

# "Easter Miracles" Sunday School Lesson from John 20:1-18

 [ministry-to-children.com/easter-miracles-lectionary-lesson-from-john-201-18](http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-miracles-lectionary-lesson-from-john-201-18)

April 3, 2015

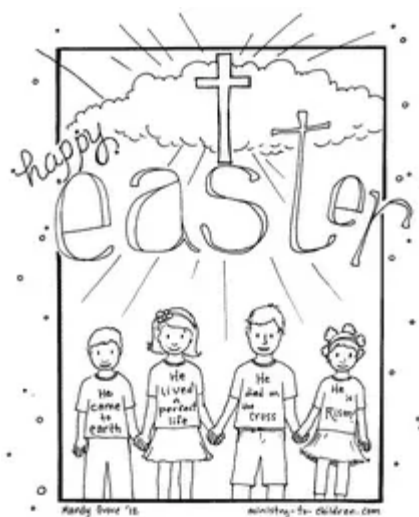
This free Bible lesson is based on John 20:1-18 when Mary Magdalene visits the tomb and Jesus rose from the dead. It is designed for children's church or Sunday School. Please modify as best fits your ministry.

If your church follows the Revised Common Lectionary, this teaching plan would correspond to Year B – Easter Sunday, Gospel Reading – John 20:1-18.

## Opening Activity – Easter Miracles – Egg Hunt

Supplies – empty Easter eggs

Hide empty eggs around the room. After the kids find the eggs, let them tell you one thing they love about Easter for each egg they found.



## Lesson – Easter Miracles

Easter is one of my favorite days of the year. And it's not because of Easter egg hunts, or candy, or crafts. It's because of miracles!

Do you know what a miracle is? A miracle is when something completely impossible happens. When there is absolutely no way for it to be true, yet it is. And at Easter, there are a lot of miracles for us to celebrate.

I bet you can guess the biggest one. Jesus rose from the dead! After 3 whole days of being dead, Jesus was alive again! I can't imagine a bigger miracle than that. Miracle number 1.

But it makes me so happy to think that Jesus didn't have to suffer for us forever. When He took our place on the cross, He was whipped, beaten, and had huge nails forced through His hands and feet. And then, carrying all of our sins, He suffered horribly in hell for 3 days. So much suffering for an innocent man. But Jesus chose to suffer so that we wouldn't have to. So that we might be able to join Him in heaven.

I think that amount of love is a miracle. For someone to love you SO much more than they love themselves, and to willingly suffer through so much pain; it's another miracle. Miracle number 2.

After Jesus rose from the dead there was another miracle. Jesus was buried in a small cave dug out of a rock, and to close it up they would roll a HUGE rock in the opening. It would take tons of men pushing together to get that rock to move. But when Jesus rose from the dead, that rock moved. With no one touching it, that HUGE rock moved out of the way. Miracle number 3.

Do you think that's everything? Of course not!

Later that very day Mary Magdalene went to visit the tomb. When they saw the rock had been moved and Jesus was gone, she got very upset. She thought someone had stolen Jesus! But the next time she looked, it wasn't empty at all. There were two angels sitting right where Jesus had been. Angels! Can you imagine? I call that miracle number 4.

At first Mary didn't understand. She thought those angels had stolen Jesus, and she started to cry. Mary turned around and was shocked to see someone right behind her. She asked didn't know who it was, and asked if they were the one who stole Jesus. But as soon as Jesus said her name, Mary could tell it has Jesus. All with one word, this man went from total stranger, to close friend. Miracle number 5.

Then Jesus sent Mary back to the disciples so she could tell them what she had seen.

In such a short time, Mary was able to experience 5 miracles. 5!

Jesus suffered out of love.

Jesus rose from the dead.

The rock was moved and the tomb was opened.

Angels appeared and spoke to Mary.

Jesus appeared, looking first like a stranger, then as beloved friend.

Those are the things that make Easter so special. Miracles are so much better than candy. Jesus is so much better than the Easter Bunny. Angels are so much better than hunting eggs. And Jesus is so much better than it all.

### **Activity A – Easter Miracles – Bible Verse Challenge**

Supplies – Bibles

Verse – John 20:18

Pass out Bibles to students. Bibles should be closed and sitting on the table face up in front of each child. When you say go, have the kids look up this week's Bible verse. As each child finds the verse, have them stick one finger on the verse and quietly raise their other hand. The first one to find the verse gets to read it to the rest of the class.

