

LESSON 3

THE CRUCIFIXION

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Showed His Love by Dying for Us

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 27

GOD'S BIG STORY: Jesus is crucified on a cross to save all people from their sins, allowing everyone to have a personal relationship with God.

WORD OF WONDER: When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)

CURIOSITY 15 minutes • Large Group or Small Group

An object lesson, experiment, or activity that sparks curiosity, encourages exploration, and gets kids thinking about the wonder of God.

- Welcome Question: With what word or words would you fill in the blank?
I love _____ so much!
- Curiosity Questions
- Multisensory Activity: One Word Love
- Declaring God's Wonder



BELIEF 25–35 minutes • Large Group

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Prayer of Invitation
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder
- Word of Wonder: 2 Corinthians 5:17

FAITH 15 minutes • Small Group

An intentional conversation that helps kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own, emboldening their faith and fostering a deeper understanding of their place in God's kingdom.

- Word of Wonder Activity
- Discussion Questions for Younger Kids and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time

IDENTITY 10 minutes • Large Group or Small Group

An interactive worship response activity that creates space for God to remind kids of these core truths: I am known, I am loved, I am led, and my life can tell of God's wonder.

- Responding in Worship: Interactive Object Lesson
- Blessing Your Kids

Wonder[™]@Home

Help families engage in the wonder of God together with a video, conversation starter, hands-on activities, and more designed just for them.

Large or Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Showed His Love by Dying for Us

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 27

WORD OF WONDER: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Series Bumper Video

Introduce kids to the series by playing the Created New Series Bumper Video.

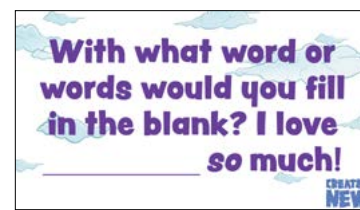
Welcome Question

SUPPLIES: paper, colored pencils, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: The Crucifixion Welcome Question Slide

Before kids arrive, display The Crucifixion Welcome Question Slide or write the following question on a whiteboard: With what word or words would you fill in the blank? I love _____ so much!

Set out paper and colored pencils.



As kids arrive ...

Welcome kids by name, if possible, and invite them to answer the Welcome Question on the board. Invite up kids who would like to draw pictures of things or people they love and let them do so on the whiteboard. Encourage everyone to share their answers with two or three others. For younger kids, read the question aloud and give them a few ideas of your own to help them think of an answer.

Use one of the countdown videos provided and show it every week two minutes before your official start time.

At your start time ...

Welcome the whole group and let them know you're happy they're here! Ask if anyone would like to share their answer to the question: **With what word or words would you fill in the blank? I love _____ so much!** Instead of asking kids to raise their hands to volunteer, consider telling them to look at you and make a funny face if they want to share!

CONTENT

Introduction

- How to Use the Event
- How to Use the Planning Timeline
- Decorating
- Promotional Helps
- Preregistration Form

Event Planning and Prep

- Planning Timeline and Checklist
- Engaging Volunteers
 - All-Volunteer Meeting
 - Volunteer Jobs and Descriptions
- Event Supply List
- Room Setup
- Prizes

The Event

- Event Schedule
- Pre-event Activity: Create a Mural
- Activities: Creation Stations
- Welcome and Worship
- Large Group Game
- Teaching and Prayer
- Snack
- Dismissal



INTRODUCTION

The **Created New Experience** is a family event that will help you connect with families in your church and introduce them to God's big story of redemption, from creation to the resurrection, as they learn how God can make us new creations through Jesus with hands-on activities which unleash their creativity.

How to Use the Event

The Created New Experience can be used at any point leading up to Easter. Here are some ways you can use the event.

- **EASTER WEEKEND EVENT.** Use this experience to help kids prepare for Easter! You can even host your church's egg hunt before or after the event!
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT.** Host the event any time during Easter or Lent season. Invite new families in to get a taste of your church and to meet families in the church. Make sure you follow-up and thank new families for coming! Send a Thanks for Attending Postcard to each family.
- **ALL-CHURCH EVENT.** This event can be used any time of year, before church or after church, or as an evening or weekend event!
- **AT-HOME FAMILY EXPERIENCES.** If families can't come to you, take the experience to them! You could even make craft kits to send home with families so they could do the crafts on their own. Record all or parts of the event as you are hosting it at your church. Let at-home families know when and how they can watch—and participate in—the event. Provide the instructions and materials needed for doing some of the event activities so families can join in the fun at home. They can have their own family experience any time that works for them!

Event Schedule

Open Doors 15 Minutes Before Start	
Welcome Activity: Create a Mural 5 to 15 minutes	
10 minutes	Creation Station 1—Creation
10 minutes	Creation Station 2—The Fall
10 minutes	Creation Station 3—Crucifixion and Resurrection
10 minutes	Creation Station 4—New Creation
10 minutes	Welcome and Worship
10 minutes	Large Group Game (2 game options)
15 minutes	Teaching, Video, Prayer
15 minutes	Snack
Prize Giveaway (optional) and Closing 5 minutes	

Planning Timeline and Checklist

A planning timeline and checklist for the Created New Experience is included and can be used as a guide, but you can make it your own too. Only you know how to best plan for and communicate upcoming events to the families you serve.

When you have recruited an Event Leader for the Created New Experience (one of your first tasks!), give that person a copy of the Planning Timeline and Checklist. You can share responsibilities, or just let the Event Leader take the lead! Your role will be to encourage and give support as needed.

Decorating

Decorating for the Created New Experience can be as simple or elaborate as you want! You can recruit a Decorating Leader and Team specifically for the all-church event. Give these leaders the recommended ideas.

- [Posters](#) (included)
- Garden-themed decorations
- Art-themed decorations
- Colorful balloons and streamers
- Flowers (fake or real) and greenery
- Brightly colored plastic tablecloth covers for tables