



Bible Point ▶

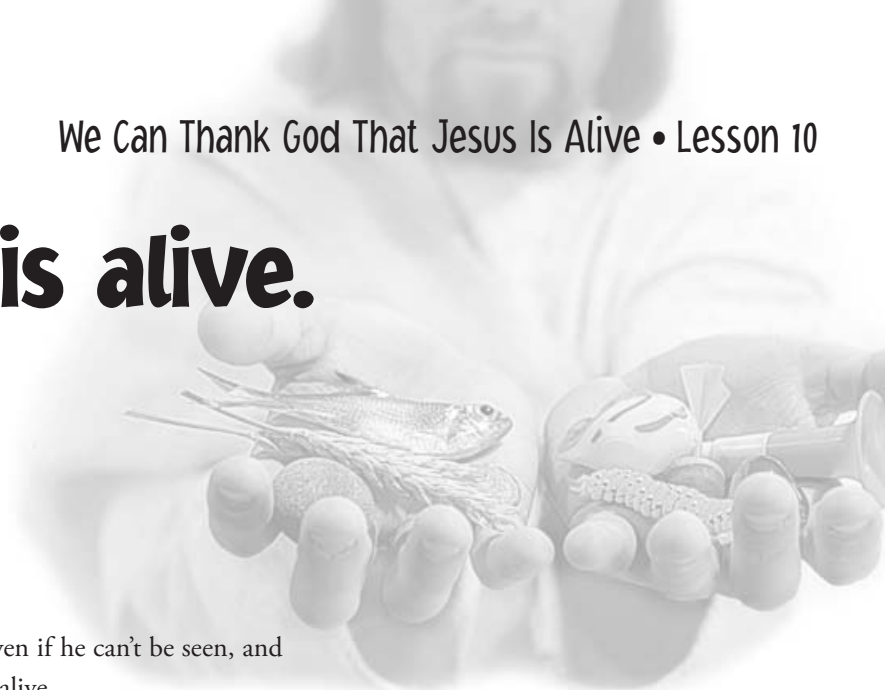
Jesus is alive.

Bible Verse

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

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- understand that Jesus is alive,
 - thank God for Jesus,
 - know that Jesus is with them even if he can't be seen, and
 - celebrate the joy of Jesus being alive.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- We can thank God that Jesus is alive.

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



After Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples returned to Jerusalem full of joy. They now knew that Jesus' suffering and death were part of God's plan, and his resurrection was proof that he was who he said he was. They had work to do now, and some of it would be difficult. But they would have the help of the Holy Spirit and the hope of one day being reunited with Jesus. You have that same help and

hope as you minister to toddlers and 2s. Reflect that hope today as you help the children learn why they should be happy Jesus is alive.

Prayer

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:22.
- How is Jesus like Adam? How is he different?
- How does the hope of new life with Jesus help you face the difficulties you face in this life?
- Pray: God, thank you for raising Jesus from the dead. Help me to reflect the new life I have in Christ by...

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.



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.











Understanding Your Toddlers' and 2s' Physical Development

Toddlers and 2s:

- pick up tiny objects.
- turn pages and point to pictures in books.
- put together 3- to 10-piece puzzles.
- build with blocks.
- move with lots of energy but lack coordination.
- pull wheel toys backward and forward.
- run, jump, and climb but aren't always sure of their balance.

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: Having a Party —Help decorate a pretty tablecloth.	White shelf paper, crayons, markers, stickers	
	Option 2: Curtain Call —Play a fun peekaboo game.	Bedsheet, table or chairs	
	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.	Flashlight, tissues, water, bowl, cinnamon cookies or crackers	
	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.	Heart-shaped cloud pattern (p. 139), scissors, tape, glue sticks, cotton balls	
	Sing It Out —Sing a song, and learn that Jesus loves them.	CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make fun party hats to wear.	Party-hat pattern (p. 140), scissors, tape, markers, yarn	
	Bible Game —Play a game, and repeat the Bible Point.	Construction paper, scissors, tape	
Closing 	Thankful Party —Say a prayer, have a snack, and play a game.	Bananas, powdered fruit-flavored gelatin mix, paper plates, napkins, tablecloth from Option 1, party hats from Bible Craft, masking tape, tambourine	

*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.



