



Jesus' Death And New Life



THE MISSION AIM

To recognize Christ's divine and human nature by studying His death and resurrection.



KEY VERSE

Luke 24:7: "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful man, be crucified and on the third day be raised again."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Chart paper or whiteboard
- Writing tools
- Luke 24:7

Directions

DO: Play a quick game of 'hangman' with the team, using the Scripture reference Luke 24:7. Try using the phrase: "The Son of Man will be crucified and rise again on the third day". Or you may wish to break the verse into three parts, such as "God sent his son," "Jesus died on the cross for our sins," "Jesus rose on the third day!" and play three rounds of hangman.

Once revealed, inform the recruits that the focus of today's lesson will be on the Easter story.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Who Is This Jesus? Episode 6: Jesus' Death And New Life"

Play "Who Is This Jesus? (S2) Episode 6 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have WITJ-Episode_6-Jesus_Death_And_New_Life.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- Bible
- Isaiah 53 – Jesus Timeline Verses (see attachment page 7)
- Long strip of paper (wrapping paper or white parchment paper rolled out would work well)



Mission Assignment

SAY: Let's have a drumroll as we read our first mission for today (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "What did the prophet Isaiah foretell about Jesus' life and death? Recruits, we need you to find out! Your mission is to go through Isaiah 53 with your squad leader and create a timeline of the life of Jesus."

SAY: I know how just how Molly feels about the Easter story. Sometimes it can be a little scary to think about Jesus dying on the cross and coming back from the grave, but it is a really important event for Christians to know about. What did you think about the way that Simon described the story? *(It sounded like an action movie, it sounded exciting...a little intense, etc.)*

SAY: Some of the descriptions were a bit extreme, but that's because it was such a BIG deal! It was so important that God even told prophets about what would happen years before Jesus arrived on earth.

SAY: Our first mission is to look at just what the prophets said about Jesus' time on earth and the Easter story. Specifically, we are going focus on Isaiah 53 and create a timeline of what is to happen. What is a timeline? *(A visual representation of events that happen over time)*

SAY: Exactly! Let's go through Isaiah 53 together and create a giant timeline of events.

DO: Read through the chapter with recruits and stop to add events on your long roll of paper. You may wish to use the Isaiah 53 – Jesus Timeline to make sure all events are added. You may choose to use words and visuals on your timeline.

SAY: It's amazing how much detail was given in Isaiah 53, long before the events even took place! Excellent work on completing the first mission, recruits! Let's get back to headquarters.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Who Is This Jesus? (S2) Episode 6 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.





Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Copies of The Easter Story – Luke 22-24 Scripture references (cut into strips) and hide around the room (see attachment page 8)
- The Easter Story (Luke 22-24) – TEACHER ANSWERS (see attachment page 9)
- Timeline from Mission #1
- Glue
- Bibles



Mission Assignment

SAY: Let's read our next mission together (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "Recruits, now let's put Isaiah's prophecies to the test. See if you can match what he said with what Luke tells us about the Easter story."

SAY: It seems as though each member of the Recon Team is feeling differently about the Easter story. What types of feelings do you notice between all the different members? (*Proud, scared, uncomfortable, impressed, sad, etc.*)

SAY: It's okay for different people to feel different things about the events that happened. No two people think or feel the same way all the time. The important thing is that each of them realizes how important the events are to everything we believe as Christians.

SAY: I really like how the team is trying to think of a way to help Molly understand the story without having to feel scared about it. Hopefully, they will be able to come up with a good idea!

SAY: Before we can help the team with this, we need to make sure we all know what the Bible says happened in the Easter Story. Our next mission is to take a look at what it says in the book of Luke and confirm that the prophecies in Isaiah were right.

DO: Read through the Easter story from Luke 22-24 with your squad. You may wish to look this over ahead of time and handpick sections from these three chapters. Read aloud with the group in the way that works best for your recruits (to them, all together, taking turns, etc.).

SAY: Now that we know what it says, we need to see how it connects to Isaiah 53. Let's play a game to check our information. I have copies of Scripture taken from Luke 22-24 hidden around the room. When I say go, we are going to work as a team to hunt down these Scripture strips, read them out loud and match them with events on our Isaiah timeline. I'm going to time how long it takes us. Don't forget, we work best as a team, so make sure to help each other out!

