

Jesus' Power Over Death

John 11:25

QUESTIONS

AGES 3–5

1. Who raised people from the dead? *Jesus.*
2. What happened to Jairus' daughter when Jesus spoke to her? *She came back to life.*
3. What happened when Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb? *Lazarus came out alive.*
4. What do these miracles teach us about Jesus? *Jesus has power over death.*

AGES 6–8

1. How long had Lazarus been in the tomb before Jesus arrived? *Four days.*
2. What did Jesus say before raising Lazarus? *"Lazarus, come out!"*
3. What happened to the widow's son at Nain? *Jesus raised him from the dead.*
4. What do these miracles show about Jesus? *They show that Jesus is Lord over life and death.*

AGES 9–11

1. Why did Jesus delay going to Lazarus after hearing he was sick? *So God's glory would be displayed through the miracle.*
2. What did Jesus mean when He said, "I am the resurrection and the life"? *He alone gives eternal life and has power over death.*
3. How did the people respond when Lazarus was raised? *Many believed in Jesus.*
4. Why are Jesus' miracles over death important? *They point to His own resurrection and His power to give eternal life.*

INTRODUCE

AGES 3–5

WAKE UP!

Ask one child to pretend to be asleep. Gently call the child's name and have him wake up. Explain that waking someone from sleep is easy, but only Jesus can bring someone back from death. Today we will learn about Jesus' power over death.

STRONGER THAN ANYTHING

Ask the children what they think is the most powerful: a bulldozer, a train, or a storm. Explain that Jesus is more powerful than all of these because He even has power over all things, including death.

AGES 6–8

IMPOSSIBLE PROBLEMS

Ask the class to name problems that seem impossible to solve. Write several answers on the board. Explain that death is the greatest problem people face, yet Jesus showed His power over death by raising people back to life.

GOOD NEWS ARRIVES

Bring an envelope labeled "Good News." Ask students how they feel when they receive good news. Explain that families who were grieving received amazing news when Jesus raised their loved ones from the dead.

AGES 9–11

THE FINAL ENEMY

Ask students what people fear most: death, the dark, sharks, clowns, or whatever else. Discuss various answers. Read 1 Corinthians 15:26 and explain that death is called the "last enemy." Today's lesson shows that Jesus has authority even over death.

HOPE BEYOND THE GRAVE

Show a picture of a cemetery or gravestone. Ask students why death makes people sad. Explain that Christians have hope because Jesus conquered death and promises eternal life to those who trust Him.

ILLUSTRATE

AGES 3–5

COME OUT, LAZARUS!

Materials:

Blanket or sheet

Directions:

Allow one child to sit under a blanket pretending to be Lazarus in the tomb. Have the class call, "Lazarus, come out!" The child then stands up and comes out. Explain that Jesus spoke and Lazarus came back to life.

LIFE FROM A SEED

Materials:

Seeds

Small cup with soil

Directions:

Show a seed and explain that it looks lifeless. Plant it in soil and explain that God brings life where there appears to be none. Show a video of a sprout growing time-lapse. Jesus showed His power to give life by raising the dead instantly.

AGES 6–8

TOMB DOOR

Materials:

Large cardboard circle or paper plate

Cardboard box

Directions:

Place the cardboard circle in front of a box to represent the stone covering Lazarus' tomb. Move the "stone" away and discuss how Jesus commanded Lazarus to come out alive.

TRUST JESUS

Discuss why people do not need to fear death when they belong to Jesus. Read John 11:25 together and encourage students to trust Jesus, who gives eternal life.

AGES 9–11

POWER OVER DEATH TIMELINE

Materials:

Poster board

Markers

Directions:

Create a timeline showing the events in this lesson, including Jairus' daughter, the widow's son at Nain, Lazarus, and Jesus' resurrection. Discuss how each miracle pointed toward Christ's ultimate victory over death and what His death accomplished.

WHO HAS THIS POWER?

List powerful people throughout history with the children's help. Ask the students whether any of them could raise the dead by their own authority. Explain that Jesus demonstrated power that belongs to God alone.

OUR LIVING HOPE

Read John 11:25–26. Ask students what this promise means for believers today. Encourage them to place their confidence in Jesus and thank Him for the hope of resurrection and eternal life.