If you wish to provide soothing background music as the children arrive, play a CD of your choice.



Option 1: Having a Party

SUPPLIES: white shelf paper, crayons, markers, stickers

Unroll a 5-foot piece of white shelf paper on the floor. Set out crayons, markers, and a variety of colorful stickers. As children arrive, invite them to help decorate a special party tablecloth. Tell children that they're going to have a party because ► Jesus is alive. Let each child find a place on the paper to work.

Encourage children to share crayons and stickers. When they've finished, have children help spread the tablecloth on a table or set it aside to use later during the closing.



Option 2: Curtain Call

SUPPLIES: bedsheet, table or chairs

Hang a bedsheet over a table or chairs. Let children take turns crawling under and around the sheet. As children play, ask if they can see one another behind the sheet. Point out that even though we can't see someone with our eyes, it doesn't mean the person is gone. Take turns calling the name of a child who's hidden. Have that child answer by saying, "I'm here" and then peeking from behind the sheet. Let each child have a turn hiding. Remind children that ► Jesus is alive. Tell them that even though we can't see Jesus, he's with us just as our friends behind the sheet are.



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 in Matthew 28:6.** Show children the Bible. **It 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."



**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!**

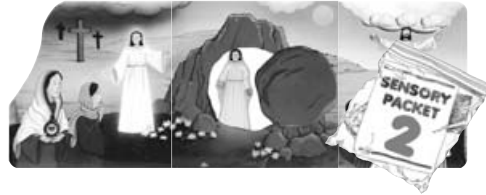
(Repeat.)

Bible!



■ Bible Story: Jesus Is Alive

SUPPLIES: flashlight, tissues, water, bowl, cinnamon cookies or crackers



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.

Panel 1



Before this activity, set tissues, a bowl of water, and the eyedropper from Sensory Packet 2 nearby. Set a flashlight and the StoryBoard figures of Jesus and the angel behind the StoryBoard. Also have a small box of cinnamon-flavored crackers or cookies on hand.

Fold the StoryBoard so children see only Panel 1, which shows two women and an angel. Say: **You can help me tell the story of the first Easter; that's when people found out that ▶ Jesus is alive.** Use the eyedropper to force drops of water through the holes in the woman's eyes. **Look! Jesus' friends are crying!**

Ask: • **Why are they crying?** (They're sad; Jesus is dead; Jesus died on a cross.)

• **When do you cry? Who helps you?** (When I have an owie; when I'm sad; Mommy and Daddy help me.)

• **How can we help Jesus' friends?** (Wipe their tears; hug them.)

Say: **We can wipe away their tears and give them a pat. It's nice to help friends.** Hold the StoryBoard down so children may use tissues to wipe away the "tears." Encourage children to pat the women's heads and say, "I love you."



When everyone has had a turn, say: **Jesus' friends brought good-smelling lotions and spices to put on Jesus' body. Let's smell the lotion.** Hold the StoryBoard down so each child can scratch and sniff the sticker.

Ask: • **How does the lotion smell?** (Good; icky.)

Say: **We've smelled the lotion. Now let's taste spices.** Hand each child a small cinnamon cookie or cracker to eat.

Mmm. Spices taste good, don't they? Rub your tummies to show how good they taste. Pause for children to respond. **Who did Jesus' friends see at the tomb? Shine the flashlight behind the angel on Panel 1. An angel! A bright angel stood by the tomb.** Hold the StoryBoard down, and allow children to touch the angel's sleeves.

Ask: • **How does the angel feel?** (Soft; smooth.)

Say: **The angel said,** (shine the flashlight under your chin) ► **"Jesus is alive!"** Pause. **You can be angels, too.** Let children take turns shining the flashlight under their chins. Lead each child in saying the Bible Point.

When everyone has had a turn, say: **The angel and Jesus' friends were happy that** ► **Jesus is alive. Let's see what happened next.**



Panel 2



Panel 2 of the StoryBoard shows the tomb and the stone that "rolls away." Roll the stone over the hole. Hold the punch-out angel behind the opening in the StoryBoard. Reveal Panel 2, and ask:

• **What's in front of the cave?** (A big rock.)