Help younger kids and new kids find the verse by following these steps.

Look in the Table of Contents for the book you are looking for. Make an effort to show them if it is found in the Old Testament or New Testament to help them in the future. Then open the Bible to the page number listed in the Table of Contents.

Show them the large numbers in the text, known as the chapters. Flip through pages until you find the large chapter number you are looking for.

Then scan through the text with them pointing out the smaller verse numbers until the correct number is found.

### **Activity B – Easter Miracles – The Tomb is Empty!**

Supplies – empty Easter eggs, paper, coloring/writing utensils

Give each child some small pieces of paper and coloring/writing utensils. Then have them write or draw something related to Easter, God, Jesus, etc. on it. Then stuff each egg with one slip of paper and have the kids hand out the eggs after class to parents, other kids, visitors, etc.

Examples/ideas

- Jesus is alive!
- The tomb is empty!
- He is Risen!
- Drawing of an empty cross
- Drawing of an empty tomb
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-5
- John 11:25-26
- Romans 6:4
- Isaiah 53:5

### **Closing Prayer – Easter Miracles**

Before leaving, ask for a volunteer to pray for the class, and encourage them to tell God how thankful they are that He suffered in our place, and how happy they are that Jesus rose again.

**Check out** [Our 5 Most Popular Easter Resources](#)

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# Easter Craft Ideas

He is Risen! (John 20:1-18)

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Easter is here! After journeying through the season of Lent and the solemnity of Good Friday, Easter is a joyous celebration. There are many fun and festive possible activities to create in celebrating springtime or Easter. As with most things in life, the central element here should be the Gospel of Christ. These crafts suggest creative ways to consider the joy and miracle of the Resurrection. A jelly bean mosaic provides a colorful way to contemplate Easter symbols. A “transforming” caterpillar and butterfly craft invite students to recall how Jesus died and came back to life. Happy crafting!



## Verses or Captions to Consider...

But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.  
- Matthew 28:5-6

7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. -Matthew 28:7-8

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. -2 Corinthians 5:17

He is risen!                      Hallelujah!                      Happy Easter

Jesus rose from the dead and brings new life!

## More Teaching Ideas:

- Watch the [video demonstration of this message](#) and related [craft ideas](#)
- Compare our [Sunday School Lesson on John 20:1-18](#).
- Compare another [Easter lesson](#) or see all our [Easter Ideas for Children’s Ministry](#)
- See all our latest [children’s sermons](#), [Sunday School Lessons](#), and [Sunday School curriculum](#)

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## Craft one: “Jelly Bean Mosaic”

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### You will need:

- Scissors
- Construction paper (any color)
- Markers or decorating materials
- Glue or tape
- Stencils (optional)
- Paper Plates (optional)
- Jelly beans
- Pipe cleaner or string (optional)



### Procedure:

1. Select a paper, cardstock, or paper plate as a base.
2. Use a stencil or free hand to draw an outline of desired image (cross, butterfly, heart, etc.). Color, if desired.
3. Attach additional decorations and/or verses or captions.
4. Spread glue on the shape, a section at a time. Attach jelly beans to the glue in varied colors. Allow to dry thoroughly.
5. Add a string or pipe cleaner if desired, to hang.





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## Craft Two: “Butterfly Resurrection”

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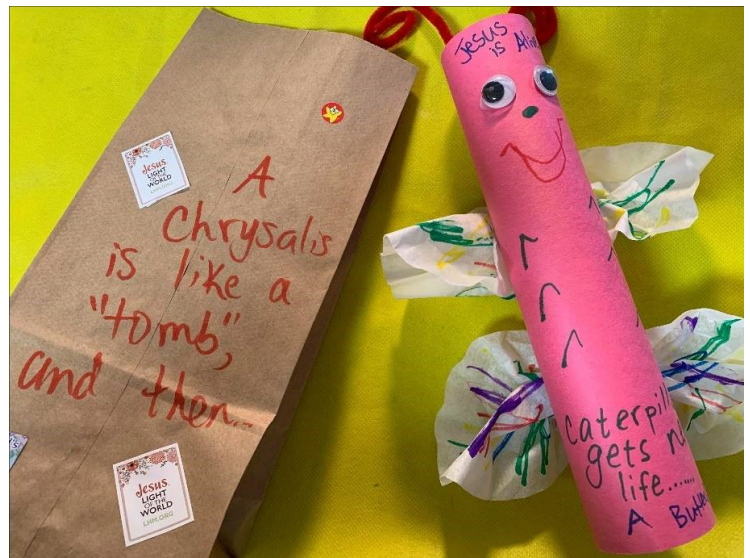
### You will need:

- Construction Paper or tissue paper
- Glue, tape, or staples
- Google eyes or pom-poms (optional)
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaners or string
- Coffee filters or cupcake liners
- Paper bags
- Toilet paper or paper towel rolls



### Procedure:

1. Decorate your tube (toilet paper or paper towel) like a caterpillar, attaching a “face” and legs, if desired. Use curled pipe cleaners for antennae.
2. Decorate the paper bag like a chrysalis, adding stickers and verses or captions.
3. Use coffee filters, cupcake liners, or accordion-folded paper to create “wings.”
4. Attach wings to caterpillar body to create a butterfly.
5. If schedule and audience allow, place the caterpillar into the chrysalis, and “transform” into butterflies on the sly. Alternatively, allow students to turn their own caterpillars into butterflies. Emphasize the resurrection element in play.





Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

My name is Tony Kummer (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. It is my personal honor to share these resources with churches around the world.

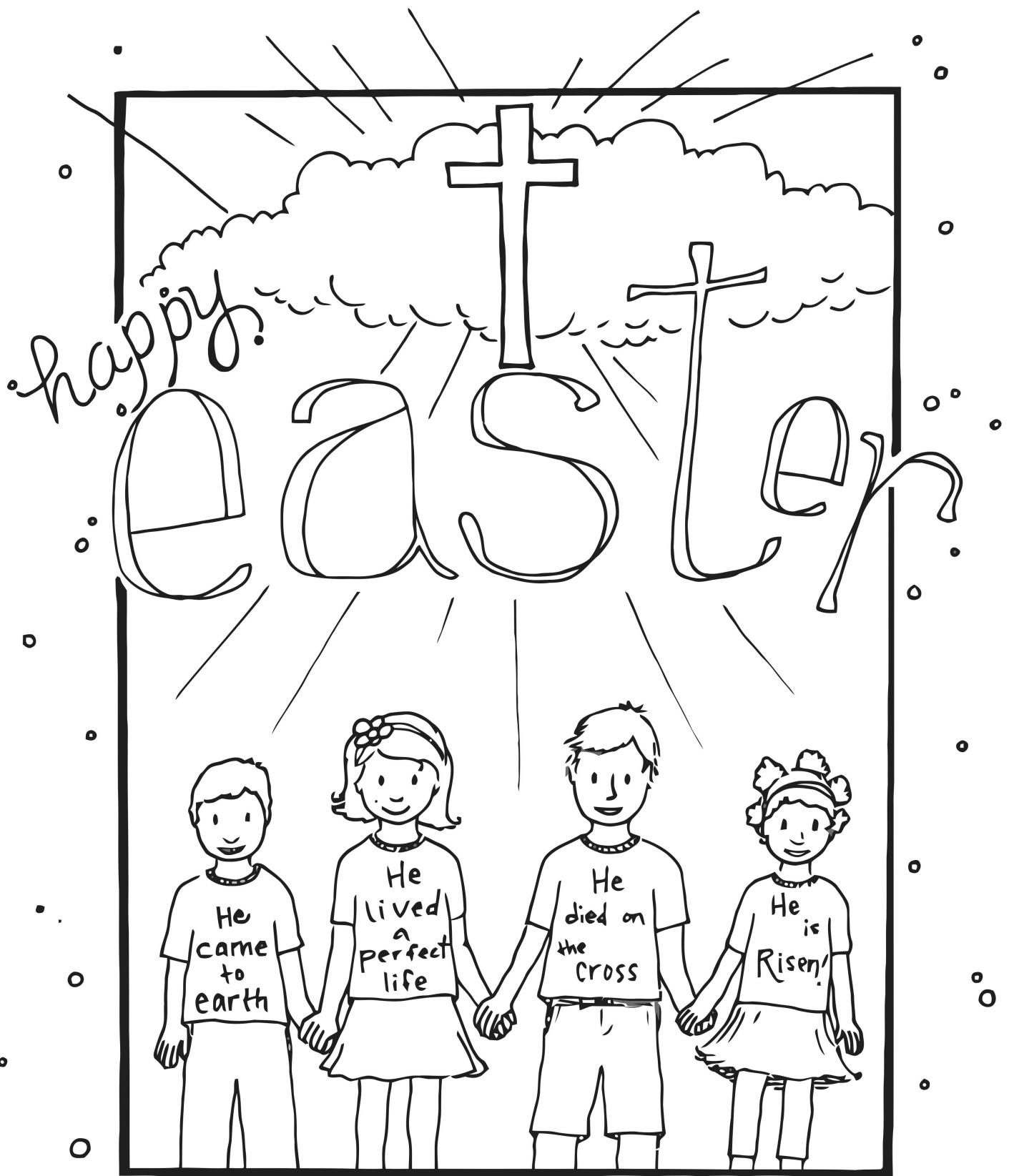


[Reader donations](#) and your support at [The Sunday School Store](#) fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum.

If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy.

May God continue to bless your ministry!

