

BibleWise

ACTIVITIES

Bible Overview covers the fourth part of the book of [Revelation](#).

Make A Difference shows us [how we can influence others by our example](#).

Teen Time Question and Answer: [do clothes make a difference?](#)

Kids Korner offers puzzles, games, and stories about loving the way Jesus loved.

Parenting with the Bible handles being [down in the dumps](#).

Exercise: Who Am I?

Use index cards to list the statement about the individual. On the reverse side of the card, write the person's name. This group of statements is about individuals during the time leading up to Jesus' crucifixion.

Statement about the Individual	Answer
You may have heard I was dead four days before Jesus told me to "come forth." My sisters are Mary and Martha. (John 11:43)	Lazarus
I anointed Jesus' feet in Bethany. I used very expensive oils because I knew Jesus was going to die. (John 12:3)	Mary
I ran the money changers out of the temple because they made it impossible for people to pray. (Matthew 21:12-17)	Jesus
I cut off the ear of one of the soldiers when the Roman soldiers came to arrest Jesus. (Matthew 18:10)	Peter
We asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay tribute money to Rome (Mark 12:13-14)	Pharisees and Herodians
I gave two mites, all my money, to the Temple treasury. (Luke 21:1-3)	Widow
We were asked to pray with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, but we fell asleep. (Mark 14:32-38)	Peter, James, and John
I didn't want Jesus to wash my feet. (John 13:8)	Peter

I sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. (Matt 26:17-19)	Judas
We told Jesus that some of the Gentiles wanted to see him and offer him a way to escape the cross. (John 12:20-22)	Philip and Andrew

Exercise: Who Am I? Part II

(Part I, above, was those leading up to the crucifixion)

Use index cards to list the statement about the individual. On the reverse side of the card, write the person's name. This group of statements is about individuals during the time leading up to Jesus' ascension.

Statement about the Individual	Answer
Jesus overturned my tents in the temple. I questioned him before going to Caiaphas. (Luke 18:13-24)	Annas
I am the high priest. I wanted Jesus killed. I asked him if he was the Son of God. (Matt 26:3-4)	Caiaphas
I killed an innocent man to keep my job. I'm a Roman governor. My wife told me not to let anything happen to Jesus. (Matthew 27:2)	Pilate
I denied Jesus three times. (Matthew 26:75)	Peter
I let my soldiers make fun of Jesus. (Luke 23:11)	Herod Antipas
A Roman soldier picked me out of the crowd to carry Jesus' cross. (Matt 27:32)	Simon of Cyrene
I told John to take care of my mother. (John 19:26-27)	Jesus
Jesus promised me a place with him in paradise. (Luke 23:43)	one of the men crucified with Jesus
I asked Pilate for Jesus' body. (Matt 27:57-58)	Joseph of Arimathea

Exercise:

Work on the activity [Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet](#).

 [Print/Download Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet](#)

 [Print/Download Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet Answer Sheet](#)

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Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet

John 12

When people walked along the roads in Bible times, dust would get inside their sandals and make their feet dirty. Therefore it was the custom to wash their feet when they entered someone's house.

Mary decided to wash Jesus' feet for him. But she did not use water. Mary poured some expensive perfume on Jesus' feet. Then she wiped his feet with her long hair. She did this to show her love for him.

What did Mary see when she looked at Jesus' feet? Did she see the dust? Did she see sores and calluses from walking many miles to tell people about God? Maybe Mary thought about the words of the prophet Isaiah.

Solve the puzzle to see what Isaiah 52:7 says.

Cross out these letters: C, J, K, Q, V, X, Y, Z.

CHOWQBEAUTIFULXUPONJ
THEZMOUNTAINSCAREYTHE
KFETVOFXHIMJTHATK
QBRINGSYGODJTIDINGSV



Hell de Vries and Mary Carter. More Bible Activities You Can Do. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books Publishers, 1999.

Exercise:

Take eight sheets of paper and label Sunday through Sunday. Now list all the events that the students know happened each day. Put them on the wall in your class. If they aren't sure what happened, look at the [Chronology of Events](#) or read directly from one or all of the Gospels.