Say: **Let's roll the stone away.** Have a child roll the stone aside. Hold the angel figure behind the hole. Have the angel "say" to the children: **Hello. Do you know who's alive?** Pause for children to say "Jesus." Hand the angel figure to a child. **Hold the angel. Have the angel say,** ► **"Jesus is alive."** Let children pass the angel figure to each other and repeat the Bible Point. Then set the angel figure aside.

Jesus' friends were happy that ► **Jesus is alive. They ran to tell their friends. It's good to tell people that** ► **Jesus is alive. Let's see who they told.**



Panel 3



Unfold Panel 3 of the StoryBoard, which shows fluffy clouds and a small group of people.

Hold up the StoryBoard figure of Jesus. Say: **Jesus came to see his friends. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. It's Jesus. I'm alive."** Let children pass the figure of Jesus to each other. Encourage each child to give Jesus a hug and say, "I love you."

Jesus' friends were so happy. They knew that ► **Jesus is alive. Jesus took his friends to a mountain. He said a prayer for them.**

Ask: • **What was Jesus going to do next?** (Guide children to say that Jesus was going to live in heaven.)

Say: **Jesus was going to live with God in heaven. We can help the people wave goodbye to Jesus.** Hold the StoryBoard down so children can make the man's arm wave back and forth.




BIBLE POINT ▶

Then God lifted Jesus up, up, up to heaven. Slide the figure of Jesus through the slit in the clouds on the StoryBoard. **Wave goodbye! Jesus' friends couldn't see Jesus with their eyes anymore, but they knew he was there. Jesus is with us all the time. Then Jesus' friends thanked God that ▶ Jesus is alive. We can be thankful, too. Let's sing a song to thank God for Jesus, our friend.**



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

■ 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." Do the actions in parentheses with the children.


SING

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.


BIBLE POINT ▶

BIBLE POINT ▶


Say: ▶ **Jesus is alive** and that makes us thankful. Because Jesus loves us, he died on the cross for us. Then he came back to life! When we believe in Jesus, we can live with him in heaven someday. The people in the Bible story thanked God that ▶ **Jesus is alive.** We can thank God, too. Let's add the last part to our bulletin board.

Bible Activities

Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: heart-shaped cloud pattern (p. 139), scissors, tape, cotton balls, glue sticks



Before class, photocopy the pattern of the heart-shaped cloud. Cut out the cloud, and tape it to the bulletin board as pictured. Only tape the sides of the cloud to the bulletin board so you can move the Jesus figure up through the cloud.

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, children. You all look so happy. I can tell you're having fun. What did you learn today?

Teacher: Children, can you tell Cuddles who's alive? (Lead children in telling Cuddles that ► Jesus is alive.)

Cuddles: (Hopping up and down and scampering to hug each child) I'm so happy! I'm so happy!

Teacher: And we can be thankful, too. We can thank God that ► Jesus is alive. You can help us add a heart of love to our bulletin board, Cuddles.

Have Cuddles hand each child a cotton ball. Help children use glue sticks to add their cotton balls to the heart-shaped cloud. Each time a child places a cotton ball, say, "Thank you, God." Have children repeat that sentence with you. Then pull the figure of Jesus up through the heart-shaped cloud, and set Jesus in the cloud as if he's looking upon the children in the picture. Point to Jesus, and lead children in repeating the Bible Point.

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Say: Let's sing a thank-you to God that ► Jesus is alive and that he's our friend.



Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: CD player



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



SING

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.

teacher tips

Instead of giving children chalk or markers to decorate hats and pictures, give them colored bingo daubers, and let children dab pretty circles on their projects.

Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: party-hat pattern (p. 140), yarn, scissors, tape, markers

Before class, photocopy the circular party-hat pattern for each child. Cut out the circles. Cut two 10-inch pieces of yarn for each child.

Set out tape and markers. Say: **Just as parties make us happy, it makes us happy to know that ► Jesus is alive. Let’s make pretty party hats to help us remember how happy and thankful we are that ► Jesus is alive.**

Hand each child a hat pattern. Encourage children to decorate their hats using markers. As children work, read the words on the hats, and have children say, ► “Jesus is alive” with you.

When children have finished decorating, cut each child’s hat on the dotted line and form the hat into a cone shape. Tape the hats to fit children’s heads. Tape a piece of yarn on either side of the bottom of each hat. Tie the hats under children’s chins, and invite them to model their creations for the class.

