she said, weeping softly. "I have been sick a very long time. I have spent all my money trying to get well. I thought if I could only touch You, I would be healed."

Of course, **Jesus** [point upward] was happy that the woman had such strong faith in Him. He couldn't rush away from her. So **Jesus** [point upward] offered some gentle words of **love** [children hug themselves].

"Daughter, your faith has healed you," **Jesus** [point upward] told her. "Go and enjoy your life. You are free from sickness."

As he watched **Jesus** [point upward] heal the woman, **Jairus** [thumbs-up] became very excited. He was certain now that **Jesus** [point upward] would heal his daughter.

But just then one of **Jairus**' [thumbs-up] servants pushed through the crowd.

"Don't bother **Jesus** [point upward] anymore," he said. "Your daughter is **dead**" [wipe eyes]. Poor **Jairus!** [thumbs-up]. How sad and shocked he felt. But

**Jesus** [point upward] turned to **Jairus** [thumbs-up]. “Don’t worry,” **Jesus** [point upward] said. “Just have faith.”

Again, **Jairus** [thumbs-up] thought of the woman who had just been healed. He remembered **Jesus**’ [point upward] words: “Your faith has healed you.” And **Jairus** [thumbs-up] stopped being afraid, and believed that **Jesus** [point upward] would heal his daughter.

**Jesus** [point upward] told Peter, James, and John to follow Him. Now He began hurrying to **Jairus**’ [thumbs-up] home.

The house was full of people, all mourning the **dead** [wipe eyes] girl. Some of them did not even know the girl, but they were hired to wail for the **dead** [wipe eyes].

“Send the mourners away,” **Jesus** [point upward] commanded. “Your daughter isn’t **dead** [wipe eyes]. She’s only sleeping.”

The people laughed when they heard that; they knew when a person was **dead!** [wipe eyes]. But ignoring their lack of faith, **Jesus** [point upward] took Peter, James, and John into the house, along with **Jairus** [thumbs-up] and his wife.

In the girl’s room **Jesus** [point upward] stood by the bed and reached for the girl’s hand. “Child, wake up,” **Jesus** [point upward] said.

The little girl opened her eyes, smiled at **Jesus** [point upward], and sat up. She probably smiled a huge smile when she looked into **Jesus**’ [point upward] happy eyes.

“You should give her something to eat,” **Jesus** [point upward] told her joyful parents. **Jairus**’ [thumbs-up] daughter was well and strong again.

Not only was **Jesus** [point upward] happy to heal sick people—He was delighted to give people life again. “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25), He said. **Jesus** [point upward] came to earth to save us, too, from **death** [wipe eyes] and give us life. We worship a God who gives eternal life. Don’t you **love** [hug themselves] **Jesus?** [Point upward.]

## Debriefing

Ask: **Why do you think Jesus let Jairus’ daughter die?** (So people would know that sometimes bad things happen to us; so people would know that He is God and can give life.) **Who needed to understand that Jesus is the Life-giver?** (His disciples, Jairus, the mourners, everybody) **What do you think the mourners thought when they saw the little girl after Jesus raised her from the dead?** (They were seeing a ghost; they shouldn’t have laughed at Jesus; Jesus was really powerful.)

## Memory Verse

Help the children find and read John 11:25: “**I am the resurrection and the life**” (John 11:25). Ask: **Who said these words?** (Jesus) **We want to remember who said them and what they mean.**

Use the following to teach the memory verse. Repeat until the children can say the verse without help.

**Jesus said . . .**, Point upward, then to mouth.

**“I am the resurrection** Crouch down, then slowly stand up.

**and the life.”** Stand on tiptoes and stretch arms upward.

**John 11:25** Palms together, then open.

## Bible Study

Say: **Our Bible story this week is really two stories in one. Let’s look at them now.** Help the children find Mark 5:22-29. Ask some of your good readers to read a few verses each.

Ask: **What two stories are here? Why do you think Mark interrupted Jairus’ story to tell the story of the woman who touched Jesus?** (It was actually part of Jairus’ story, because if

### You Need:

- Bibles

### You Need:

- Bibles

Jesus hadn't stopped or been stopped by the woman and others, Jairus' daughter might not have died. There would have been no resurrection story.)

### **Debriefing**

Ask: **How did Jesus give the woman a new life?** (He healed her from an illness she had lived with for many years.) **If you have been sick for years and suddenly were healthy, it would be like having a new life.**

**The Bible tells us of another time people will be changed instantly. Let's look at 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52.** Allow

time to find and read the verses aloud.