On the first Sunday, write: the 10th of Nisan, this is the day the lamb was set aside for sacrifice on the Passover. Discuss the symbolism of Jesus being called the Lamb of God in relation to this day. What else happened on this day? What is this day called in other Christian religions? [Palm Sunday]

Sunday

- The 10th of Nisan
- The day of the lamb is set aside for the Passover sacrifice

Triumphal entry into Jerusalem

- Known as Palm Sunday



Monday

- Removed the money changers from the Temple

Tuesday

- Jesus authority is challenged by the Pharisees

Wednesday

- Day of Prayer

Thursday

- Observe the Passover meal
- Washed disciples feet

Friday

- Jesus on trial before the Sanhedrin
- Jesus on trial before Pilate

Saturday

- In the tomb

Sunday

- Resurrection

Wherever possible, have children draw pictures of some of the events and include under each day. For example, on Sunday – you could have Jesus riding the colt into Jerusalem or complete the [Can You Find?](#) exercise, color it, and include the picture with the Sunday information.

- Discuss the [activities of the week](#). As you discuss each day, ask the children to write the important events on the correct day of the week. Have the students color pictures or create pictures for the events and include them on the list for the day.
 - On which day did Jesus remove the money changers? (color [Jesus Whipping the Money Changers Out of the Temple](#))
 - Why did Jesus remove them?
 - What were the money changers doing that was so bad?
 - On which day did Jesus observe the widow putting all her money in the collection?
 - On which day did the fig tree shrivel up?
 - On which day did Jesus wash his disciples' feet?
 - On which day did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a colt?
 - On which day did Jesus pray in the Garden of Gethsemane?
 - On which day did Peter deny him?
 - On which day were the trials held?
 - On which day was Jesus crucified?
 - On which day was the tomb empty?
- Read the parable of the ten virgins (Matt 25:1-13)
 - Why did Jesus share this parable?
 - What are we to do?
 - Why didn't the wise give the foolish some oil?
 - What lesson do you learn from the foolish virgins?
- Read the Parable of the talents (Matt. 25:14-30)
 - What talents, skills, abilities do you have?
 - Are you using what God has given you or are you hiding it?
- Add another sheet. Label it "Sightings." List all the times Jesus appeared to the disciples on the sightings sheet.

Exercise:

Write down all the spiritual qualities they saw Jesus demonstrate on Tuesday, when he visited the Temple.

Exercise:

Analyze the Lord's Prayer in John 17. Which verses are about Jesus? Which verses are about the disciples? Which verses are about us?


- Describe the relationship Jesus has with God.
- Describe the relationship Jesus wants his disciples to have with God.
- Describe the relationship Jesus wants us to have with God.

Exercise:

Ask a member of the class to act as a news reporter. He/she has to get the scoop on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Have students play the role of Jesus, Peter, John, and folks on the road way. Some possible questions to ask:

- Jesus, where did you get your donkey? [Peter and John got the colt in Bethphage]
- Jesus, why aren't you riding a horse? [check out prophecy – Zech 9:9]
- Individual waving the Palm branch: Why are you here today?

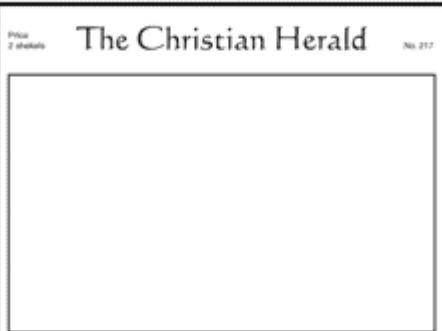
Exercise: After reading the account of what the Scribes and Pharisees wanted to do to Jesus and Lazarus, you might want to create the kind of wanted poster the High Priest ordered to catch Jesus.

 [Print/Download Jesus Debates the Pharisees](#)

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CREATE THE PICTURE!

Since photographs didn't exist in biblical times, we don't have any specific pictures of Bible figures. To make this news article complete, draw a picture for the story listed below.




Jesus Debates the Pharisees

The Pharisees asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay tribute to Caesar? They knew no matter what answer Jesus gave, he'd be in trouble. If he said "No," then they would report him to the Romans who would arrest them. If he said, "Yes," the Jews would get angry and want to get rid of him.