BIBLE POINT ►

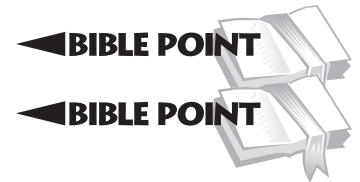


■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: construction paper, scissors, tape

Before this activity, cut out 5-inch construction paper squares and cloud shapes, making sure to cut either a square or a cloud for each child. Tape the squares and clouds in a circle on the floor.

Have each child stand on a shape. Without using the *CD*, sing the following song to the tune of “London Bridge” while the children step from shape to shape. At the end of the song, have the children standing on a cloud shape say, ► “Jesus is alive.” Have the other children clap. Repeat the song. Continue until each child has had a chance to say the Bible Point.



SING
 Who is with me all the time?
 Rain or shine, all the time?
 Who's alive and with me now?
 My friend Jesus.

Say: ► Jesus is alive, and he's with us all the time. Even when we can't see Jesus with our eyes, he's here. I'm thankful that Jesus is with us, and I'm thankful that ► Jesus is alive! Let's share a snack and tell God how thankful we are.

Closing

■ Thankful Party

SUPPLIES: tablecloth from Option 1, bananas, paper plates, powdered fruit-flavored gelatin mix, napkins, party hats from Bible Craft, masking tape, tambourine

Gather children at the snack table. Place the tablecloth children made in Option 1 on the table. If you didn't do Option 1, place a colorful tablecloth on the snack table. Have children wear the party hats they made in the Bible Craft. Say: **In the Bible story, people thanked God that ► Jesus is alive. We can pray and thank God that ► Jesus is alive, too. Let's hold hands.** Pause, and then pray: **Dear God, thank you that ► Jesus is alive. Thank you that Jesus is always with us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Being happy and thankful makes us want to have a party. Let's enjoy pretty party snacks to celebrate that ► Jesus is alive. Hand each child half of a peeled banana on a paper plate. Pour a small pile of powdered fruit-flavored gelatin mix on each plate. Invite children to dip their bananas in the powdered gelatin to make pretty party bananas. After children have enjoyed their snacks, have them carefully throw away their paper plates.

Say: **Before we go home today, let's play a game to celebrate that ► Jesus is alive!**

Place three masking tape lines on the floor, parallel to each other, about one foot apart. Children will take turns jumping from line to line. Have the children gather in front of the first line, and place the tambourine behind the third line.

Ask: • **What things make you happy?** (Mommy; Daddy; toys.)

• **When you're happy, how do you act?** (Encourage the children to show you how they act when they're happy. They might giggle, jump up and down, or shout loudly.)



BIBLE POINT ▶

Say: **Jesus' friends were happy when they found out that Jesus was alive. We're having a party today because we're happy that ▶ Jesus is alive.**

We're going to play a jumping game as we tell each other that ▶ Jesus is alive! Each time you jump from line to line, we'll all help you say the words "Jesus... is... alive!" When you get to the last line, you'll get to shake the tambourine very loudly while we all cheer "Hooray for Jesus!" Are you ready? Let's start! Let's show how happy we are that ▶ Jesus is alive.



BIBLE POINT ▶

Let each child take a turn hopping from line to line as everyone says the Bible Point. After the third hop, have everyone cheer for Jesus. Remind the children that Jesus is alive and always with us.

If you have time, let children jump with partners, hop on both feet, jump on one foot and then the other, and so on.



BIBLE POINT ▶

Encourage children to wear their party hats home and to tell people how happy and thankful they are 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.

■ Homes for Everyone

Lead the children in this action rhyme, and remind them that Jesus lives in heaven and with us, too.

