LESSON 23

JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD



Aim: **To show the children that Jesus triumphed over death and is alive today.**

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 28:16-20**

Memory Verse: **Ephesians 1:22**
And God placed all things under [Jesus Christ's] feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church ...

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Ask the class what we call the leader of a tribe, province, country. They do not need to give you these people's real names, just their positions (for example: chief, governor, president).

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. God has appointed Jesus as the head of the church. **Recite the memory verse.** Why has God done this? Today's picture will help us understand.
2. **Show Picture 23.** Jesus is shown here talking to his followers on a hill outside Jerusalem. **Point to Jerusalem in the picture.** Jesus had been sentenced to death even though he had done no wrong. He had died on a cross between two criminals. **Show the crosses in the picture. Jesus, the Son of God, allowed himself to be put to death (Matt 27:33-44).**
3. But death could not hold the Son of the living God. Jesus rose from the dead. He defeated death. He can never die again. **Point to the empty tomb with the large stone beside it in the picture.**
4. Jesus called his disciples together and told them, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth." He commanded his disciples to go out and tell all people about Jesus Christ, who is alive, so that they too would follow and worship him. Jesus promised to be with them always. He promised them victory over sin and evil powers. These words of Jesus are meant for us as well!

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Our Response to the Story

Before Zaire became an independent country some members of the colonial government tried to limit the spread of the Protestant Church. Yoane Akudri was a gifted and well-known church leader in that time. The government arrested him so that they could move him somewhere else, where he would cause them less trouble. "That will be all right with me," Yoane told them. "This Gospel is not for the Kakwas only, but for people all over our country!" The government official who handled the case was so impressed by Yoane's witness that he released him.

From *Akudri* by Peter Brashler

Instil the Memory Verse



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