



Bible Point ▶

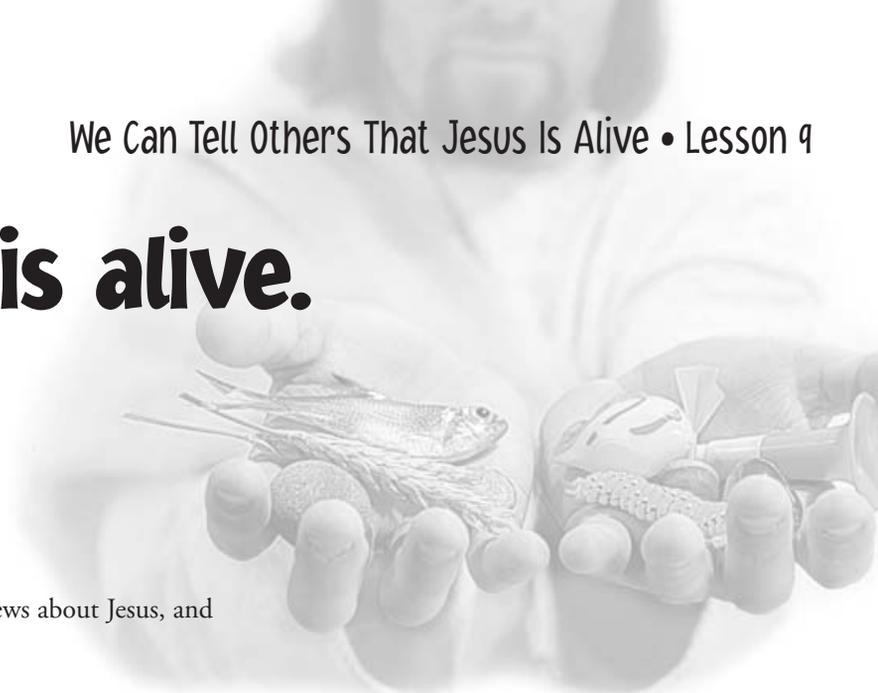
Jesus is alive.

Bible Verse

Jesus is alive (adapted from Matthew 28:6).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- learn that Jesus is alive,
 - explore ways to tell the good news about Jesus, and
 - tell friends that Jesus is alive.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- We can tell others that Jesus is alive.

Luke
24:1-9,
36-39, 50-53



For the three or so years that Jesus' disciples were with him on earth, they witnessed a lot of amazing events. The Resurrection was the most amazing one. When we've been a witness to something extraordinary, it is hard to hold it in. We want to share our experience with others. Jesus specifically instructed his disciples to bear witness to the things they had seen and how the Bible had predicted it all. We have a responsibility to bear witness to the truth of the good news to toddlers and 2s. As we do, let's pray that they catch the excitement and the desire to share it with others as well.

Prayer

- Read Acts 1:8.
- How have you told others about Jesus in the past?
- How does knowing the Holy Spirit is there to give you power to be a witness help you fulfill this calling?
- Prayer: Jesus, help me be a witness to others about your truth, especially to the children in my class. Help me help them get excited about telling others about you as well.

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

teacher tips

Repeating the Bible Point over and over will help the children remember it and apply it to their lives. Help children learn one point that will stay with them for days and even years to come.

teacher tips

Toddlers and 2s...

- play beside—but not with—other children (parallel play).
- are possessive about toys and are reluctant to share.
- have tantrums when they're frustrated.
- can chew food well.
- can drink from cups and eat with spoons.
- need adult help in socialization.
- imitate adults.
- often say "no" in response to questions.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins	
	Option 1: Bubble Up —Blow beautiful bubbles and watch them sail upward.	Small jars with lids, small chenille wires, water, liquid dish-soap, sugar, large bowl or jar, old plastic tablecloth	
	Option 2: Hear We Go —Pretend to talk on telephones and tell others that Jesus is alive.	Used or toy telephones	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	Jesus Is Alive —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story of the Resurrection from Luke 24.	Children's Bible, flashlight	
	Our Friend Jesus —Sing a song, and learn that Jesus loves them.	CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Review the Bible story with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Friends patterns (p. 127), scissors, tape	
	Sing It Out —Sing a song, and learn that Jesus loves them.	CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make special necklaces to tell others about Jesus.	Message patterns (p. 128), elastic thread, small paper plates, scissors, tape, crayons, stickers	
	Bible Game —Carry the good news about Jesus to their friends.	Paper, tape	
Closing 	Prayer Share —Pray, and have a snack.	Fish-shaped crackers, apple juice, napkins, paper cups	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), tape or safety pins, marker



- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child's clothing.
- Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► Jesus is alive.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won't be distracted by him during the next activity.

teacher tips

If it's sunny, take the children outside to enjoy Option 1. Have half of the class be bubble chasers and the other half be blowers. Switch roles so children have a turn being both chasers and blowers.