Rabbits live in little holes. (*Put your thumb in a fist.*)

Birds live in nests. (*Cup your hands.*)

Fish live in rivers (*make swimming motion with your hands*),

But I like my home the best. (*Make a roof over your head.*)

Jesus lives in heaven (*point upward*),

Somewhere far from here. (*Continue pointing upward.*)

But every time I call him (*cup your hands around your mouth*),

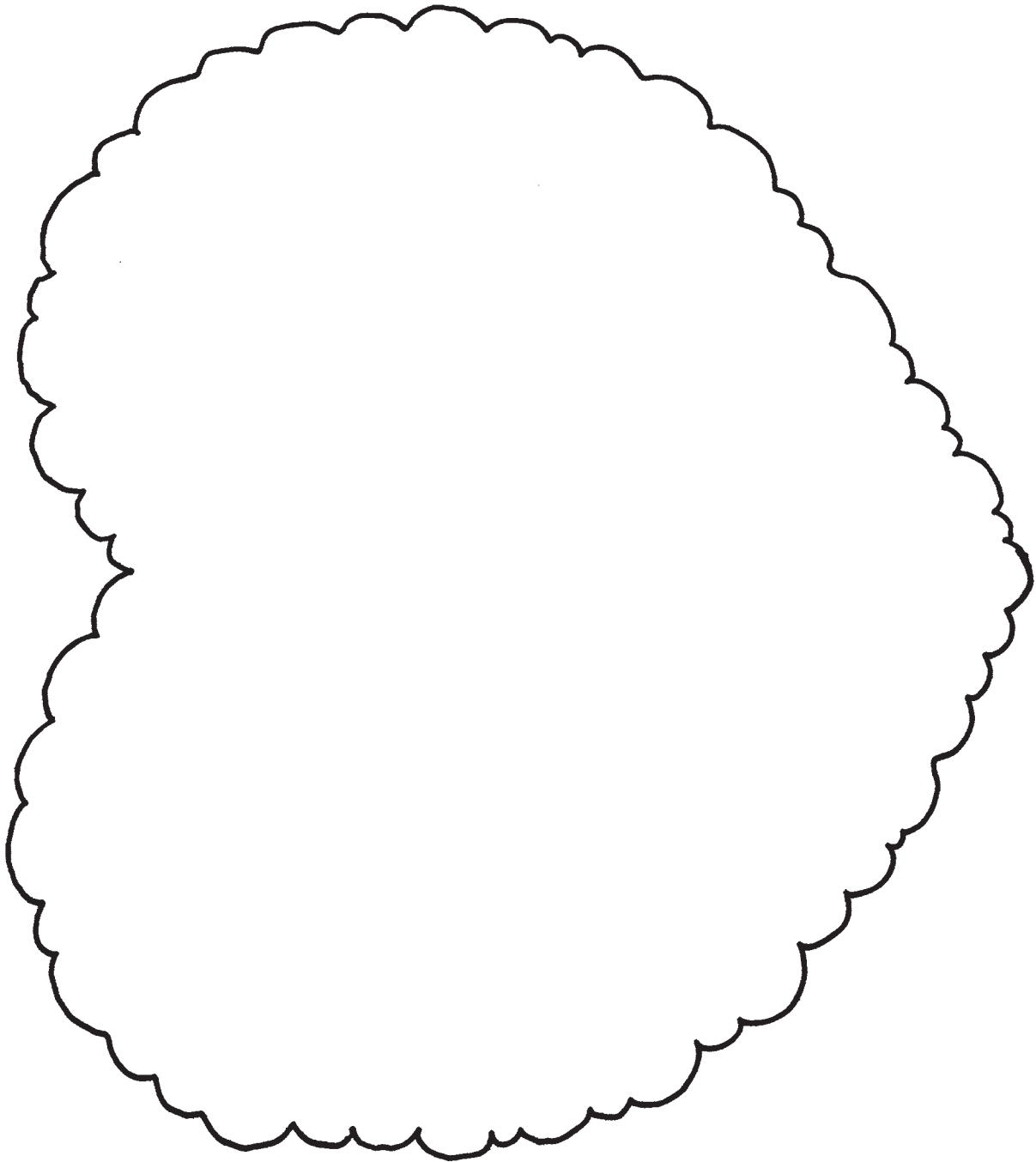
He is always near. (*Put your hand over your heart.*)

■ Heaven-Bound

Let children blow bubbles and watch them rise to the sky. Use the recipe for soap bubbles at the beginning of Lesson 9. Fun mini-bubble blowers can be made by taping three or four drinking straws together at one end. (Make sure the ends of the straws are even before taping them.) Dip the ends of the straws into the soap bubbles, and then blow *lots* of tiny bubbles.

Pattern

Cut loosely around the pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outline.



Pattern