But Jesus was so wise. He said, "Show me a coin. Who's face is on it?" The people responded, "Caesar." Jesus told them, "Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar, but give to God what belongs to God."

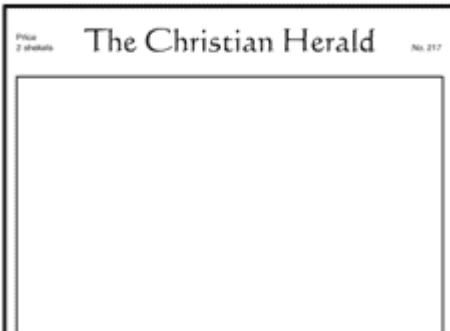
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Exercise:

So often the significance of word meanings is overlooked. After seeing the Mel Gibson movie, "Passion of the Christ," one child told his Sunday school teacher he didn't know that crucifixion could kill you. Help your pupils understand the important words and their significance concerning Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.

- Ask the students to define:
 - Palm Sunday
 - Garden of Gethsemane
 - Passover
 - Crucifixion
 - Resurrection
 - Ascension
 - Scourge
 - Money changers
 - Pharisees
 - Scribes
 - Sanhedrin
 - Last supper
 - Betray
 - Passion
 - Add your own

Exercise:

You might want to actually wash your pupils' feet. Bring a basin, towels, water, and lotion. While washing their feet, ask students to read John 13:1-17. Let them wash your feet, if they offer. The most important part of this activity is discussing how they felt.

- What did you think when I asked if I could wash your feet?
- What was it like to have your SS teacher wash your feet?
- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus washed their feet?
- Could you understand why Peter was reluctant to let Jesus wash his feet?
- What does this activity symbolize?
- Why did Jesus wash their feet?
- Why don't we wash each other's feet today?

I did this activity a few years ago with my Sunday School class. It received mixed reviews, initially. When the SS secretary came around for the collection, she was curious about the activity and asked if we'd wash her feet. The pupils jumped at the opportunity and shared the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet. They, in turn, asked her how she felt. She loved it and it was difficult to get her to leave. She thought the lotion on the feet was quite nice. After washing my feet, we all sat on the floor and talked about what it would have been like at that Passover meal. We discussed how we could symbolically take "foot washing" to a modern day level of caring for each

other regardless of age or position in the church, school, or community. You might ask them if there is anyone whose feet they wouldn't want to wash and discuss why.

Exercise: Study the parable of the talents (Matt 25:14-30).

Ask the students to write (individually or in groups) a modern version of this parable and cast it for an HBO special.

Describe the character and his action	Actor to fill the role and why
The traveling man	
The servant with 5 talents	
The servant with 2 talents	
The servant with 1 talent	

After you've written and cast the script – act it out in class or for other classes.

Exercise: [Which is The Greatest Commandment?](#)

 [Print/Download The Greatest Commandment](#)

 [Print/Download The Greatest Commandment Answer Sheet](#)

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Parable of the Talents

—Matthew 25

Talents

God has given all of us various degrees of talent. What does He expect us to do with these wonderful gifts? Finish each word with its correct ending to find out.

AS
ACE
HERS
SE
D'S
TS
HE
IOUS
N
FT
IVE
SWS
ENED
EVER
FULLY
LAD
E
TERING
CH
O

EA _____ O _____
SHO _____
U _____
WHAT _____ GI _____
H _____ H _____ REC _____
T _____ SE _____ OT _____
FAITH _____
ADMINIS _____
GO _____ GR _____ I _____
I _____ VAR _____ FO _____

(1 Peter 4:10)

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Exercise:

Re-enact Jesus' trials – without the spitting and hitting. Students or teachers can write out the scripts from the Bible verses. Or you can discuss each of the places Jesus is taken after his arrest and discuss the fairness of the trials.

The first stop is to meet with Annas. He asks Jesus incriminating questions, which he isn't allowed to do. Jesus is hit by a soldier.

