I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

John 8:12
(NIV 1984)
How did Jesus show his power over death?

Jesus raised Jairus’ daughter from the dead.

Application: On the Last Day, Jesus will raise our bodies from the dead and take us to himself in heaven.

Response: We joyfully look forward to living eternally with Jesus in heaven.

Lesson Summary: Jairus pleaded to Jesus to heal his dying daughter. On their way to Jairus’ house, some men met them and said Jairus’ daughter was already dead. Jesus told Jairus not to be afraid but to believe. At Jairus’ home, when Jesus told the dead girl to get up, she immediately came alive, stood up, and walked.

John 11:25,26a
* John 14:19b
Philippians 3:21
* The Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed
Hymn 152:1-3,7,8

synagogue—worship place in Jewish towns
wail—cry loudly

Dearest Savior, as we read about your power over death, reassure me of my own resurrection and everlasting life in heaven that you have secured for me. Thank you, O Lord, for your grace and mercy. Amen.
Sing: Sing “Be Still, My Soul” (hymn 415:1,4), which reminds us that God not only takes care of us here on earth but also grants us eternal life in heaven.

Pray: Thank you, heavenly Father, for your love that goes beyond just caring for our earthly needs. Dearest Jesus, thank you for loving us so much that you lived, died, and rose from the dead to guarantee our forgiveness and eternal life in heaven. Praise to you and the Spirit. Amen.

On the board write “Death knocks at everyone’s door.” Ask the students to explain the meaning of the saying. [Everyone eventually dies. No one is exempt from dying.]

Explain that some people are so afraid of death that they don’t want to even speak about it. Yet, unless the judgment day comes first, in due time everyone will have to face death.

God does not want his believers to fear death. From our lesson today we will learn some reassuring things about our own deaths as we answer this question: How did Jesus show his power over death?

WORSHIP Sing: Joyfully sing “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (hymn 152:1-3,7,8) as a reminder that after death we believers will spend eternity in heaven.

Pray: O Lord Jesus, our lives on this earth are filled with many troubles, but we have the joy of knowing that you care for us and love us. Most of all, you have given us the forgiveness of sins and your promise of eternal life in heaven. Lead us to always trust your promises. Amen.

Optional: Show a picture of an airplane.

Why are people afraid?

Ask the students to give reasons some people are afraid to fly in an airplane. [Possible answers: Never flown before, afraid the plane might crash, don’t know how airplanes work or ability of the pilot, etc.] Explain that once people know how a plane flies and that their pilot is very capable of flying it, they are less likely to be afraid of flying.

Another thing people are afraid of is death. But God does not want his believers to fear death at any time. Today God will lead us with his Word as we answer this question: How did Jesus show his power over death?
**Mark 5:22-24,35,36**

1. Following are words that can be used to paraphrase what Jairus said to Jesus. Unscramble each group of words to form a sentence Jairus could have said to show he believed Jesus had almighty power to heal his daughter.

   a. know—to—have—Jesus,—heal—you—almighty—I—power
   b. heal—daughter—dying—Therefore,—my—come—and

   [Answers: a. Jesus, I know you have almighty power to heal. b. Therefore, come and heal my dying daughter.]

2. Circle the sentences that explain what the men also meant in their message to Jairus (verse 35).

   a. Jesus is too busy to come.
   b. Jesus can’t heal her now because she is dead.
   c. No one can raise a dead girl.

   [Circle sentences b and c.]

3. Explain why Jesus responded as he did when he

   a. ignored what the men said.

   [Jesus continued on because he knew what he was about to do.]

   b. told Jairus not to be afraid, but instead to believe.

   [Jesus wanted Jairus to continue to trust that his daughter would be healed.]

   Explain that the actions of Jesus and his words to Jairus were given as a message of hope, encouragement, and promise for Jairus.

**Key Point** Through his words and actions, what did Jesus promise Jairus?

Jesus promised he had power to [heal] Jairus’ daughter even though she was [dead].
Jesus Encourages Us

Point out that Jesus has made promises to us too about life and death. Ask what promise is made in each of today's three memory treasure passages.

