

CHRIST IS RISEN!

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Orthodox Children's Bible Reader ~ pages 257-258

The myrrh-bearing women went to Jesus' tomb on the third day after His burial. When they got there, they found that the stone had been rolled back and Jesus wasn't there! This shocked them! They didn't know what to think. Then two angels appeared to them and explained that Jesus had risen from the dead. The myrrh-bearing women quickly left and went to find Jesus' disciples to tell them all about it!

1

GOAL

Learn to read iconography through the Gospels

2

AT CHURCH

Pascha!

3

AT HOME

We've prepared all of Great Lent with anticipation for Pascha!



Class routine:
Move my photo from "home" to "church"



Class routine:
Light a candle - respectfully prayerfully without playing



Class routine:
Venerate our icon



Sing "Lord have mercy" in English, Greek, Arabic, Romanian

ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

Orthodox Children's Bible Reader
~ pages 259-260

Two men were walking to the city of Emmaus, which was not too far away from Jerusalem. Along the way, they met a Man that they did not recognize. He overheard their conversation about Jesus and asked them about it. They had no idea that they were talking to Jesus Himself, risen from the dead! (*This is the first part of the icon on this page.*)

When they reached Emmaus, they invited this stranger to stay and eat with them. Jesus sat at the table with them, took the bread, blessed it, and then gave some to each of them. Instantly the two men realized that they had been talking to Jesus this whole time! As quickly as they realized this, Jesus vanished. (*This is the second part of the icon on this page.*)

As quickly as they could, these two men ran back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples that they had just seen Jesus! (*This is the third section of the icon on this page.*)



JESUS ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN

Orthodox Children's Bible Reader ~ pages
266-267

Forty days after Jesus had risen from the dead, He ascended into heaven. This is one of our major feast days.

Many people saw Jesus slowly ascend into heaven as they watched from the ground. Then two angels appeared to everyone and talked to them for a minute.

(*See the attached icon of the Ascension*) Among the people who witnessed this event are the Theotokos (center bottom between the two angels) and the disciples (on either side of the Theotokos).

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Crucifixion of the King of Glory by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou

The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor by Fr. Lawrence Farley

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke by Blessed Theophylact

Trisagion Films: [Icon of the Resurrection: Anastasis or Harrowing of Hades](#)



ICONS

Anastasi or Descent into Hades

Christ is always the central figure in the icon of the resurrection. He is dressed in white and His clothes are shown with movement as He rushes down to save people. The wounds on His hands and feet are also visible.

In this icon, He is pulling both Adam and Eve up by the wrists. (It is not through our own efforts or strength that we are saved, but through Christ's.)

To the left of Adam, we see three prominent figures in most icons of the resurrection: King David, King Solomon, and Saint John the Baptist, who was a forerunner of Christ on earth and into Hades.

To the right of Eve, we see her son Abel with a shepherd's staff, who was the first person to die as a result of our fallen nature. Moses is also depicted, who was present at the first Passover and now at the second Passover.

Beneath Christ, are the gates of Hades, forever broken because of Christ's death and resurrection. The locks and keys that bound everyone to Hades are also broken and scattered. Amongst the broken gate and locks is a bound man, representing death / Satan.



ACTIVITIES

- Read or summarize the stories to the kids as they are looking at the icons. Then ask the kids to tell the story back to you using the icons in front of them.
- Pull out the file folders of our major feast days. Which feast days did we talk about today? How many of the feast days can they identify? Can they sequence them in order?
- Illustrate a book about today's lesson and encourage them to tell their parents about it
- Sing "Christ is Risen!" in different languages with the kids.
- Practice saying the responses to "Christ is Risen!" in as many languages as you feel comfortable teaching the kids.

CHRIST IS RISEN!

AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

It would seem that Cleopas was a resident of Emmaus and a disciple of Jesus. Luke mentions his name not only (we think) to state who his source for the story was, but also because Cleopas continued to be a person of some importance in the Jerusalem church. Who was the other unnamed man? One tradition (reflected in a prayer said over those traveling) identifies him as no less a person than Luke himself, the author of the Gospel. This, however, is unlikely, for tradition makes Luke a native of Antioch and a Gentile, and it is unlikely that such a person would be a resident in Emmaus. Besides, Luke himself says that he consulted eyewitnesses in writing his Gospel (1:1-4), and this would be a strange thing to say if he

were himself such an eyewitness. Lastly, when Luke is a part of the narrative action (such as Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-8; 1-28:16), he signals his presence by using the pronoun “we” - which is not the case here. We must be content to leave this disciple in the anonymity intended by Luke. He was connected with Cleopas, probably a close friend. It seems he was going with Cleopas to his home (or was Cleopas going to his home?) to share a meal for the night. In the trauma and confusion that befell Jesus’ disciples following His Passion, friends clung together for mutual support.

Fr. Lawrence Farley

The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor
pages 421-422

HOME ACTIVITY #24

Trisagion Films: [Icon of the Resurrection: Anastasis or Harrowing of Hades](#)

YouTube: [Picturing Salvation - Chora’s Brilliant Byzantine Mosaics and Frescoes](#)



