

## April 5, 2026 Happy Easter! Week 1

**Bible Story:** Easter (Crucified and Risen) • *John 18–20:23*

**Bottom Line:** You can have joy because Jesus is alive.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • *Philippians 4:4 NIV*

### Picture Plates

#### Talk about God | Bible Story Review

*Made to Create*

#### What You Need:

- Paper plates
- Coloring supplies

#### What You Do:

- Review the Bible Story (John 18–20:23) with the kids. Be sure to cover these main points:
  - Jesus was arrested, put on trial, and sentenced to die on a cross.
  - Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb. A big stone was rolled in front of Jesus' tomb to seal it.
  - Jesus' friend Mary went to the tomb early Sunday morning. When she got there, the stone was rolled away, and the tomb was empty.
  - Jesus is alive! He appeared to Mary outside of the tomb, and she was so happy! She ran to tell Jesus' friends that He is alive!
- Give each kid a paper plate and place coloring supplies nearby.
- Ask kids to hold the plate upside down on top of their head with one hand.
- Tell them that they are going to use their other hand to draw the Easter story on the plate—while it's still on their head!
- Give the following prompts and allow kids time to draw each picture:
  1. Say: "Draw a cross."
  2. Say: "Draw a tomb with a stone."
  3. Say: "Draw a happy face because Jesus is alive!"
- Let them take the plates down and look at their drawings.
- Allow kids to talk about the Bible Story and add other details from the story to their drawing.

#### What You Say:

"Those drawings are so unique! Even though the pictures turned out silly when you drew them without looking, they still remind us of the most important story ever: the true story of Easter!

"God sent Jesus to rescue us. Our sin pulled us away from God and kept us from being close to Him. But God wants us to be His close, close friends! So Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins to make a way for us to be close with God. But Jesus didn't stay dead. On the third day, He came back to life! Jesus is alive! That's the best news ever! Jesus made a way for us to be friends with God forever. That gives us so much joy! **[Bottom Line] You can have joy because Jesus is alive!**"