[John 11:25,26a—Whoever believes in Jesus will live forever.
John 14:19b—Because Jesus rose from the dead, we will too.
Philippians 3:21—in heaven our bodies will be perfect.]

4. Have the class act out the three answers to God’s Word 2, item 4.

5. Have the students complete God’s Word 2, item 5.

Let Me Explain It

Tell the students to imagine they are explaining the death of a believer to a kindergartner. Each student may share his or her explanation with a partner.

[There is a part of us that never dies. It’s our soul. When believers die, their souls keep living and go to heaven with Jesus. On the Last Day, when Jesus comes back, everyone’s body will “wake up” from the dead and join with its soul. Then with body and soul together, believers will live with Jesus forever in heaven.]

I’m “Sick” Too!

We learned that Jairus’ daughter’s sickness led to her death. Each of us is sick too. We are spiritually sick.

• What spiritual sickness does everyone have? [Sin.]
• If we are not healed (forgiven) of that sickness, what eventually will happen to us? [When we die, we will go to hell.]
• What promise does Jesus give us about our spiritual sickness and our eternity? Jesus promises to [forgive] our [sins] through his [death] on the cross and that we will have eternal [life] with him in [heaven].

Mark 5:37-40a

4. Find three things which show that the people at Jairus’ house knew the little girl really was dead.

a. [There was lots of commotion.]
b. [People were crying and wailing.]
c. [The people laughed when Jesus said she was sleeping.]

5. Although everyone knew the girl was dead, Jesus said she was not dead but asleep. Find the explanations about sleep that also can be said about death and circle them.

It only lasts about eight hours.
We will awaken from it.
It is good for us (believers).
It happens every night.
We (believers) shouldn’t be afraid of it.

[Circle the second, third, and fifth sentences.]

What did Jesus say about death?
Jesus said that [death] was only a [sleep].

Body and Soul

Write “body” and “soul” in the correct places in each row of the chart to show where your body and soul are or will be at each time.
**Mark 5:40b-43**

6. Pretend you are one of the disciples who went with Jesus to Jairus’ house. Explain which disciple you are, and as that disciple write what you witnessed in that room (verses 40b-42a).

[Example: I am Peter. Only the father, mother, James, John, and I went in with Jesus. Jesus took the dead girl’s hand. He told her to rise. Immediately the girl came alive.]

**KEY POINT**

How did Jesus keep his promise to Jairus?

Jesus brought Jairus’ [daughter] back to [life].

**GOD’S WORD TODAY**

**Our Life After Death**

Revelation 7:13-17 describes what it will be like for us believers in heaven after we are brought back to life. Underline the things these verses tell us about what heaven will be like.

- We will be before the throne of God, serving him day and night.
- Our favorite pets will be there.
- We won’t recognize anyone there.
- We will never be hungry or thirsty.
- We will eat our favorite foods at three meals a day.
- Jesus, the Lamb and our Shepherd, will lead us to the springs of living water (eternal life).
- God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.
- We will have wings like angels.

[The first, fourth, sixth, and seventh sentences should be underlined.]
Tell the students to ask their parents the following: Have you ever been to a Christian’s funeral? an unbeliever’s funeral? How were they different?

On the board write the words of John 14:19b. Underline the first part of the passage and ask students to tell about Jesus’ resurrection. Underline the last section and ask them to tell about their own bodies on the Last Day. [Raised, united with soul, spend eternity in heaven.] Emphasize what a joy it is for us to look forward to spending eternity in heaven with Jesus. Close by singing “I Know of a Sleep in Jesus’ Name” (hymn 211:1,4).

Interview your family members, asking each one what he or she is most looking forward to in heaven.

__________________ is looking forward to ___________________.
__________________ is looking forward to ___________________.
__________________ is looking forward to ___________________.
__________________ is looking forward to ___________________.
__________________ is looking forward to ___________________.

Student’s initials: _____  Parent’s initials: _____

Aim: How did Jesus show his power over death?

Truth: Jesus raised Jairus’ [daughter] from the [dead].

Application: On the Last Day, Jesus will raise our bodies from the [dead] and take us to himself in [heaven].