Option 1: Bubble Up

SUPPLIES: small jars with lids, small chenille wires, water, liquid dish-soap, sugar, large bowl or jar, plastic tablecloth

Before class, make soap bubbles using the recipe in the margin. Bend small chenille wires into various shapes to use as bubble blowers. Pour the bubble mixture into small jars with lids.

Cover the floor in one corner of the room with an old plastic tablecloth. Hand each child a bubble blower and a small jar with the lid removed. Show children how to dip their blowers into the liquid and then gently blow or wave them to create bubbles. As children blow bubbles, make comments such as "Look at the bubbles going up. God took Jesus up to heaven, and now we can tell others that ► Jesus is alive." and "Bubbles fly like the angels who told us that ► Jesus is alive."

Soap Bubbles

Pour 1 cup of water, 1/3 cup of liquid dish-soap, and 1 teaspoon of sugar into a large bowl or jar. Stir the mixture until the sugar is dissolved.



Option 2: Hear We Go

SUPPLIES: used or toy telephones

Set out a variety of used or toy telephones. Encourage children to "call" their friends and tell them that ► Jesus is alive. Join in the play by calling a child on the phone. Make comments such as "Hi, Jill. Did you know that Jesus is alive?" and "Hello, hello! I have great news! Jesus is alive!" Tell the children they'll hear how Jesus' friends told other people that ► Jesus is alive.



Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing "Let's Pick Up All Our Things." Use the CD (track 2) and sing the song to the tune of "Looby Loo."



Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
It's time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player

BIBLE VERSE ►



Say: **How do we know that Jesus is alive? The Bible tells us!** Show children the Bible. **Matthew 28:6 in the Bible says ► Jesus is alive. The Bible is God’s special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let’s sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD (track 3), lead the children in singing “God’s Special Book” to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”



SING

**This is God’s special book.
Yes, it’s God’s book you see!
I learn about all God has done,
And his love for me!**

(Repeat.)

Bible!

■ Bible Story: Jesus Is Alive

SUPPLIES: Children’s Bible, flashlight



Before class begins, please check to make sure the sensory items are still attached securely so the children can touch them without the danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Remove a *foam friend* from the Learning Lab.

Panel 1



BIBLE POINT ►



Place the open StoryBoard on the floor. Set a flashlight and the punch-out angel behind the StoryBoard.

Say: **We’re learning that ► Jesus is alive. Let’s act out our Bible story.** Have children stand and follow your motions through the story.

Jesus’ friends walked along the path. Walk around the room.

They were sad. They cried. Let’s pretend to cry. Pretend to cry softly as you walk. **They were sad that Jesus had died on the cross. Look on the hill.** Shield your eyes and point to the StoryBoard. **Do you see the cross? Let’s touch the cross.** Have children walk by and touch the cross on Panel 1.

Ask: • **How does the cross feel?** (Scratchy; like wood; hard.)

Say: **The friends were sad that Jesus died on the cross. They walked to the tomb where Jesus had been laid. The friends carried jars of spices that smelled good. Mmm—rub your tummies. We’ll smell the spices.** Let each child scratch and sniff the sticker on Panel 1. Pick up the flashlight.

Jesus' friends walked on. All of a sudden, there was a bright light! Shine the flashlight on the children, and have them pretend to shield their eyes. **Two angels were there. Let's count them.** Hold up two fingers. **One, two. An angel said, "Don't be sad. ► Jesus is alive!" Let's clap to show we're happy.**



Panel 2



Keep the StoryBoard open on the floor. Say: **At the tomb, Jesus' friends saw something surprising!** Act surprised. **The big stone was rolled away. Lie on your sides and pretend to be rolling stones.** Have children lie on their sides and roll across the room. **Now roll back to the StoryBoard.** When children are in place at the StoryBoard, ask:

• **What did Jesus' friends see when they peeked in the tomb?** (They saw angels; nothing; it was dark.)

Roll the stone on the StoryBoard to reveal the hole. Hand the flashlight to a child. Say: **Peek inside, and tell us what you see.** As children shine the flashlight inside the hole, hold up the punch-out figure of the angel and whisper: ► **Jesus is alive.** After everyone has had a turn, ask:

- **Was Jesus in there?** (No.)
- **What did the angel say?** ("Jesus is alive.")

