



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: God is Our Rescuer  
Fall Year 2, Lesson 18

# God's Resurrection Power is Here Today

**Primary Scripture:** Ephesians 1:19, 20

**Key Verse:** Ephesians 1:19, 20, "You will also know the unlimited greatness of his power as it works with might and strength for us, the believers. He worked with that same power in Christ when he brought him back to life and gave him the highest position in heaven."

## **How does this address a need in our kids' lives?**

Kids are learning to understand spiritual realities. They are learning they have a spirit within them that will live on after their body dies. They are learning that within their spirits they can have eternal life if they trust Jesus, or eternal death if they do not. They need to know these realities and the power God uses to enable their spirit to be able to live with God forever. Kids can develop the spiritual strength of God, and sense him working through their lives to love others to Christ. Kids need spiritual life and strength.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** Jesus carried the burden of our sins through his death, and God demonstrated his power through Jesus' resurrection. Because Jesus was brought back to life, God's power is given to all who believe, that we will all be brought back to spiritual life as well.

**Jesus in us:** Because Jesus is alive, he promises by his Holy Spirit to live in us as we trust in Him and yield our will to his.

**Jesus through us:** Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can be filled with the presence of God. We can give the message of Jesus to others so they, too, would be filled with the presence of God.

## Stamp of Excellence:

*Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols such as cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

### Attention Grabber:

*Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.*

*Props for this opening thought will include a hair dryer that is plugged in and a ping-pong ball. (The ping-pong ball must have no dents in it for the demonstration to work.)*

Show the ping-pong ball to the kids.

**This ping-pong ball looks very ordinary, doesn't it? You have seen balls like this before. There really doesn't seem to be anything special about it. It wouldn't catch your attention as being something great.**

**Do you know that is sometimes the way people see God? They don't think about God as being very great. Some people know "God" only as a curse word. They might say something like, "Oh, my God." This is a very wrong way to use God's name. It might be that such a person doesn't see God as very special. He doesn't see God as mighty, loving, or a God who is to be respected or obeyed.**

**Is that how you and I see him? No. When we praise God, we hold his name up. The Bible tells us in Psalm 107:32, "Let them glorify him when the people are gathered for worship." When we think about him and praise him, we are lifting him up in the highest honor.**

Turn the hair dryer on and place the ping-pong ball at the top of the current of air. It should suspend there.



**Now this ping-pong ball is actually quite special. It's being held at a place of very high honor. That is just what we do when we worship God. We are holding him above anything else in this whole world. He is most important. The Bible says that he is being lifted up through our praises. Let's hold him up with our praises and tell everyone how wonderful he is.**

Continue to praise, but turn off the hair dryer.

## **Songs of Worship:**

*Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!*

Your choice of music.

## **The Power of the Cross:**

*Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.*

Write the word "SIN" in big, bold letters on a piece of paper and hold it up for the kids to see. Suspend the ping-pong ball again with the hair dryer and slip the "SIN" paper into the airflow. The ball will fall. Say:

**Just as this piece of paper interfered with the flight of our ping-pong ball, so sin interferes with our relationship with God.**

**A definition of sin is to act or think in a way God would *not* want us to. Think back over this last week about anything you did or thought that would *not* be what God would have wanted. These are things that can get in the way of God and us. But when we know Jesus as our Savior and trust in him, he takes that sin and throws it away.**

Wad the paper and throw it in a trashcan. Have the kids think about their sins and then confess them in their hearts. Announce God's forgiveness. Suspend the ping-pong ball again with the hair dryer and celebrate our renewed relationship with God through Jesus.

**One of the greatest things about God's power is that he loves us just the way we are. He doesn't expect us to be perfect. He won't crush us when we're not perfect. He could do that – crush us. Instead he crushed our sin when he crushed Jesus on the cross. He chooses to love and forgive us.**

## **Song of Response:**

*Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.*

## **Offering:**

*Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.*

*Supplies needed: silk or satiny material covering a raised platform, ex: plant stand, tall stool, or some other elevated table.*

Place the offering plate on an elevated, flat surface to illustrate Jesus' position in heaven. Tell the children that Jesus has a special place there, at the right hand of God, the Father. Remove the plate and present it to the children in a very honorable way. Let them know that by giving God their offerings before spending it on other things honors him and lifts him up, while showing thankfulness.