Response: We joyfully look forward to living eternally with [Jesus] in [heaven].

CLOSE

Ask the students what color they usually associate with funerals. [Probably black.] Ask why people wear black. [To show their sadness at the loss of a loved one.] Point out that while we will very much miss loved ones who die, if the loved ones are Christians, we can find joy too. Ask what other colors might be good reminders to us when a Christian dies and why. [Gold to remind us of heaven; white to remind us of going up above the clouds without sin; yellow to remind us of joy in the resurrection; etc.]

Close by reading responsively the section titled “Resurrection Comfort” on page 145 of the hymnal.
Lesson Activities

1. Review

People Poetry

*Purpose:* Students will write poems and sentences that demonstrate understanding of the lesson facts and application.

*Procedure:* Have each student complete Copy Master 2. The answers are as follows:

Part One: Poems will vary.

1. Jesus died to take away my sins.
2. God has promised to take believers to heaven.
3. I will rise because Jesus has power over death and rose.

Part Two: Sentences will vary but should express such ideas as these:

1. Jesus died to take away my sins.
2. God has promised to take believers to heaven.
3. I will rise because Jesus has power over death and rose.

2. Application

Grandma’s Story

*Purpose:* Students will complete a story that applies the truth of the lesson.

*Procedure:* If you did not already do so as a class, have each student complete Copy Master 1. The answers are as follows:

1. sad
2. miss
3. Jesus
4. sadness
5. God’s
6. Receive
7. Lives
8. forgave
9. live
10. Jesus

*The Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed*

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

*Philippians 3:21*

*Hymn 152:1–3, 7, 8*

For hymn texts, use the hymnal or the electronic memory treasure files for your grade level.

*Memory Treasures Exercises*

Find the memory treasure passage that each sentence best describes.

- When Jesus raises us from the dead, he will glorify our bodies so that we no longer have any diseases, disabilities, or sin. [Philippians 3:21.]
- Because Jesus is the resurrection and the life, believers will live forever in heaven. [John 11:25, 26a.]
- Jesus promises we will be raised to life because he was raised to life. [John 14:19b.]

**Much Better**

*Purpose:* Students will review and apply the truth of the lesson.

*Procedure:* Have each student complete **Copy Master 3**. The answers are as follows:

*Part One*: 2. mind (have), 5. rarely (never), 6. only a little (no). The remaining sentences are correct.

*Part Two*: how, who, who, when, who, where.]

**3. Music**

**Blessed Sleep!**

*Purpose:* Students will examine a hymn which reveals the truth that death is like sleep for Christians.

*Procedure:* Have the students look at “Asleep in Jesus! Blessed Sleep” (hymn 605:1,3,4). Discuss how the hymn reflects the same truths they learned from today’s lesson. Lead them to realize that death is not to be feared any more than we are afraid to fall sleep and that true joy will come in waking up in heaven with Jesus. Together sing the three hymn stanzas.

**4. Art**

**Before-and-After Picture**

*Purpose:* Students will use their artistic abilities to illustrate what they have learned.

*Procedure:* Have students draw a large oval in the middle of a sheet of drawing paper. In the oval they are to write “Jesus Has Power Over Death.” Then tell them to fold the paper in half horizontally across the center. Open the paper and draw a line along the fold from each edge to the oval.

In the top space, tell the students to draw the scene at Jairus’ house when the daughter was dead. In the bottom space, they are to draw the scene at Jairus’ house after Jesus made the daughter alive again. (If they do not wish to draw people, they may use colors and abstract shapes to reflect the ideas of death and Jesus’ power over death.)

**5. Memory Treasure Review**

**Your Turn**

*Purpose:* This activity will help students review the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed.

*Procedure:* Have the students sit in a circle or around a table if the class is small. Tell them to look at the Third Article memory treasure. Designate one student to begin reading. That student will read until he or she reaches a colon, semicolon, or period. Then the person to the right will continue until the next punctuation mark. Continue to the end, going around several times if necessary. Then repeat, encouraging the students to close their eyes and recite their sentences or phrases whenever it is their turn.