DO: Let the recruits hunt for the strips and match them with events on the timeline. Once they are all found and placed correctly, have recruits glue them onto the timeline.

SAY: Awesome job, team! As you can see, much of what the prophets foretold really happened. Thank you for helping confirm this for the Recon Team. Let's head back and see how they are doing on explaining these events to Molly.





Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Who Is This Jesus? (S2) Episode 6 (3/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Clay or small pieces of play dough
- Copies of the Butterfly Prayer (see attachment page 10)

Directions

SAY: Today's prayer huddle is going to be a little different. Each one of you is going to go to a quiet spot on your own, just like Jesus did, with a piece a play dough and a written prayer. I want you to go through the prayer and follow the instructions on the page. When you're done, meet back here.

DO: Give each recruit the supplies and let them work on the hands-on self-reflection prayer.



NOTE Squad Leader, if you have non-readers in your group, you might need to work in pairs.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Who Is This Jesus? (S2) Episode 6 (4/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Clay or play dough from prayer huddle
- Little containers for keep the clay or dough (optional)
- Buttlerfly Lifecycle (see attachment page 11)
- Pieces of blank paper
- Colouring tools
- Envelopes



Mission Project

SAY: **SAY:** Let's countdown to our last mission for day. 3-2-1 (reading mission card from satellite uplink). "This is a time to think about where you are in the transformation process: are you a caterpillar not yet changed, transforming in your cocoon, or living your new life as a butterfly?"

SAY: Wow, we have a lot to think about today. I love how the idea of the butterfly can help us to both remember the Easter story, as well as figure out where we are in our relationship with God. Thinking about the stages of our relationship with God, what did Christie say being a caterpillar is like? *(Like before we have accepted God: moving around the world, not fully meeting our potential)*

SAY: Right! But, once we make the choice to accept God's gift of forgiveness and new life, we begin to transform. What part of the monarch life cycle is this like? Michael mentioned this. *(Like the caterpillar in the chrysalis: going through a transformation, hiding ourselves away with God.)*

SAY: Exactly! Finally, once God has truly gotten into our hearts and made the change, we become something new and wonderful- just like the butterfly!

DO: Use Butterfly Lifecycle resource page to help illustrate your discussion with the recruits.

SAY: I would like you to do something for me now. I want you to think honestly about where you are in this cycle? Are you a caterpillar who has potential? Are you in the cocoon, allowing God to change you or maybe wanting to be in that cocoon? Or are you someone who has already been changed like the butterfly who has emerged from the chrysalis? Take some time now to use your clay and shape your answer. Create a model of where you are in the cycle.

DO: Give time for recruits to think and model their clay.

SAY: Now that we have all thought about this, I would like to pray for you.

DO: Say this prayer for the recruits...

Jesus, thank you for being willing to die for us, so that we may have this chance to change. Before you saved us, we were trapped in our sins. Now, we have the choice to become something more, to be transformed by you! God, for those of us who are still caterpillars with potential, but are not quite ready to be changed yet, I pray that you will continue to speak to us. Help us to move towards being ready for change. For those here who are in our cocoons, or want to be, I pray you'll do your changing work in our lives. Open our hearts to accept your love and forgiveness help us to want to be more like you. Finally God, for those here who lives you have already transformed, may we never forget the sacrifice you made for us to become like those butterflies. Give us thankful hearts, Lord Jesus. Amen!

SAY: If you decided today to ask Jesus to change you into a better person, I am so happy for you! If you'd like to share this with me or others in the room, I would like you to think about doing that. We are a family in Christ and it's so important that we support and encourage each other. If you are still a caterpillar, don't be discouraged! I appreciate your honesty and remember we each grow in our own time.



Squad Leader, this may be very personal for some recruits, so you can encourage them to do this privately or down in their laps away from the eyes of others.



DO: Pass out paper and envelopes.

