

# FIRST *kids* @ HOME

## “How do you react when bad things happen?”

Key Verse: John 11:25

With each section, there will be an ‘age rating’. This is in no way meant to be a deterrent for trying it with kids who aren’t in that age range. Please feel free to do any of the activities with any age group. This is just the general age in mind while writing that section.

Age Rating Guide:

Young: Lambs-TK	Middle: 1 <sup>st</sup> and up	Old: 3 <sup>rd</sup> and up
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### Video: (all ages)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=968QLYgbd8M&list=PLgB62sbUDoIF9ooifsnnA - TZ0iTqwGNi&index=33](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=968QLYgbd8M&list=PLgB62sbUDoIF9ooifsnnA-TZ0iTqwGNi&index=33)

- This is a video in a series called “The So & So Show”. The videos are usually about 10-13 minutes long, they’re always silly and a little loud... but I feel they do a really good job of teaching a lesson in a way that’s simple enough for both kids and adults to understand.

Video Question: “How do we react when bad things happen”

- You can discuss this question after you watch the video, otherwise it is included below in the list of discussion questions.

### Story: John 11:1-44 (all ages)

You can either read this straight from a Bible you have at a home/on your phone, or the link below is a 5 minute video telling the story.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dca8SSsXCmM>

### Story recap questions: (all ages)

You can either recap the story yourself, ask kids to summarize the story, or use the following as a guide for recapping the story.

- Even though Mary and Martha took good care of their brother, Lazarus, he kept getting sicker and sicker. So, they sent someone to tell Jesus that his good friend Lazarus was very sick.
- The Bible tells us that Jesus loved Lazarus and Martha and Mary. But Jesus didn't hurry to Lazarus' house to heal him. Instead, Jesus said that what was happening would show how great God is. So, Jesus waited two days to go see Lazarus.
- *Have kids sit in silence for a moment to experience the waiting for Jesus.*
- While Mary and Martha were waiting for Jesus to arrive, Lazarus got so sick that he died. But that wasn't the end! When Jesus was getting near the town where Mary and Martha lived, Martha ran out to meet him. Martha said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
- And then Jesus said something amazing to Martha. In fact, what Jesus said is our Key Verse, and it's recorded in John 11:25: "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.' " Then he asked Martha if she believed him, and Martha said yes.
- When Jesus saw Mary and the other Jews who had come along with her were crying, he was deeply troubled. He asked, "Where have you laid him?"
- "Come and see, Lord," they replied.
- Jesus wept as they led him to the tomb where Lazarus had been laid. When they got to the tomb, Jesus told them to move the stone away from the door of the tomb. "But, Lord," Martha said, "by this time the tomb might smell bad because he has been dead for four days."
- Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"
- So they took away the stone, and Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed. Then he said in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
- Lazarus came out with his hands and feet wrapped in strips of linen and a cloth around his face. Jesus said, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

### **Discussion: (middle)**

- How do you react when bad things happen?
- What kind of bad things are going on right now?
- The story talks about how important it is to remember that even when bad things are happening, we can find hope in Jesus-always!
- How did Mary, Martha, and Lazarus experience hope in the story?
- How can we experience hope in light of the bad things happening in our lives right now?
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### **Digging a bit deeper: (old)**

Something I think is really cool in this story is that Jesus took the time to mourn his friend. He didn't hear/see that Lazarus had died and then immediately raise him from the dead. He didn't immediately "get to work". Jesus paused, he was sad... and he expressed that. It says, "Jesus wept" (John 11:35). He didn't just cry or tear up. He wept! Full-fledged weeping. I think this is important because it reminds us that when bad things happen, it's okay to feel it. It's okay to be sad, to be angry, to be confused... those emotions are natural and okay. We shouldn't lock them away, we should embrace them, express them, and find ways to work through them together!

Jesus paused and expressed how he was truly feeling about his friend dying. Have you done that? Have you paused and expressed how you are truly feeling about everything going on right now? If you have time, take a moment and take turns as a family being honest with each other. Here are some suggestions for what to talk about:

- What was your initial reaction to school being cancelled/having to stay home from work/changing your schedules so drastically?
- How has your reaction changed now that you've been living the 'new normal' for a week?
- Where do you find hope in the current situation? How do you cope with the struggles while remembering that there is hope?
- If Jesus were to react to this situation like he did when Lazarus died, how do you think he'd react? What emotions might he express?
- How might we be able to take that hope we find-whatever it might look like- and share it with others around us?

## Game (all ages)

"Lazarus Come Out, Lazarus Go In"

-Place a line of tape (or mark the ground ins ome way" down the middle of your playing area. Designate one side "inside the tomb" and the other side "outside the tomb". Have the players stand anywhere in the area. Then when the leader calls "Lazarus Come Out", they have to all jump to the outside the tomb side. You only say which side is which at the very beginning of the game.

-There isn't really a huge connection/lesson for this game other than it's fun and helps remind them of the story.

## Activity: (young/middle/all ages)

Make hand Butterflies!

Connection: "We can look at these butterflies and remember that just like how a butterfly has anew life when it emerges from its cocoon, so will we have a new life when we go to heaven."



## Interactive Portion: (all ages)

This is a way to stay at least a \*little\* connected while we're not meeting. We're going to use this program 'slido' to answer one question each week. It'll be live so everyone who does the curriculum can see each other's answers! Go to <https://www.sli.do/> and enter the code #Firstkids to answer this week's question!