*Tony Kummer*



Mandy Groce '12

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# the Resurrection

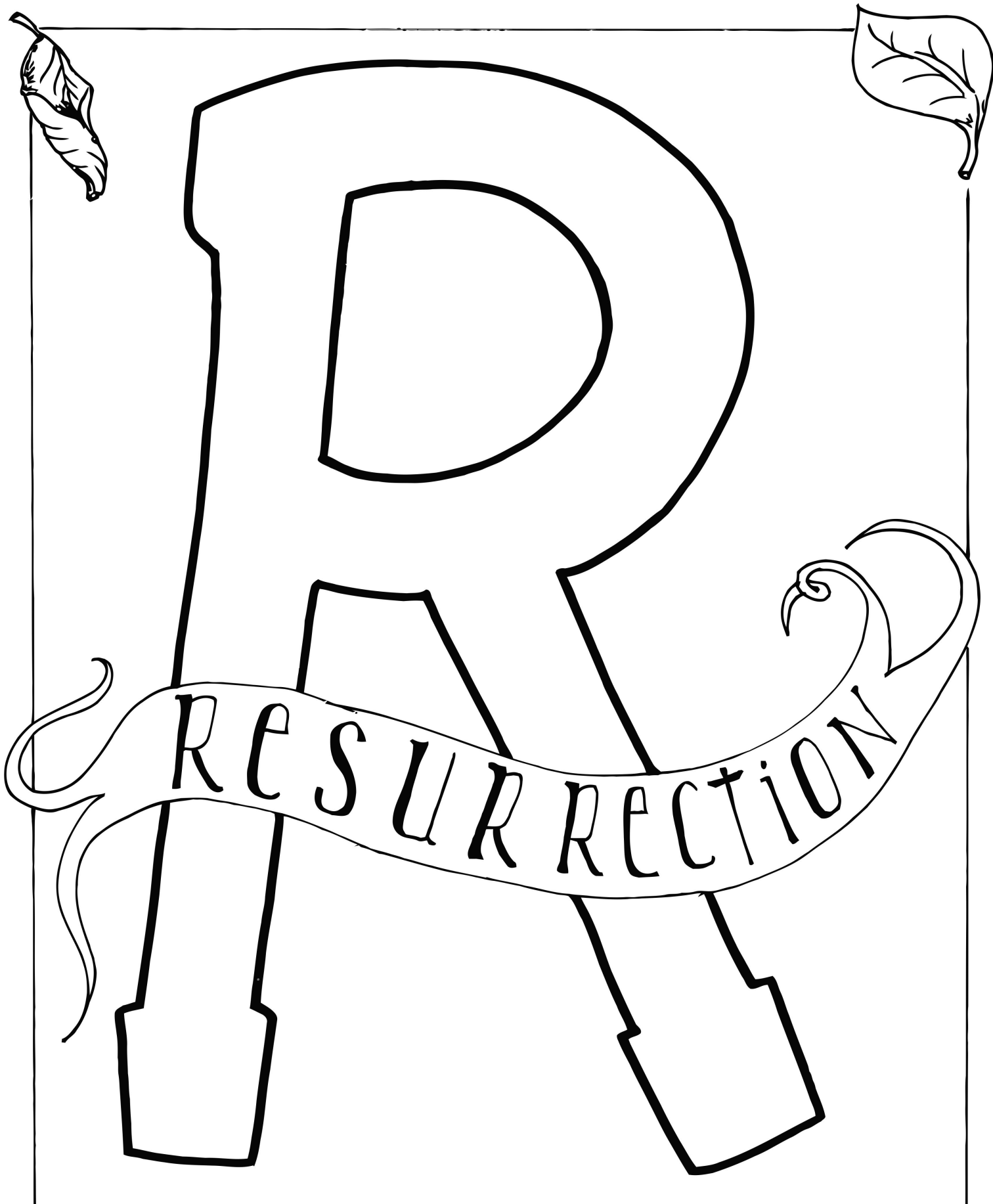
Matthew 28

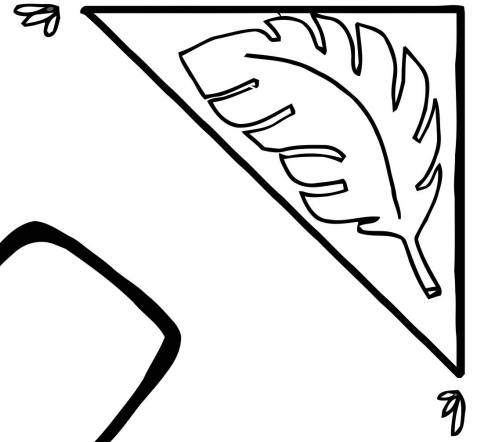




Carlos Bautista

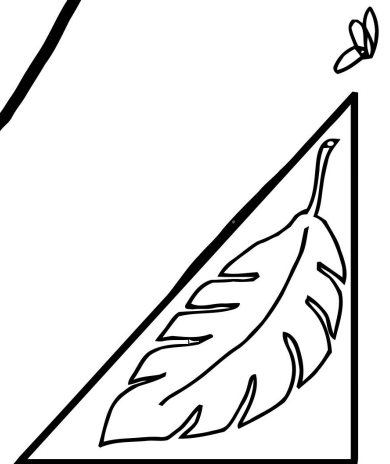
