

Elementary Object Lesson: Jesus Has Victory Over Death (John 19:16-20:18)

Supplies

- Bible
- large box
- white paper
- tape
- markers
- Any type of party supplies such as glow sticks, balloons, streamers, snacks, music player and music, and another sheet of large paper to make a banner
- flashlight

Easy Prep

- Place all the party supplies in the large box. If you're using glow sticks, activate them before putting them in the box. Also turn on the flashlight and place it in the box. Then wrap the box in white paper.

Experience the Loss

Ask:

- Tell about a time you lost a game or competition. Share your own story first.

Say: Losing at something important is hard. Today's story is an epic battle. Good and evil had a showdown. God sent his Son, Jesus, as the ultimate good. Jesus lived a perfect life on earth. Jesus *is* God. Could evil beat God? Who will win, and who will lose? Let's see.

Bible Connection

Have kids gather around the white box to help draw the Bible story.

Read [John 19:16-17](#). Have each child draw a cross on the box.

Read [John 19:18-22](#). Have each child draw a sign that says "King of the Jews" on the box.

Read [John 19:23-24](#). Have each child draw clothing on the box.

Read [John 19:28-29](#). Have each child draw a sponge on a stick on the box. Read John 19:30. Have each child write "death" on the box.

Read [John 19:32-34](#). Have each child draw a spear on the box.

Read [John 19:40-42](#). Have each child draw a tombstone on the box.

Jesus Died for Our Sins

Say: Jesus died for our sins. That means he died for the things we've done wrong. Write or draw something you've done wrong on the box.

Turn off the lights.

Say: When Jesus died, it got dark, even though it was daytime. Now imagine if this was it. End of story. Jesus is dead. Look at our box. Our sins are still there. Death is all over it. Imagine if Jesus couldn't do anything about sin and death. Think about what we would have lost if that were true.

Sit in silence for about 30 seconds while kids reflect on what we would've lost.

After 30 seconds, begin a sad, somber chant by saying, "We lost..." Have kids fill in the chant with what they thought of—for example, "We lost hope, we lost heaven, we lost love, we lost forgiveness, we lost joy, we lost church." End the chant by simply declaring, "We lost. We lost. We lost."

Pause a few seconds longer.

Say: I wonder if Satan thought he won that day. Jesus' own friends thought the story was over. They lost and it seemed like evil beat God, like evil *killed* God.

Sit in silence in the darkness for a few more moments.

Celebrate the Victory

Say: But the story doesn't end there. Jesus' friends may not have understood it, Satan may not have known it, but Jesus had a surprise up his sleeve.

Turn on the lights.

Read [John 20:1](#). Have kids tear the paper off the box and rip it into tiny pieces to obliterate the death and sin all over it.

Say: The stone was rolled away because the tomb couldn't hold Jesus. Death couldn't hold Jesus. The story was over...and JESUS WON! God wins, so we have victory over sin and death. When we believe in Jesus, we're on the winning team!

Have a couple of kids open the box. If you have flashlights or glow sticks in the box, the light will be a surprise. If you have helium balloons in the box, they'll float out and make a powerful statement of Jesus' resurrection.

Have kids use the supplies in the box to have a victory party. As they celebrate, pause periodically to read John 20:3-10 and John 20:14-16. Have kids cheer as Jesus' friends discover the truth that God wins and Jesus is alive!

To close your party, lead kids in a victory cheer, chanting: **God wins; he's alive!**

Say: It's because of Jesus that we can celebrate. Jesus beat evil. He beat death. He beat sin! God wins, so we have victory over sin and death.

<https://childrensministry.com/lesson-god-wins/>