



LESSON 3: LARGE GROUP

The Greatest Love

MAIN IDEA

Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to die for us, becoming the greatest sacrifice God provided.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Matthew 26:47-27:56

MEMORY VERSE

There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:13, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)



Play large group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the student this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any changes and additions needed for the Large Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A Bible
- Printout 1, 5 copies
- (Optional) Cross, crown of thorns, robes
- (Optional) Printout 2, Resurrection Eggs Instructions

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10-15 minutes)

SET EXPECTATIONS

Review 3 Rules of Respect and Who Is Jesus?

SONG SUGGESTION

I Believe (GO FISH)

TEACH

Ask:

- **Who remembers the story of Abraham and Isaac?**
- **What big test did God give Abraham?**

Last week we learned how God provided a sacrifice so that Isaac didn't have to be sacrificed. This week, we'll see how God provided the greatest sacrifice—His Son, Jesus—so that we could be close to Him forever.

Today's story is about Jesus showing the greatest love ever.

- **What does it mean to show love to someone else?**

Jesus was God's Son who came to earth to teach us about God's love and to save us. Just as God provided a ram to save Isaac, God sent Jesus to save us.

Jesus knew he would face something very hard. He knew he would be arrested, put on trial, and eventually die on the cross, but he chose to do it because he loves us.

OPTION 1: SKIT

I am going to need some volunteers to act out a skit of what happened to Jesus the night he was arrested and then crucified.

Get volunteers to help act out the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus based on each scene. The skit's based on Matthew 26:47-27:56.

Characters needed:

Scene 1: Jesus, 3 Disciples, Judas, crowd of soldiers

Scene 2: Jesus, Pilate, crowd (could be the whole group of students)

Scene 3: Jesus, several soldiers, onlookers

After the skit discuss and ask follow-up questions.

Say, Just as God provided a ram to save Isaac in our lesson last week, God provided Jesus to save all of us. This time, Jesus willingly became that sacrifice so we could be forgiven and close to God.

Pray and dismiss the students.



"Who is Jesus"
Call and Response



"I Believe"
by GO FISH

OPTION 2: RESURRECTION EGGS

Using the Resurrection eggs are a fun, interactive way for kids to learn about the Easter story. Each egg contains a small object that represents a part of Jesus' journey to the cross and his resurrection. Here's how to set up and use Resurrection eggs:

Materials:

- 12 plastic Easter eggs (numbered 1-12)
- Small items representing different parts of the Easter story (see below)
- A Bible or printouts of short scriptures to read with each egg

Start with egg 1 and continue through egg 12. For each egg:

- Let a child open the egg and take out the item.
- Read or explain the related Bible verse.
- Discuss what that part of the story means.

After opening all the eggs, discuss the story as a whole, focusing on the meaning of Easter and the resurrection.

Say, **Just as God provided a ram to save Isaac in our lesson last week, God provided Jesus to save all of us. This time, Jesus willingly became that sacrifice so we could be forgiven and close to God.**

Pray and dismiss the students.



WRAP IT UP