

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 28
Mary Magdalene In The Garden (John 20:1-18)

Theme: Easter - the Lord's Resurrection

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. On Easter, we celebrate the Lord's resurrection. The Lord's birth on earth was the beginning of His work on earth, and His resurrection marked the completion of His work.
- B. If the Lord had not come into the world, mankind would have destroyed itself.
- C. Redemption itself was the subjugation of the hells, the orderly arrangement of the heavens, and thus the preparation for a new spiritual church. (TCR 115)
- D. The story of the Lord's resurrection teaches us that He is always with us even though we cannot see Him with our physical eyes.

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduce the Story
 - 1. Whose birthday do we celebrate at Christmas? The Lord's! Long ago, the Lord was born as a tiny baby on this earth, wasn't He? When He grew up, He traveled around teaching people how to be good and healing them of their illnesses. Do you remember some of the stories the Lord told people to show them how to be good? The parable of the sower that planted seeds on different kinds of ground? The parable about the foolish man who built his house on the sand and the wise man who built his house on the rock? Do you remember how He healed the little girl who was sick and died? The Lord did many wonderful things while He was on earth.
 - 2. Now, there were many people who hated the Lord. They were bad people who didn't like what He said. And they were afraid that He would try to be a king on this earth. They didn't know that the Lord was already King of heaven and earth! These bad people wanted to kill the Lord. And because the Lord had finished His work on earth. He let them kill Him. When He died, they put Him in a cave with a stone rolled up against the door.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
 - 1. Retell John 20:1-10. (Note that Mary loved the Lord and wanted to anoint His body with spices. The other disciple with Peter was John.)
 - 2. Read John 20:11-16.
 - 3. Retell John 20:17,18. (Tell the children that the Lord appeared to all the disciples later, and they rejoiced to see Him.)

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C. Ideas to Discuss

1. Who came to the tomb? (Mary Magdalene)
2. What did she see? (That the stone was moved away from the tomb)
3. Who did Mary tell? (Two of the Lord's disciples, Simon Peter and John)
4. What did Peter and John do? (They ran to the tomb and looked inside, then went away to their homes.)
5. What did Mary do? (She stood outside the tomb, crying.)
6. When Mary looked into the tomb, what did she see? (Two angels dressed in white)
7. What did the angels say to her? ("Woman, why are you weeping?")
8. Why was Mary crying? (Because she couldn't find the Lord's body)
9. Who else did Mary see? (the Lord)
10. Who did Mary think the Lord was? (the gardener)
11. When Mary realized He was the Lord, He gave her a message for the disciples. What was the message? (That the Lord was not dead but would live in heaven)

D. Further Ideas

1. When a person dies, he sleeps for a few days and then wakes up in heaven. The Lord gives him a new body that looks just like the one he used on earth, so he doesn't need his old body anymore.
2. When the Lord died, He went to heaven. But He took His body with Him, and He changed it so that He could use it in heaven.
3. The disciples were surprised when the Lord went to heaven. He had told them that He was the Lord God of all the earth. He had told them that He would rise into heaven. But the disciples did not understand until Easier!

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "The world awakes alive and gay," *Hymnal* #214.
2. "When very early in the dawn," *Hymnal* #217.
3. "Praise the Lord together singing Alleluia"

B. Activities

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C. Project: Mary Sees the Risen Lord

1. Materials needed for each child
 - a. 9" x 12" piece of green construction paper
 - b. Precut black cave about 4" x 5" with a door cut into it that can fold open
 - c. Oil pastels or crayons
 - d. Glue
2. Procedure
 - a. Children glue the tomb to one side of the green paper.
 - b. Beside the tomb, have them draw Mary seeing the Lord. Use white or yellow for the Lord's clothing. Give Mary a pretty dress.
 - c. Some children may wish to put flowers in the picture also.
3. Text Slip

"Mary Magdalene turned around and saw the Lord standing there."
(John 20:14)

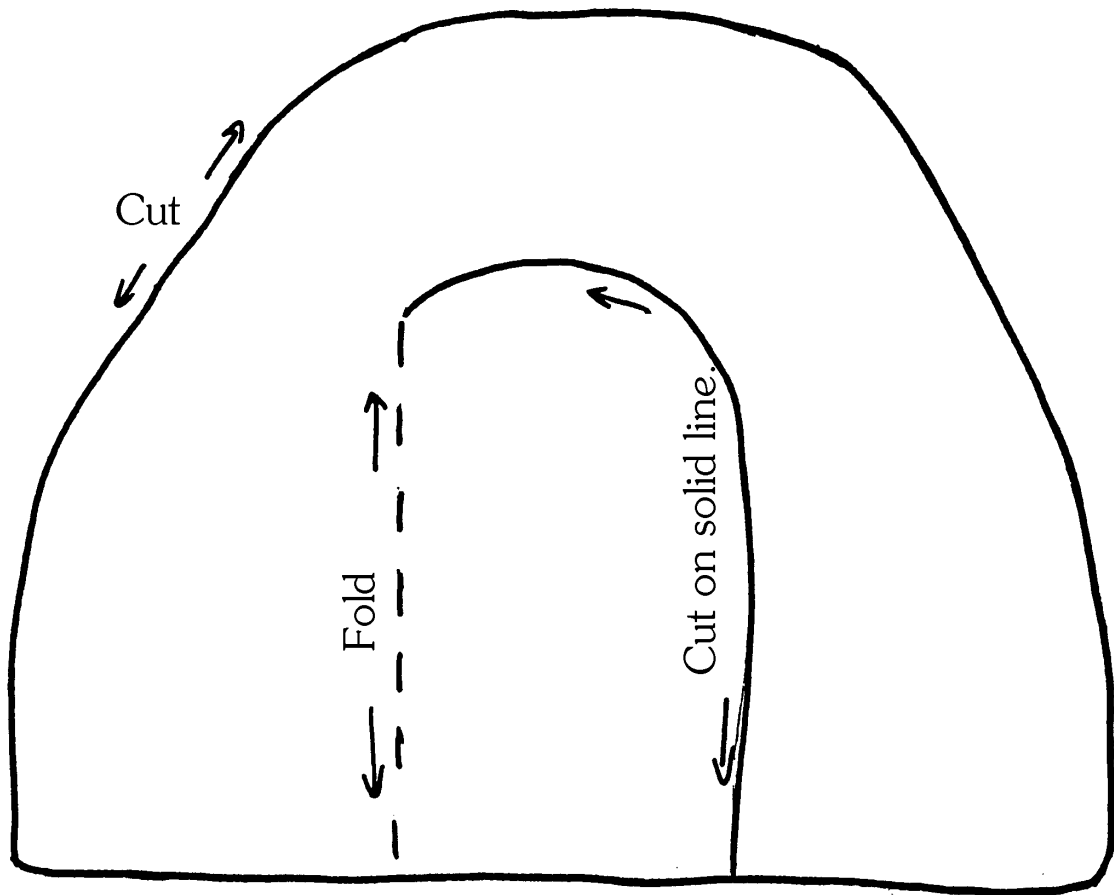
IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Illustrations of the women and then of some of the disciples coming to the tomb.
- B. Illustrations of the Lord appearing to all of His disciples.
- C. Bring in some flowers. Tell the children that we associate flowers with Easter because flowers bloom in the spring following winter, just as we live in heaven after we die.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*, Vol. 6, "The Resurrection," John 20.
- B. *The Sower*, Vol. VI, John 20:1-18.

"Mary Magdelene in the Garden" — Pattern for Tomb



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TEXT SLIPS

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