Say: **Jesus' friends were happy.** Clap and hop up and down with the children. **Jesus' friends wanted to tell other people that ► Jesus is alive. They ran home. Let's jog as if we're running to tell our friends about Jesus!** Jog once around the room. Then sit in front of the StoryBoard.



Panel 3



Point to Panel 3. Say: **Jesus' friends told people that ► Jesus is alive. Hold hands with a friend.** Pause to help children form pairs. **Let's tell our friends that ► Jesus is alive.** Lead children in saying the Bible Point together.

Suddenly, there was Jesus! Look surprised. **Jesus walked and talked and ate with his friends. Later, Jesus prayed for the people.** Fold your hands and kneel. **Then God lifted Jesus up, up, up.** Slowly move from a kneeling position to tiptoes. **Jesus was going to live in heaven. Up, up, up. Let's wave goodbye.**

Have children sit down. Say: **Jesus' friends told others that ► Jesus is alive. They wanted other people to know how much Jesus loved them.**

Have the children sit in a small circle. Show the children the *foam friend*.

Say: **This looks like a person. When you love someone or something, you like to give it hugs.**

Ask: • **Who do you love?** (My mommy; Daddy; my dog.)

• **Who loves you?** (Mommy; Daddy; Grandma; Grandpa.)

Say: **Let's give the foam friend a hug. As you hug the foam friend, I want you to say the name of one person who loves you.** Let the children take turns hugging the *foam friend* and saying the name of a person who loves them. You will need to help the children pass the *foam friend* to the child next to them as they are just learning what "taking turns" means.



Say: **Yes! Our mommies and daddies love us. Grandma and grandpa love us. Our aunts and uncles love us, and even our brothers and sisters love us.** Hold up the Bible for the children to see.

But, best of all, the Bible tells us that Jesus loves us!

teacher tips

Important: Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.



Say: **Our foam friend has his arms open wide just like Jesus has his arms wide open to show us that he's alive and that he loves us. Can you open your arms real wide? Let's show Jesus that we love him, too.** Give the children time to stand up and open their arms as wide as they can and then hug themselves as if they were hugging Jesus. Have fun encouraging the children to reach up high and give Jesus a tall hug. Reach down and give Jesus a little hug. Reach to the left, and then reach to the right to give Jesus more hugs. Then have the children sit down again.

Say: ► **Jesus is alive, and Jesus loves us! He wants us to tell others that he is alive and that he loves us. Let's practice telling others that ► Jesus is alive.** Help the children take turns using the *foam friend* as a puppet to say "Jesus is alive!"

Place the *foam friend* back in the Learning Lab for future use.

Say: **Now let's sing a song about what a good friend Jesus is!**

■ Our Friend Jesus

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD (track 5), lead children in singing "Jesus Is Alive" (adapted from Matthew 28:6) to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive;

We want you to know. (Point to someone on the word "you.")

He loves me; he loves you. (Point to self; point outward.)

He loves everybody, too. (Point outward and turn in circle.)

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive;

We want you to know. (Point to someone on the word "you.")

He loves me; he loves you. (Point to self; point outward.)

He loves everybody, too. (Point outward and turn in circle.)

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.



Say: Singing is a good way to tell others that ► Jesus is alive. Talking to your friends is another good way. Let's add some friends to our bulletin board.

Bible Activities

■ Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: scissors, friends patterns (p. 127), tape



Before class, photocopy the friends patterns and cut out a paper friend for each child. Be sure to have extras for children who may be new to the class.



Lead children to the bulletin board, and bring out Cuddles the Lamb. Go through the following script, and then put Cuddles away out of sight.

Cuddles: Hi, friends! What have you been doing today?

Teacher: Children, let's tell our friend Cuddles the good news about Jesus. (Lead children in telling Cuddles the Bible Point.) And we know that we can tell others about Jesus, too.

Cuddles: I like hearing about Jesus.

Teacher: You're our friend, Cuddles, and we like to tell our friends about Jesus. Would you like to help us work on our bulletin board today?

Cuddles: Yes. I like to help my friends whenever I can.

Have Cuddles hand each child a paper friend. Help children tape their paper friends to the bulletin board. Each time a picture is added, help children say, ► "Jesus is alive." When all the pictures are in place, have Cuddles ask:

Cuddles: • **Who can we tell about Jesus?** (Mommy; Daddy; grandparents; friends; neighbors; brothers; sisters.)

• **What can we tell them about Jesus?** (Jesus is alive; Jesus loves them; Jesus is their friend.)

Teacher: It's fun to share good news with friends. It's also fun to share a hug with a friend! (Have Cuddles give each child a warm hug.)



