

## The Resurrection of Jesus

March

John 20:1-9

Early in the morning, before the sun has risen, Mary Magdalene discovers that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb. She quickly tells Simon Peter and another disciple, who run to the tomb and find that Jesus is no longer there. The two disciples then understand and believe that Jesus has risen from the dead to fulfill the scriptures.

### The Gospel Story Through Gameplay

This story takes place in Jerusalem at dawn. Children are told to find Mary Magdalene approaching Jesus' tomb. They watch a cinema of John 20:1-2, where Mary Magdalene is astonished to see the stone rolled away from the entrance of the tomb and then rushes to tell Peter and John.

Children are then told to enter the tomb and find a Bible. They watch a cinema of John 20:6-9, where Peter can be seen looking around the tomb at the linen wrappings lying around. Kids also see John enter the tomb. The two disciples nod, understanding that Jesus is risen!

Kids are then instructed to tell 5 people, "Jesus is risen!" Children find these people throughout the city of Jerusalem. Children hear the people shout, "Praise be to God!" and "Glory to God!" upon being told about Jesus.

After completion of this task, kids are told to find the Faith Focus before entering into the Bonus Round where they can collect many tokens in the area outside of Jesus' tomb.

During their travel from Jerusalem to the tomb and back, kids find other people to help along the way. A baker needs yeast for his dough before he can make bread. They also find a woman at a cave who is helping care for people that have leprosy. Kids can bring these people fresh bandages and water.

### THE GAME IN 30 SECONDS

**Find Mary Magdalene approaching Jesus' tomb and watch a cinema of John 20:1-2.**

**Find Mary Magdalene with Peter and John and watch a cinema of John 20:2-6.**

**Find a Bible in the tomb and watch a cinema of John 20:6-9.**

**Tell 5 people that Jesus is risen!**

**Find the Faith Focus.**

**Collect bonus tokens; then find the cross to end the game.**

### LIGHT THE FIRE

**This month, kids will watch Mary Magdalene go to the tomb and find it empty. They listen to her tell Peter and John that Jesus is not in the tomb, and then the kids see Peter and John rush to the tomb themselves. They understand and believe that Jesus had risen after they saw for themselves that the tomb is empty.**

**Ask the kids: You will see will Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John each look into the tomb and find it empty. What do you think the disciples thought when they found the tomb empty? Do you think they were afraid? Excited?**

*(Each month, "Light The Fire" will contain some fun gameplay activities related to the Gospel story. Use it to start a discussion with your children about this month's Bible story game.)*

### PASTOR'S COMMENTS

**In this month's Gospel Champions game, children will watch as Mary Magdalene finds the tomb**

empty before dawn. Kids will see her rush to tell Simon Peter and another disciple about what she has found. Children will then see Peter and John enter the tomb and believe that Jesus is risen. After children enter the tomb for themselves, they are challenged to run around Jerusalem and tell people, "Jesus is risen!" With the rising sun, children also encounter fun opportunities to help others. They can help a baker get his bread dough to rise and bring bandages and water to people with leprosy.

*(The "Pastor's Comment" can be used after the Gospel reading to get the kids excited about the lesson and the related game.)*

### Saint of the Month

#### **Blessed Damien of Molokai**

Kids find this special token near a group of people who have leprosy.

Children learn that blessed Damien of Molokai is recognized for his missionary work in Hawaii at a leper colony on Molokai. He worked alone, ministering to the patients' spiritual and medical needs.

### QUESTION OF THE MONTH

How do you think the disciples felt when they found Jesus' empty tomb?



### Corporal Works of Mercy

#### **Visit those in prison**

Children bring water to the prisoners and fresh straw for the floor of the prison.