Then Jesus is taken to Caiaphas before the Sanhedrin. The high priest, Caiaphas, questions Jesus. When Jesus says he is the Son of God, the Jews hit the jack pot – now they can take him to the Roman officials for blasphemy since the Jews can't kill him by crucifixion. Crucifixion was a crime only carried out by the Roman government. If the Jews could kill him, it would have been by stoning.

Pilate doesn't want anything to do with Jesus' death. He thinks he's innocent. He realizes the Jews are jealous of Jesus. But the Jews blackmail him into acting.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod Antipas because Jesus is a Galilean and not under his jurisdiction. Jesus doesn't say anything to Herod so Herod lets his soldiers mock Jesus by dressing him in a purple robe and a crown of thorns and shouting: Hail King of the Jews.

Jesus is sent back to Pilate where he is scourged 39 times. Then Pilate suggests they follow a tradition and let a prisoner go free. The crowd wants Barabbas freed and they

want the Romans to kill Jesus.

Why couldn't Jesus get a fair trial?

Exercise: Here are some word games for students to find important verses about Jesus' resurrection:

 [Print/Download John 14:1-6](#)

 [Print/Download John 14:1-6 Answer Sheet](#)


John 14:1-6

Read this passage, then answer the following questions.

- In verse 5, which disciple is mentioned?
- Jesus said he was going to prepare a
- In verse 6, Jesus said: I am the
- Not only is Jesus the way and the truth, but he is the
- Can anyone come to the Father without going through Jesus?

(Use the letters in the boxes from above to fill in the spaces below.)

JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO . . .




The Gospel Activity Book by Mary Collins Baker Book House, 1971.

 [Print/Download Death and Resurrection](#)

 [Print/Download Death and Resurrection Answer Sheet](#)

DEATH & RESURRECTION



Jesus said to Pilate: "Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above" (John 19:11).

Why was our Lord Jesus Christ willing to die on the cross?

To find out the answer, cross out all D's, F's, G's, I's, J's, K's, N's, P's, Q's, R's, T's, W's, X's, Y's, and Z's.

D B I E Q C I A U S I E
I H N P E W Q Z Y J G X
G L D F O V I J E K S N
M D Q I K N R T E Y P I

See Brown, *Along with People*, Todd Greenleaf, Emerald House, 2001.

 [Print/Download John 20:31](#)

 [Print/Download John 20:31 Answer Sheet](#)

John 20:31


Fill in the blanks by putting the letter in the alphabet that comes just before the letter under the line.

C F M J F W F

U I B U K F T Y T

J T U I F D I S J T U

U I F T F O P G



H F E John 20:31

If you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, you will have everlasting

(Reassemble the boxed letters from the above project to find the answer.)

The Gospel Activity Book by Mary Carter Baker Book House, 1971


 [Print/Download What the Angel Said](#)

 [Print/Download What the Angel Said Answer Sheet](#)

Jesus Is Alive
—MATTHEW 28:28

What the Angel Said

Early on the first day of the week, the women came to Jesus' tomb. An angel of the Lord rolled the stone away from the entrance, and sat on it. To find out what the angel told the women, start at the right side of the angel's legs and copy every other letter from the stone to the spaces below.



H D E O I N S T N B O E T A N H E R R A I N D E H N H A S S R N I O S T E H N E

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 [Print/Download Angel at the Tomb](#)

 [Print/Download Angel at the Tomb Answer Sheet](#)

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Angel at the Tomb

To find out what the angel said to the women at the tomb, unscramble the words in the opening.

Matthew 28:6

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[Print/Download The Women and the Angel](#)

[Print/Download The Women and the Angel Answer Sheet](#)

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Crucifixion and Resurrection

—Matthew 27:26
John 19

The Women and the Angel

Read the answer to the puzzle by comparing the individual stones with the wall of stones. When a match is found, transfer the letters to the large stones. Then write the letters on the lines provided.

Many magicians and the other who want to look at Jesus' tomb. There was a sign on the stone. The sign said 'The women going to the tomb.' The angel told the women not to be frightened. The women went to the tomb. The women told to tell Jesus' disciples. The women told the people to find the answer.