SAY: Before we go today, I want you to use this paper to draw a quick image of what stage you are at: caterpillar, cocoon or butterfly. If you'd like to put your name on it, you may, but you don't have to. When finished, seal it inside your envelope and pass it to me. This is something private between you and me, so that I can get an idea of where we are as a team.

SAY: I hope as you leave today, the team's idea of the butterfly will help you to share the story of Easter, and better understand where you are on your pathway with God! Excellent work today!

NOTE



Isaiah 53 – Jesus Timeline

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. **(Jesus was born and grew up)** He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. **(He was just a “regular person.”)**

³He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. **(He was disliked by many, not considered important.)**

⁴Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. **(He took our punishment for our sins.)**

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away. **(He was judged by others.)** Yet who of his generation protested? **(No one stood up for him.)** For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. ⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. **(Jesus was put to death, even though he had done nothing wrong.)**

¹⁰Yet it was the LORD’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer **(Jesus suffered.),** and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. **(This was part of God’s plan.)**

¹¹After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. **(After dying, Jesus will see life.)**

¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. **(Jesus had to die for our sins.)**

The Easter Story- Luke 22-24

Note: Some of these verses might match with the same part on your timeline (you might be glue more than one strip in the same section).

Luke 22:4: And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus.

Luke 22:48: But Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Luke 22:34: Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

Luke 22:37: It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment."

Luke 22:47-48: While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Luke 22:63: The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him.

Luke 23:4: Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

Luke 23:36-37: The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

Luke 23:46: Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Luke 24:5-7: In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'

Luke 24:26: Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"

The Easter Story (Luke 22-24) - TEACHER ANSWERS

Connections to the Timeline

Note: Some of these verses might match with the same part on your timeline (you might need to glue more than one strip in the same section).

Luke 22:4: And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. **(He was disliked by many, not considered important.)**

Luke 22:48: But Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" **(No one stood up for him.)**

Luke 22:34: Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me." **(No one stood up for him.)**

Luke 22:37: It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment." **(This was part of God's plan.)**

Luke 22:47-48: While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" **(He was judged by others/Jesus suffered.)**

Luke 22:63: The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. **(Jesus suffered)**

Luke 23:4: Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man." **(Jesus was put to death, even though he had done nothing wrong.)**

Luke 23:36-37: The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." **(Jesus suffered.)**

Luke 23:46: Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. **(Jesus was put to death, even though he had done nothing wrong.)**

Luke 24:5-7: In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' **(After dying, Jesus will be resurrected.)**

Luke 24:26: Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" **(Jesus suffered according to God's plan.)**

The Butterfly Prayer

DO: Take your piece of clay and roll it into a ball. This is an egg. The Monarch butterfly flies down and lays its eggs on the milkweed plant. Like the monarch, God sent his Son down to us here on earth.

PRAY: Awesome God, thank you for allowing your son to be born here on earth, fully God, fully man. For you loved us so much, that you sent your Son into this world.

DO: Take your piece of clay and create a long caterpillar. The monarch egg hatches and becomes a caterpillar. This caterpillar moves among the milkweed, just as Jesus lived and moved among us.

PRAY: Jesus, you lived among us. You were a miracle worker, a teacher, a friend. We are so blessed that you spent time on earth with us, understanding what it was like to live like one of us.

DO: Take your piece of clay and shape it into a chrysalis (an oval shaped cocoon). When it is time for change and the caterpillar has finished its job of gathering food, it is hidden from the world inside this shell. Just like the Monarch, Jesus finished his job here on earth and was taken away from us, buried in a tomb.

PRAY: Jesus, when your teaching and training here on earth was done, you lovingly took our sins and were willing to die for us. You were placed in a tomb taken from our world by death. But the story wasn't over. Just as the monarch hides away and undergoes a transformation, you too were transforming.

DO: Take your piece of clay and create a butterfly. When the monarch's transformation is complete, it emerges from its chrysalis and comes out a new and wonderful creation; just as Jesus broke free from his tomb of death, to arise as our Saviour and Lord.

PRAY: Thank you Father God that Jesus' death was not the end. We are amazed, Jesus, at how you transformed death into life for us, arising new and more glorious than even the Monarch butterfly.

Amen!