**This tells us about something that will happen when Jesus comes again. If we are alive, we will be changed instantly, just as this woman was healed instantly. We worship a God who can do anything. If we love Him and give ourselves to Him, He promises to change us and give us eternal life when He comes again. Let's remember our message:**



**WE WORSHIP A GOD WHO GIVES ETERNAL LIFE**

**Say that with me.**

3

## **Applying the Lesson**

### **You Need:**

- Bible
- bell or other noisemaker
- chalkboard or whiteboard
- chalk or marker
- paper and pencils

### **Top Five**

Where all may see, write the numbers 1-5, one beneath the other. Then distribute paper and pencils and ask everyone to list the five things that scare them most.

Invite two children to stand beside you. Say: **I have a list of the five top fears children your age have. Let's see if you know what they are. We will start with the fears you wrote about.**

Have the child standing on your right begin. If that child names a fear that is on the top five list, ring the bell or sound the noisemaker. Then have the child name another fear. If the child says something not on the list, the second child gets to try. List the fears they agree with as the children say them, but put them in the same order they appear in the following list so everyone will eventually see the top five fears. When one child exhausts his/her list, invite another to take his/her place. The top five fears for children their age are as follows:

1. Their own death
2. Parents' divorce
3. Parent dying

4. The dark

5. Dogs

### **Debriefing**

Read aloud John 14:6. Say: **When someone dies, people sometimes ask why and blame God for it. What do you think? Should God be blamed for death?** (No, God gives life, not death; life comes from God.)

**God warned Adam and Eve that they would die if they touched one tree in the Garden of Eden. Satan told Eve a lie. Let's read about it in Genesis 3:4. (Read the verse aloud.) Eventually Adam and Eve did die for believing Satan's lie. But God found a way to give eternal life to Adam and Eve and all people by sending Jesus to die on the cross. People who truly love God will live for Him and don't need to be afraid of death. When Jesus comes, He will bring us eternal life; we will live with Him forever. Just remember:**



**WE WORSHIP A GOD WHO GIVES ETERNAL LIFE.**

**Say that with me.**

## 4

## Sharing the Lesson

### No Fear Pennant

Have the children make a pennant. Help them cut a triangle 5" x 12" x 12" (12 x 30 x 30 cm) from felt, pellon, or construction paper. On one side help them write "HAVE NO FEAR." On the other side, write "JESUS IS LIFE." If desired, help them attach their banners to a dowel with glue or a stapler.

### Debriefing

Ask: **What will you say when someone asks you about your pennant?** Allow time for discussion. Form pairs and have the children tell each other what they would say. **After church today, show your banner to someone**

and tell them we don't have to be afraid of death, because we worship a God who gives eternal life. Tell them about Jairus' daughter and how Jesus brought her back to life. Share today's message with them. Let's say it together one more time.



**WE WORSHIP A GOD WHO GIVES ETERNAL LIFE.**

### Closing

Pray. Thank God again that He is the Life-giver. Ask Him to take away the children's fear of death and to put in its place trust in Him.

Have the children repeat the message individually and wave their banners as they leave.

#### You Need:

- felt, pellon, or construction paper
- markers
- optional: dowels, stapler, or glue
- rulers



## Dead or Alive?

### References

Matthew 9:18-26;  
Mark 5:21-42; *The  
Desire of Ages*,  
pp. 342, 343

### Memory Verse

“Jesus said . . . , ‘I am  
the resurrection  
and the life’”  
(John 11:25).

### The Message

We worship a God  
who gives eternal  
life.

*Have you ever been really, really sick? So sick that you were too weak to get out of bed? Maybe the doctor gave you medicine or a shot or hooked you up to machines to help you breathe. We’re going to read about a girl who needed more than a doctor to make her well.*

Jairus’ 12-year-old daughter had been sick for some time. Her parents did everything they could think of to help their daughter get well. But she only grew weaker.

Good parents love their children and will do anything to help them get well. So imagine how upset Jairus felt when his only child was so sick. He didn’t want to leave her side. Again and again he sent for doctors and other people known to help sick children. But nobody could help.

Then Jairus thought of Jesus, the Master Teacher, from Galilee. Everyone was talking about His miracles. Jesus was Jairus’ last hope. Jairus whispered to his daughter, “I’m going to find help.” Then Jairus left home and hurried as fast as he could to Matthew’s house. He knew that he would find Jesus there.

