EASTER

~God loves me. Jesus gave His life for me. The Holy Spirit lives in me.

God is love! He loves me!

Parents,

Let's journey together as you teach your child(ren) the true meaning of Easter. Celebrating spring, enjoying bunnies, and finding eggs are much fun, yet can be distracting and even overshadow what Jesus did for us on the cross. Be encouraged to let God's "true" story of Easter remain in the forefront of your child's heart at the level of their understanding and set a special time to engage and connect your child to God's love through the journey of Easter.

Here's how it looks for us (see Lessons):

- God made us. He loves us. He made us amazing. He wants a relationship with us.
- 2. Sin entered the picture. God's plan, however, allows forgiveness and gives me strength to make the right choice to follow Him.
- 3. The Bible, God's Word, tells me His true story. The Bible tells me of God's rescue plan and how He wants me to be a part of His family. I can trust and believe God's Word.
- 4. Jesus "finished paying the price for our freedom to know Him" on the cross. Jesus paid the price for us to live. I can share God's love with everyone.
- 5. Jesus is alive. He didn't stay on the cross, God, the Father, brought life to His Son. Jesus, sent the Holy Spirit so I could live for Him.

*These lessons can be found on our NCC website.

Lesson 1

- God loves me, HE MADE ME AMAZING! (Psalm 139:14)
- Bible Story: In the Beginning

Lesson 2

- God loves me, HE HELPS ME MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.
- Bible Story: The First Sin

Lesson 3

- God loves me. THE BIBLE IS ABOUT GOD'S TRUE STORY.
- Bible Story: God's Good News

Lesson 4

- God loves me. I CAN SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH EVERYONE.
- Bible Story: It is Finished!

Lesson 5 EASTER

- God loves me. I CAN BE GOD'S FRIEND.
- Bible Story: A Happy Sunday!





CHAT TIME Connections:

4 "Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. [2] 5 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. 8 Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



For God so LOVED the world that He GAVE His one and only Son,

> John 3:16

Jesus!!!



The concept of Easter; Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, can be hard for little ones to grasp.

Our goal is to tell the story of Easter on their level, keeping the events prior to and at His death in very brief detail. We will focus on what they can comprehend, that is, God loves us. Jesus gave His life for us (on the cross), and the Holy Spirit lives in me, that is, Jesus wants to put His love in our hearts. He wants to be our best friend and the leader of our life. This can happen only because of what He did for us. By becoming Jesus' friend, we are now a part of His family. Father God, then becomes our Heavenly Father, who will ALWAYS love & take care of us.

Connection questions:

- 1. Where do we hold Mommy & Daddy's love? Answ. In our hearts.
- 2. Who loves us even more that Mommy & Daddy? And where do we keep His love? Answ. God. / in our hearts
- 3. How do we see God loving us?

 Answ. We can see God's love for us through His creation, through Jesus's love by Him giving His life for us, when we read our Bibles and learn about Him, by how He takes care of us. *Depending on your child's age, you can dive deeper into Easter, the cross and the price He paid for our sin (the yucky stuff like disobeying or acting out or hurting others).
- How can I show God's love to others?
 Answ. By sharing, by helping, by using kind words.
- 5. How can I be friends with God? Answ: I simply <u>A</u>sk. I can ask Him because I <u>B</u>elieve that God's Word is true. Jesus died on the cross. but came back to life. He forgives me. He loves me. I <u>C</u>hoose to follow Him, that is, live for Him everyday in a way that everyone can see that I love Him.



Especially for our PARENTS
Parent/Child Connection
"cuz kids matter" - Matthew 19:14

EASTER, the journey of God's love for us ~God loves me.

~Jesus gave His life for me. ~The Holy Spirit lives in me.



God's **U**nique **I**ndividuals Making Truth Stick

Jesus makes me God's friend because I believe Jesus lives again.



Stickee Verse:
Romans 10:9
Believe in your
heart that God
raised Jesus from
the dead.



Instructions:

- 1. Color the small crosses brown.
- 2. Glue brown pieces of paper on the big cross.

Instructions:

- 1. Draw a line with a pencil, then erase it to see what it looks like when Jesus forgives us of our mistakes.
- 2. Color the heart red or put a heart sticker on the heart. Jesus makes us ALL better so we can be friends with God.

Jesus loves me and He lives again. He erases my friends with God.



