

# Adventures with GOD!

## A TEAM OF JESUS' HELPERS (B.3.SPRING.13)

Biblical Reference	Luke 8:1-2, Luke 24:1-12
Key Verse	Luke 24:1
Key Concept	Jesus' helpers continue to serve God's kingdom today, just as the disciples did when Jesus was physically on the earth.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tell who Luke was</li> <li>2. Name some of the people that they were introduced to through the book of Luke</li> <li>3. Draw people that most impacted them during the trimester</li> </ol>

### Life Application

It's been an exciting trimester! Not only did the Gospel of Luke give us a very vivid description of who Jesus is, but it also introduced us to Luke's friends and helpers. As we read Scriptures, we too, are invited to follow Jesus and serve in the same way his friends and disciples did. Luke wants us to be a part of the team that is serving in God's kingdom. Jesus came to save us from our sins and to bring the good news of God's kingdom that was coming to earth. We are a part of this amazing story in motion!

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction	Envelopes	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, time machine	10 minutes
Key Verse		10 minutes
Activity	See instructions	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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## INSTRUCTIONS

**My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review:** As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at [CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god](http://CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god).

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Bible Reading:** Explain that we read the Bible first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Luke 24:1-12 twice and ask children to respond.

**Question Examples:** What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the passage?

**Introduction:** As we finish this trimester, it's a good time to review what we've learned from the book of Luke. To review, consider playing a game. Divide the class into two groups. Before class, prepare 12 envelopes (6 for each team) and place some of the Key Verses (including the reference chapter and verse). Cut the verses into strips of paper that children have to put together. The first team to put together all of the verses wins.

**Bible Exploration:** You may choose to use the time machine this week and the sample dialogue is found on pages 5-6. Invite a child to come up and start the time machine. After the time machine is started up the visitor comes out. This week's visitor is Mary. It's important to remind



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children that there were many women who followed Jesus as his disciples, learning from him and serving alongside him. Today they will hear the story of one of these women.

After the dialogue ask children what they are thinking and feeling. Help them to imagine being there with Mary and the others at the tomb. What would they have felt? What would they have been thinking? What would they have seen, heard, smelled? What did the women think would happen when they told the disciples? How did the disciples react? What do they learn from Mary and the other women?

**Key Verse:** Before reading the verse, ask children to name some of the people that they've learned about through the book of Luke. Who were the others that either served Jesus or were served by Jesus. Then, read the Key Verse together. Find a creative way to review the verse with the group, using one of the methods applied during the trimester.

**Activity:** Invite children to review the life of Luke and his wonderful Gospel, by asking them to draw 6 people that most stuck out to them during this trimester. Provide paper, crayons, pencils and allow them to use their creativity. If they want to simply draw one or two, that is also ok. Tell children that they can use their imagination, based on what they have learned through the Scriptures. You can give them a list of the names of some of the people like John the Baptist, Elizabeth, Mary the mother of Jesus, the demon-possessed man, Jairus, Mary Magdalene, etc.

When they are finished, have children share their drawings with the group. Ask children questions about why they chose those particular people. Allow them time to share their opinions and insights. Ask children how learning about these people has helped them to understand what it means to follow Jesus.

## **Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:**

**G=God's Word:** What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

**R=Relationships:** Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).



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**O=Outward Action:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

**W=Worship:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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## BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Questions for Mary

Mary Magdalene – (Enters with a basket of spices). Oh, where am I? Today has been filled with surprises. If you don't recognize me I'm Mary Magdalene.

Question #1 – How did you meet Jesus?

Mary – Oh you should have been there. You wouldn't have been able to tolerate me, most people couldn't. I was in pretty bad shape when Jesus met me. He freed me from 7 demons.

Question #2 – How did you feel afterwards?

Mary – I can't describe how free I felt. I was so relieved and joyful. From that moment I began to follow Jesus and serve alongside him in any way I could.

Question #3 – You said you followed Jesus, were you by yourself?

Mary – No, there were other women with me. Many of us had been healed or experienced the love of Jesus, which led us to follow him. Imagine how we felt. It's not like we were highly respected, but Jesus treated us with respect and care. We traveled with him and the disciples. We traveled with the multitudes, attending to the different needs that presented themselves. Some of us had to return home to take care of our duties there, so we took turns helping Jesus and the disciples.

Question #4 – And what were you doing this weekend?

Mary – This has been a very sad weekend for us. Did you know that the Romans crucified Jesus on Friday? Almost all of the disciples fled the scene after the crucifixion out of fear. Others were arrested. We followed Joseph of Arimathea, who took Jesus' body and put it in his own special tomb. It was a small cave in a garden. Yesterday was Saturday so it was a day of Sabbath, but on Sunday we went to the tomb with our spices to anoint Jesus' body.

Question #5 – What were you going to anoint it with?



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Mary – We had special oils and spices (take out cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, etc). We couldn't save him, but we wanted to do what we could to take care of his body. I went with Mary, the mother of James and Salome.

Question #6 – And what happened when you went to the tomb?

Mary – We knew that the tomb would be closed with a huge rock and that a group of Roman soldiers would be guarding it. That made us nervous, but we were going to see what we could do. When we arrived we couldn't believe our eyes. The tomb was open! We ran as fast as we could and when we entered...well it took our breath away. The body was gone. We were sure someone had stolen it. All we found was the linen cloth that was used to wrap his body.

Question #7 – Did someone cut the cloth off so that they could take Jesus' body?

Mary – No. It was a miracle. The cloth was in one piece. We were in shock when suddenly a bright light appeared and angels appeared in front of us.

Question #8 – Angels? What did they say?

Mary – They told us that our Lord's body wasn't there, but that he had been raised from the dead as he had promised. It was the third day! They sent us on a mission to go and tell the other disciples. Jesus had risen from the dead! We ran as fast as we could to where the disciples were hiding. We were scared that at any moment the Roman soldiers might begin killing the disciples, as well. When we got there, we told the others what happened. But they didn't believe us. They thought we were out of our minds.

Question #9 – So did they just keep hiding out?

Mary – Everyone except Peter and John ran to the tomb to confirm what we told them. They saw for themselves that Jesus' body wasn't there. I was with them just now, before I met you. I have to get back to see what's going on. I still can't believe it!

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ILLUSTRATION