# The Word

## Learning Game:

*Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.*

### **“A Most Amazing Power”**

This group game requires at least 25 re-sealable plastic freezer bags and 25 straws. Insert the straws into the bags and then seal the bags tightly around the straw to keep air from escaping.

Lay the bags on a rectangular table, and then lay another table face down on top of the table. (Make sure the bags are extended beyond the tables so the children can hold the bag tightly around the straw to keep air from escaping.)

Have 25 children blow at once into their straws, and you will see the table rise. Turn the straws around to use the other end or replace the straws with new ones so others can also try. You may also have a person lay on top of the table for additional “oohs” and “aahs.” The table *will* rise.

After the kids “ooh” and “aah” at their power to raise the table, continue:

**According to the Bible verse Ephesians 1:20, the *greatest power in the world* was shown when God raised his son from the dead. It was much more amazing than raising these tables.**

**Today we are talking about God’s resurrection power that he used to raise Jesus. This is the same power God uses in our lives. God takes us from being spiritually dead to being spiritually alive. We are spiritually dead when we allow sin to rule in our lives instead of God. Then we are enemies of God. Ephesians 2:1 says, “*You were once dead because of your failures and sins.*”**

**We become spiritually alive when we believe Jesus saved us from our sin and we want to live for him. Then we are raised up to be friends of God.**

Listen to what God's resurrection power does for us. Ephesians 2:4-6 says, ***"But God is rich in mercy because of his great love for us. We were dead because of our failures, but he made us alive together with Christ. (It is God's kindness that saved you.) God has brought us back to life together with Christ Jesus and (listen to this, kids) has given us a position in heaven with him."*** Wow! That's power! It is so much greater than raising up tables.

## Bible Reading:

*Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.*

Talk about God's power he used to raise Jesus from the dead. Show an excerpt from the video, *The Animated Stories From the New Testament – He Is Risen*. Decide how much time you want to use for the video. Be sure to include the section with the bright lights and a demonstration of Jesus being raised from the dead.

After showing the video clip, use a specially prepared, *deflated* balloon for the remainder of the lesson.

**Ephesians 1:19, "You will also know the unlimited greatness of his power as it works with might and strength for us, the believers."**

**Let me show you a demonstration of how God breathes power into our lives. When we trust in Jesus, God raises us on the inside and gives us a new spirit in him. He fills us up with himself.**

To demonstrate this, inflate the balloon so the face appears.

**We let God's breath come out of us and show his power to the world by the way we love others.**

Let out the air from the balloon so that children smell the fragrance of the peppermint mouthwash.

**Second Corinthians 2:14 says it this way, "Wherever we go, God uses us to make clear what it means to know Christ. It's like a fragrance that fills the air."**

To prepare the balloon, draw a face with a permanent marker showing as many facial features as possible. (Inflate the balloon to draw but do not tie.) Pour a small amount of peppermint mouthwash into the balloon.



## **Witness and Tell:**

*Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.*

**There are things each of us can do to help others come to know Jesus and His love for them.**

Have children share ways they can share Jesus and his love. To conclude, inflate the balloon again and say:

**God breathes power into our lives. He fills us up with himself. That same power of his breath in us is released as we show other people God's love in Jesus.**

Let the air out of the balloon.

## **Prayer:**

*Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.*

## **Blessing:**

*Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.*

## **Song of Sending:**

*Choose one song. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.*

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

# Supplies:

## *Attention Grabber:*

- ping-pong ball with absolutely no dents
- hair dryer

## *The Power of the Cross:*

- sheet of paper with the word “SIN” written boldly on it

## *Offering:*

- silk or satiny material
- elevated surface/table

## *Learning Game:*

- 25 resealable plastic *freezer* bags (They need to be this weight of bag to work properly.)
- 25 rubber bands
- two long rectangle tables

## *Bible Reading:*

- balloon with a face drawn on it (See Script for instructions.)
- video, *The Animated Stories from the New Testament – He is Risen* (Nest Masters, Inc. 1988)