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Say: **Let's sing a song about our best friend, Jesus!**

■ Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD (track 5), lead children in singing “Jesus Is Alive” (adapted from Matthew 28:6) to the tune of “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.”



Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive;

We want you to know. (Point to someone on the word “you.”)

He loves me; he loves you. (Point to self; point outward.)

He loves everybody, too. (Point outward and turn in circle.)

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Our friend Jesus is alive;

We want you to know. (Point to someone on the word “you.”)

He loves me; he loves you. (Point to self; point outward.)

He loves everybody, too. (Point outward and turn in circle.)

Our friend Jesus is alive. (Clap in time to the music.)

E-I-E-I-O.

Say: ► **Jesus is alive**, and we want to tell other people that good news. We'll make something fun to wear. It'll help us tell others that ► **Jesus is alive**. Then they can be happy, too.

teacher tips

The average toddler's head has a circumference of 18-20 inches, if a foot of your elastic thread isn't able to stretch that far, consider cutting longer pieces.

■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: message patterns (p. 128), scissors, small paper plates, tape, crayons, stickers, elastic thread

Before class, photocopy the message patterns. Be sure to photocopy two message squares for each child. Cut out the squares. Cut a 12-inch piece of elastic thread for each child.

Set out small paper plates, tape, crayons, and stickers. Hand each child a paper plate, a piece of elastic thread, and two message squares. Help each child tape one square to the center of a paper plate. Tape the other square to the bottom edge so that it hangs below the plate. Let children use stickers and crayons to decorate the squares. Then tape a loop of elastic thread to the top of each paper plate to make a necklace. Allow children to model their special message necklaces.

Say: **We know that ► Jesus is alive. We also want to tell others that ► Jesus is alive. Wear your necklace, and give the bottom square to a friend to tell him or her that ► Jesus is alive.**



BIBLE POINT



■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: paper, tape



Before this activity, tape a sheet of paper to the floor for each child. Be sure the papers are spread out. You'll also need the StoryBoard figure of Jesus.

Say: **Let's play a game and tell others that ► Jesus is alive.**

Have each child stand on a paper. You'll be the first Teller. Take the figure of Jesus to a child, hand it to him or her, and say: ► **Jesus is alive!** Then stand on that child's paper while he or she tells someone else that ► **Jesus is alive.** Play until all the children have had a turn being the Teller. **I'm so happy that we can tell others that ► Jesus is alive. Then they can be happy, too.**

Return the figure of Jesus to the Learning Lab.



Closing

■ Prayer Share

SUPPLIES: fish-shaped crackers, apple juice, napkins, paper cups

Gather children at the snack table. Say: **Hold hands with the friends beside you.** Pause. Make sure everyone has a hand to hold. **When I clap my hands, we'll say, ► "Jesus is alive, and I'm glad."** Ready? Clap your hands, and lead children in repeating the sentence. **It's nice to tell others that ► Jesus is alive. It's also nice to pray together.** Pray: **Dear God, help us tell others that ► Jesus is alive. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Telling others about Jesus is a good way to share. Jesus shared with his friends, too. Once he shared a fish dinner. Let's share a fish snack together. Hand each child a half-filled cup of apple juice and a napkin with 10 fish-shaped crackers on it. After children have enjoyed their snacks, encourage them to throw away their napkins.

As children leave, be sure they're wearing their necklaces. Remind them to give their squares to friends to tell them that ► **Jesus is alive.**





For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ Telephone Time

Hand each child a paper cup to use as a make-believe telephone. Make phone calls to children by ringing a bell. Have children pick up their “phones” and hold them to their ears. Ask children questions such as “Who’s alive?” “Where does Jesus live?” and “Who can we tell about Jesus?” Invite children to speak into their paper cups as they tell their answers. For extra fun, set the paper cups across the room and, when the phones ring, let children walk backward or hop to answer them.

■ Action-Rhyme Time

Lead children in saying the rhyme below. Repeat the rhyme slowly so that children have time to imitate your actions and words.