Matthew 28:7

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Exercise:

You might open the discussion with: Have you ever boasted you'd do something and then discovered you couldn't? Talk about Peter's boasting that he'd always be there for Jesus. Jesus told him that before the rooster crowed for the next day, Peter would deny knowing Jesus three times.

Fill in the boxes in [Peter's Denial](#).

[Print/Download Peter's Denial](#)

 [Print/Download Peter's Denial Answer Sheet](#)


Peter's Denial

Write down every other letter starting with the "L" to find two things Peter said on the night Jesus was arrested.



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Exercise: Bible Drill. Open to John 20:1-24 and fill in the grid on [Major Detective Work!](#)

 [Print/Download Major Detective Work](#)

 [Print/Download Major Detective Work Answer Sheet](#)

MAJOR DETECTIVE WORK!

 Take a close look at JOHN 20:1-24 to find out what these people saw on the first Easter Day.

	STONE ROLLED AWAY	INSIDE THE TOMB	THE ANGELS OF GOD	THE RISEN CHRIST
MARY				
PETER				
JOHN				
THOMAS				
OTHER DISCIPLES				

©2002 by Bible and Mary Curran. More Bible Activities You Can Do. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book Publishers, 2002.

Exercise:

Complete the following quizzes: [True or False](#); and [Jesus is Alive](#).

Exercise: He is Risen On Easter morning.

Greet the pupils with a high five and say "He is Risen." Then explain that this is how Jesus' disciples greeted each other after his resurrection.

 [Print/Download True or False](#)

 [Print/Download True or False Answer Sheet](#)

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True or False?

Determine if a statement is true or false. If true, circle the letter in the True column and if false, circle the letter in the False column.



True	False	
N	S	1. The cross wasn't a surprise for Jesus.
S	E	2. John betrayed Jesus.
E	N	3. Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet.
R	E	4. Judas sold Jesus for 20 pieces of silver.
H	I	5. Jesus' disciples slept in the Garden of Gethsemane.
I	S	6. Peter cut off the ear of one of the soldiers.
S	E	7. Pilate asked Jesus, "What is the truth?"
R	S	8. Thomas doubted Jesus was risen.
S	E	9. Mary Magdalene was one of the first to see the risen Jesus.


Take the circle letters and unscramble them to find what Jesus' disciples said on resurrection morning.


_____!

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Exercise:

 [Print/Download Jesus is Alive](#)





 [Print/Download Jesus is Alive Answer Sheet](#)



Jesus Is Alive!

Jesus Dies and Lives Again
—JOHN 19:28

Who am I? Draw a line from each sentence to the person or persons who did it.

1. Early Sunday morning, I came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been moved.	 <small>JOSEPH AND NICODEMUS</small>
2. I saw Mary crying in the garden and called her by name.	 <small>MARY MAGDALENE</small>
3. I ran to tell Peter that I didn't know where Jesus' body was.	 <small>PETER AND JOHN</small>
4. We ran to the tomb to see what had happened.	 <small>JESUS</small>
5. We asked Pilate for permission to bury Jesus.	

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Exercise:

I am... after completing the exercise about the disciples above, assign each student a disciple's name and then have them create clues about who he is.


For example: Clues:


1. I fell asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane.
2. I cut off a soldier's ear.
3. I bragged I'd always defend Jesus.
4. I denied Jesus – 3 times.
5. I helped start the early Christian church.

Answer: Peter

The class members try to guess the name on the first clue. They earn the points of the numbered clue that leads to the right answer. Lowest score wins.

Exercise: Thomas. To believe or not believe. What didn't Thomas believe? Why didn't he believe that Jesus came back from the dead? Complete [Thomas's Unbelief](#).

 [Print/Download Thomas's Unbelief](#)

 [Print/Download Thomas's Unbelief Answer Sheet](#)

pushed you from behind? Many kids say they would yell, or push them back, or ask why they did it or explain how rude that was. Then ask your students how they would feel if they discovered the person pushing them was blind? You'll see it in their eyes - it is an immediate shift to compassion - the point of forgiveness. Pushing is no longer an issue; and instead they find themselves wanting to help the other person. This "scenario" makes for great discussions on the wonderful love Jesus had for everyone.

- GAL

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