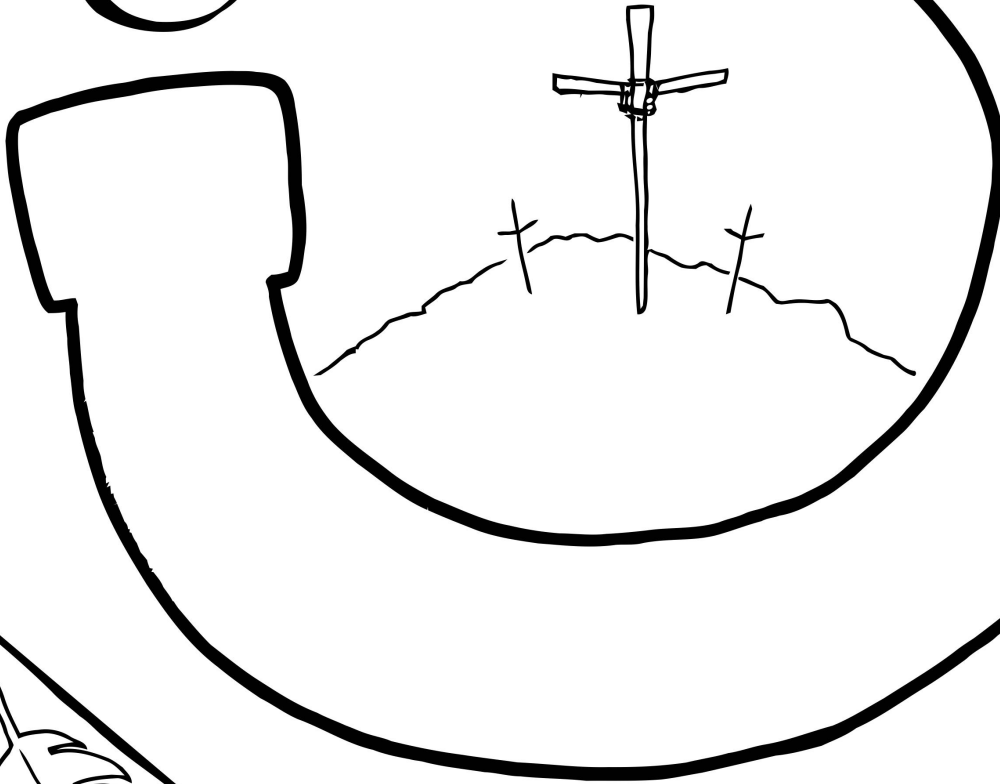
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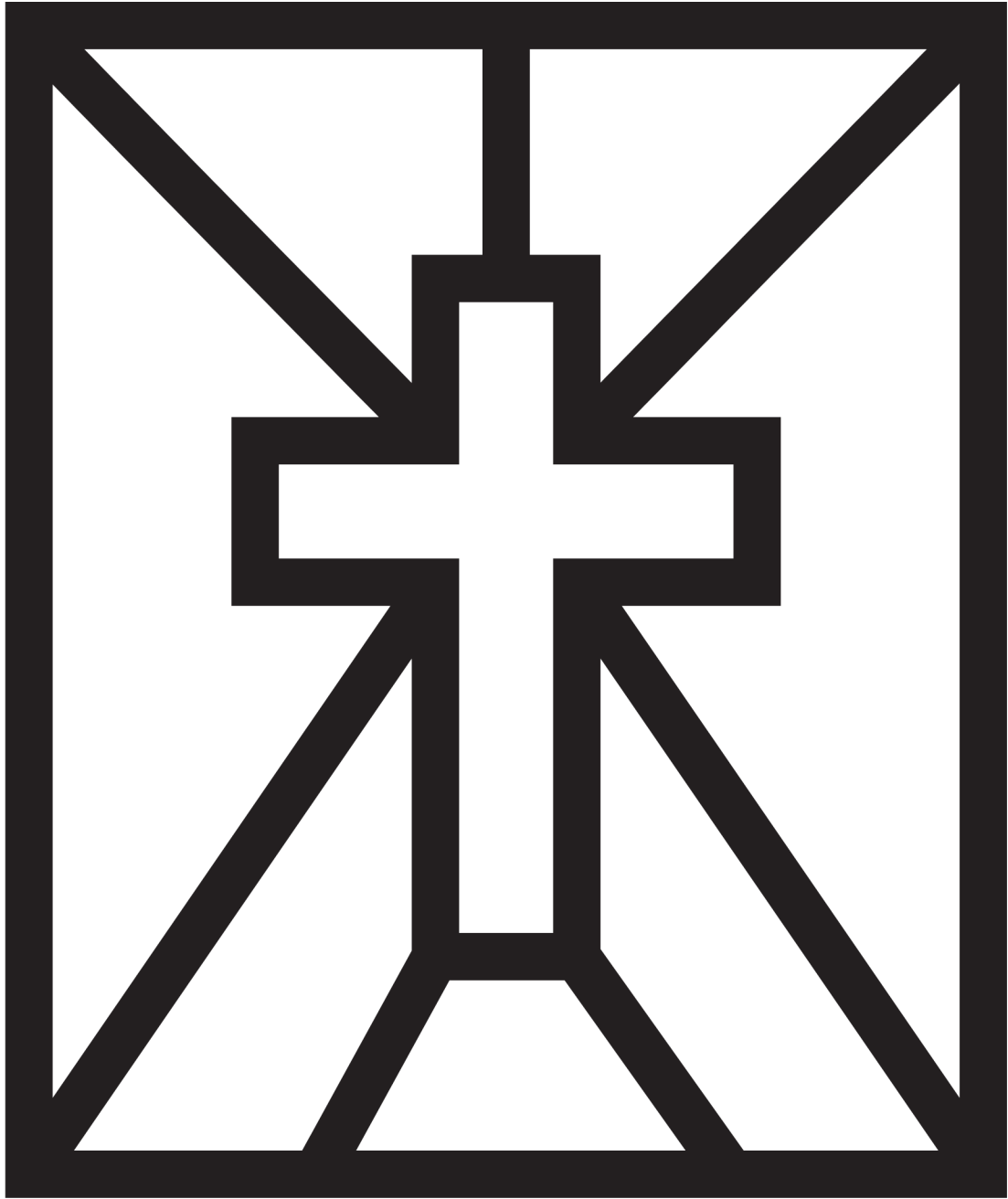
HE IS RISEN



JESUS SAID TO HER, "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE DIE, YET SHALL HE LIVE, AND EVERYONE WHO LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?" JOHN 11:25,26



# HE IS RISEN



JESUS SAID TO HER, "I AM THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME,  
THOUGH HE DIE, YET SHALL HE LIVE." JOHN 11:25