Up on a mountain (*stand on tiptoe, and place your arms over your head*)

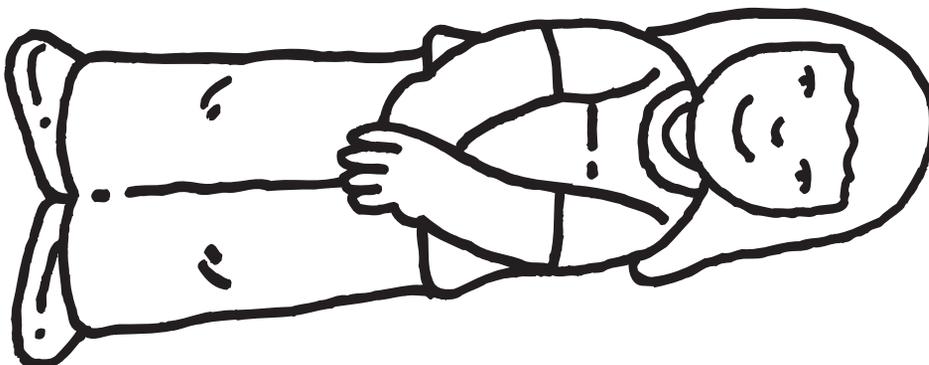
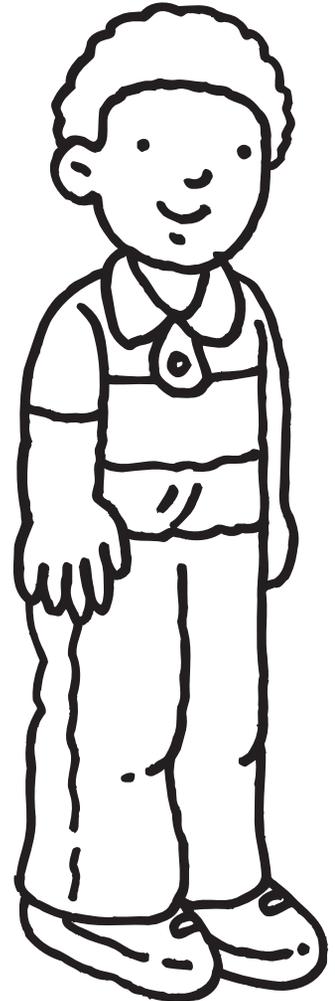
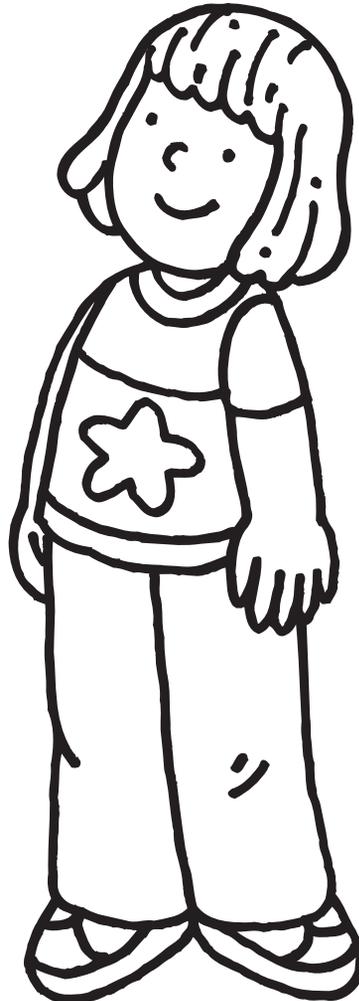
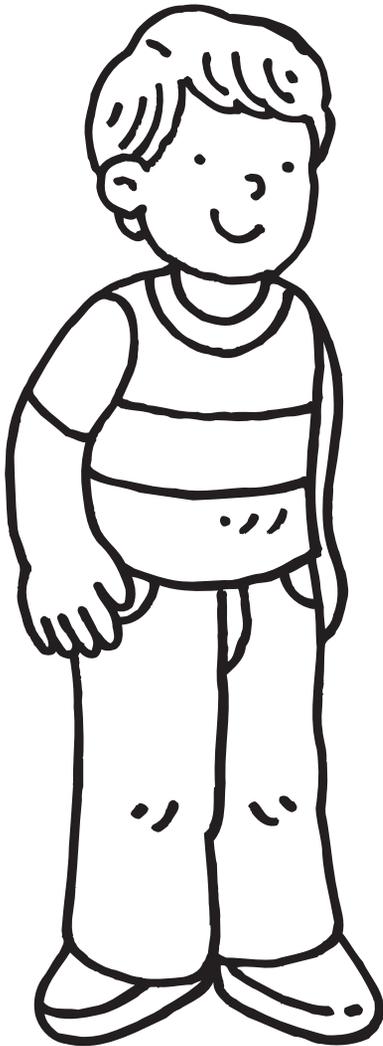
Jesus said goodbye. (*Wave goodbye.*)

Then God took him home (*squat down, and slowly stand up*)

To heaven in the sky. (*Stand on tiptoe, and point upward.*)

Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.



Patterns

**Jesus
is
alive!**

**Jesus
is
alive!**