“My only daughter is very sick. She may be dying. I need You to come to my house and put Your hands on her. Then she will get well,” Jairus told Jesus.

Jairus’ faith pleased Jesus. At once He started to leave with Jairus.

But a large crowd had gathered, waiting for Jesus to come out of

Matthew’s house. The people crowded Jesus as He walked along. Everyone was anxious to be near Him. They pushed and shoved one another. Often they bumped against Jesus as well.

Suddenly Jesus stopped. “Who touched Me?” He asked.

“With all these people, Lord, You’re asking us who touched You?” Peter couldn’t believe Jesus had asked such a question.

Jesus continued to look around. Finally a woman stepped up to Him.

“I touched You,” she said, weeping softly. “I have been sick a very long time. For 12 years I have been trying to get well. I thought if I could only touch You, I would be healed.”

Jesus felt happy because the woman had such strong faith in Him. He couldn’t just rush away.

“Be happy,” Jesus told her. “You are healed because you had faith in Me. Go and enjoy your life.”

Before Jesus and Jairus could continue, one of Jairus’ servants pushed through the crowd. “It’s no use to bother the Teacher anymore,” he told Jairus. “Your little girl is dead.” Poor Jairus! His loving father’s heart must have felt heavy with sadness.

But Jesus turned to Jairus. “Don’t be afraid,” He said. “Just believe.”

Jesus called Peter, James, and John to follow Him. Together they hurried to Jairus’ home.

Jairus’ house was full of people, all wailing and crying loudly. Some of them did not even know Jairus, but they showed sympathy by crying together.

“Send the mourners away,” Jesus commanded. “Your daughter isn’t dead. She’s only sleeping.” When the people heard this, they laughed at Him.

Jesus told all the people to leave. Then He took the three disciples into the house along with Jairus and his wife.

In the girl’s room Jesus stood by the bed and reached for her hand. “Child, get up,” He said.



The little girl opened her eyes and sat up. Imagine how she must have felt when she looked into Jesus' happy eyes.

"Give her something to eat," Jesus told her joyful parents. Jairus' daughter was well and strong again.

Not only did Jesus love to heal sick people—He was delighted to give people life again. "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25), He said. He came to earth to save us, too, from death and to give us life. We worship a God who gives eternal life. Don't you love Him!

## Daily Activities

### Sabbath

- If possible, go to a cemetery with your family and read your lesson story. Imagine what that place will be like when Jesus comes again.
- Read John 11:25 in your Bible. Will some people die first before they live forever?
- Sing the following words to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me":  
"Christ is coming, this I know,  
He Himself has told me so.  
John fourteen and one, two, three,  
Read yourself and there you'll see.  
Yes, He is coming, Yes, He is coming,  
Yes, He is coming. The Bible tells me so."

### Sunday

- With your family taking turns, read and discuss the lesson story in Mark 5:21-42. In what way is death like sleep? (See verse 39.)
- Talk about the kinds of life on this earth. Cut out pictures from magazines of plants, animals, birds, fish, and people. Glue them to a posterboard. Write on top: "All life comes from God."
- Write your memory verse on a card and decorate it. Practice saying it. Then thank God for the gift of life.

### Monday

- With your family, talk about waiting. Have you ever had to wait for someone? How did you feel about waiting? How do you think Jairus felt having to wait for Jesus?
- Read Psalm 27:14. Pray and ask Jesus to help you wait for important things. Ask Him to come soon.
- Say your memory verse together.

### Tuesday

- Can you remember a time you were very sick? What did it feel like?
- During worship, ask your family members to tell you about a time they were sick and got well again. Read Psalm 103:1-3 together, then pray and thank God for giving you life and health.
- Make up a tune for your memory verse and sing it for worship. Then pray for someone who is sick.

### Wednesday

- During worship today, read Mark 5:25-29 together. Draw a picture of the woman touching Jesus' robe. Show what Jairus was doing at the same time. Ask Jesus to help you to believe the way the woman did.
- Show your memory verse card, then sing or say your memory verse.

### Thursday

- With your family, make a get-well card for someone you know who is sick. Write John 10:10, the last part, on your card. Ask someone to help you mail it. As a family, make plans to visit that person soon. Plan to say your memory verse for them.

### Friday

- During worship, read Matthew's version of your lesson story in Matthew 9:18-26.
- Ask your family to help you act out the story of Jairus' daughter. You might want to include the story of the woman who touched Jesus' clothes.
- Sing your memory verse to your family. Teach them to sing it too. Thank God for Bible stories that help us to know Him better.