

Unit 8 Lesson 4 **Knowing Jesus Gives Us Eternal Life**

Heartprint: **Knowing Jesus Changes Me**

Memory Verse: **John 11:25**

April 25, 2021

Large Group video: <https://youtu.be/WJPqYnpx0sl>

Song: *Hosannah Rock* <https://youtu.be/SxJZxJBekW4>

Activity: Tennis Ball run

Items Needed:

- Tennis balls (2 per class)

Instructions: Divide the group into two teams, or you can have them all on the same team and race the clock. There are two ways to play this game. The children can attempt to hold the tennis ball between their knees and race, or they can hold it using only their forearms to carry it - no hands allowed. They must carry the ball across the room to the next player who will then take it and carry back across the room to the next player.

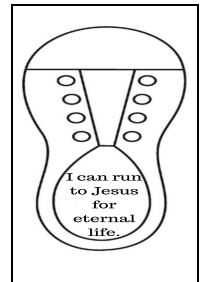
Connection Point: We are going to try to run this tennis ball across the room as fast as we can until everyone has had a turn. In our story, Martha ran to Jesus because she had questions for him about her brother, Lazarus. We can run to Jesus as fast as we can because Jesus loves us and wants to give us eternal life.

Craft: Run to Jesus (shoe craft)

Items Needed:

- Tennis shoe template (1 shoe per child)
- Hole punch/scissors to make holes
- Crayons
- Yarn

Instructions: Give each child one shoe to color and decorate as they choose. Assist the children in lacing the shoe using a long piece of yarn.



Connection Point: This shoe is for running fast. Do you have fast running shoes? I bet you do! Remember how Martha ran to Jesus in our story? She had questions for Jesus about Lazarus. Jesus changed everything when He brought Lazarus back to life. Jesus showed everyone that He is the resurrection and the life. We can run to Jesus when we are happy, sad, scared...any time! When we run to Jesus and ask him to forgive us, He gives us eternal life.

Bible Lesson: *Knowing Jesus gives us eternal life*

Memory Verse: Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." John 11:25

This week's story is taken from John 11:17-27 (Lazarus - before Jesus raises him):

Have you ever been so excited you run out to meet your mom or dad when they get home? Or how about when your grandparents come to visit, do you run out to meet them as they get out of the car? Sometimes we are so excited and happy to see someone we don't even wait for them to get all the way to the house, we run to meet them as they are walking in.

Today in our story Martha travels halfway to meet Jesus and walks back with him. But Jesus is not in her driveway, Jesus is 2 miles away walking towards Mary and Martha's house. A lot of people were walking towards Mary and Martha's house because something very sad happened, their brother Lazarus died. Mary and Martha loved their brother Lazarus, and so did Jesus. Jesus and Lazarus were good friends.

Everyone from far and wide who knew the family came to cry with them. Everyone was so sad. Let's see your very sad face!

Finally Martha heard that Jesus was traveling to see them ([Picture of Jesus and disciples walking to Martha's house](#)). Martha had questions. Martha had seen Jesus do lots of miracles and heal sick people; he had even healed strangers who were very sick. She had sent Jesus a note that her brother was sick. Martha believed Jesus could heal her brother when he was sick, but Jesus did not come in time, and her brother died. ([Show picture of Martha/Mary being comforted by others](#).) Martha was confused. Why didn't Jesus come in time to heal her brother?

So Martha ran out to meet Jesus ([Picture of Martha running](#)). She said, "Lord, why didn't you come when Lazarus was sick? If you would have come, my brother would have lived!" Jesus was not mad at her question. He knew she was so sad about her brother, but Jesus wanted Martha to know something about life and death ([Picture of Jesus and Martha](#)). Jesus wanted Martha to know something **very important** about Jesus himself. So while they walked, Jesus told Martha the truth about himself.

Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said, "I know...at the last days." Jesus said, "No. I am the resurrection and the life, anyone who believes in me will live, even though they die."

Martha was confused as to why Jesus didn't run to Lazarus when he was sick and rush to perform a miracle to save him. Jesus DID NOT have to rush because Jesus is the resurrection and life. Martha didn't know Jesus had power over death. Martha didn't know that one day Jesus himself would rise from the grave. Martha was confused because of the things she did not know.

Then Jesus asked her a question. "Do you believe this is true?"

Martha said, "Yes I do!"

Now Jesus asks each one of us that same question. Do you believe this is true? If we say yes, then we live forever with Jesus!

Martha didn't just say yes! She said, "Yes Lord. I believe you are Messiah, the Son of God, who has come into the world. If Jesus is the Son of God then He has authority over life and death.

Jesus walked up to that cave and said, "Hey Lazarus! Come on out here!" And guess what? Lazarus came walking out of that grave! Jesus brought Lazarus back to life!!

Jesus went to the cross to die for our sins. Jesus died for all the things we have done wrong, he died so we can have life **forever or eternal** with God. God raised Jesus from the dead and now He sits at the right hand

of God. Jesus is alive. And because He lives we can live too! Can you say that with me? Jesus is alive! All we have to do is believe.

Now, we can run out to meet Jesus just like Martha did....anytime we want! We don't have to wait for church on Sundays. We can run to Him anytime we are sad or mad or confused. Jesus walks with us, talks with us, and teaches us about who He is. The more we learn about Jesus, the more hope we have about the future because when we know Jesus, He gives us eternal life.

Let's Pray:

God, we thank you for sending your Son for us. Thank you, Jesus, for dying for our sins. Thank you that we can have life forever with you because of your love for us. Help us run to Jesus with our sadness and our questions. Help us learn more about Him so that we can have hope in you and walk in your ways. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Questions:

1. Who ran out to meet Jesus? (Martha)
2. Why did she run out to meet Jesus? (Ask him questions)
3. Who had died? (Her brother Lazarus)
4. Who is the Son of God? (Jesus)
5. Who has power over death? (Jesus)
6. Who called Lazarus out of the tomb? (Jesus)
7. Who did God raise from the dead? (Jesus)
8. Who sits at the right hand of God? (Jesus)









