

THE FIRST RESURRECTION

Objects to have: Pictures of the following: Somebody who is hurt
Somebody who is sleeping;
Somebody who is sick;
Somebody who is opening a door or standing beside one; or
simply a door;
Someone who is working;
Someone who is playing;
Someone who is playing;
Someone who is eating;
Someone just standing.

The Lesson: (Show your pictures to the class wherever it is appropriate.) Jesus was talking with His disciples. He had many long talks with them while He was on earth. There were many things that the disciples did not know, and Jesus wanted them to know all of them. Jesus knows everything. He wants you and me to know about these things, so men were told what things to write down to make the Bible.

Jesus said, "I want you to be ready and watching for a very special day that is coming. Before the day comes, I will be taken from you." Boys and girls, how was Jesus taken from His disciples? Yes, He was crucified and His body became very still. Jesus let Himself die, didn't he? The living part of Jesus left His body. A friend of Jesus took His body into a tomb. Did Jesus stay dead? No, His body became alive again; the living part of Jesus went back into His body. When the living part of Jesus went back into His body, His body was changed. Let me show you how His body was changed.

This picture shows someone in pain; something hurts this person. After Jesus arose from the dead His body would not hurt anymore. This picture shows someone sleeping. After Jesus arose from the dead His body did not get tired anymore. He did not need to sleep. Jesus in His resurrected body did not need night, the night was made so people could sleep. This picture shows someone who is sick. Jesus new body did not get weak anymore. This picture shows someone eating. Jesus in His new body ate food. This picture shows someone opening a door. Jesus new body walked right through doors. This picture shows someone standing on the earth. In His new resurrected body, did Jesus have to stay on the earth from then on? What was Jesus able to do in His new body? Yes, He was able to rise up from the earth and to go into Heaven.

We know that Jesus did die and that He arose from the dead and that He went to Heaven again. The special day that Jesus told His disciples about has not come yet. Jesus wanted His disciples to watch for this special day and He wanted all of His friends to watch for the special day. In the Bible we are told about the special day that Jesus told His disciples about.

What's going to happen on the special day? Look at this picture. (Show a picture of some people sleeping.) Some people are going to be sleeping. (Show a picture of people eating.) Some are going to be eating. (Show a picture of some people working.) These people are going to be working at their jobs at the time that these people will be eating and these people will be sleeping.

There are some people who have died. Their bodies are in the graves. The living parts of them who love Jesus are in Heaven with Him. (Tell the following with great excitement, but slowly for the children to comprehend the details). Suddenly, there is going to be a loud shout. The archangel will shout. The Lord will speak, God's trumpet will blow. Jesus will come down out of Heaven and will stop in the sky and stay in the clouds.

At this very same time! Some dead bodies will come to life again. Some will come up out of the graves. Bodies will come up out of the sea. Some bodies that are scattered in many different places will come up out of their burying places. It will be only the bodies of Christians that will come to alive again. The bodies of people who do not trust Jesus will not come alive at this time. They will come alive at a later time.

The living part of the dead people who love Jesus will come from Heaven to go back into their bodies. Then their living bodies will start to rise from the earth, (Demonstrate with your arms, raising yourself up on tiptoe.) At the same time that these people go up, some other people are going up too. The people who love Jesus who will be working, playing, sleeping, eating who are still on this earth. After the dead Christians have come to life, these Christians who are alive will start going up from the earth, too. Together all of these people will be in the clouds of the air with Jesus.

A Memory Verse: I Thes.5 4:1b "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout..."