

Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

November 1, 2015

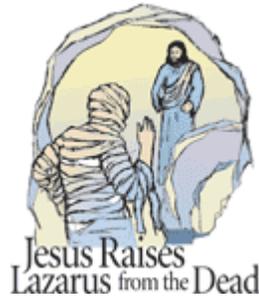
All Saints Day

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 24 (5)

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44



“A Saviour Who Weeps” Object: No object.

Do you ever cry? Of course you do. Even you big strong boys sometimes cry -- even though someone may try to tell you that "big boys don't cry." I made a list of some things that make us cry. Have you ever fallen off your bicycle and hurt yourself so badly that you cried? Have you ever slipped and fallen while carrying a tray of food in the school cafeteria, and though you weren't hurt, you were so embarrassed that you cried? Have you ever moved to a new school where you didn't know anyone and you were so lonely that you cried? Has anyone ever said something mean and hurt your feelings so badly that you cried? Have you ever had a friend that was crying, so you just cried along with them? I think that we all could answer, "yes" to at least one of these questions. We all cry, don't we?

Did you know that Jesus cried? The shortest verse in the entire Bible says, "Jesus wept." What are some of the things that made Jesus cry? I know of at least three things that made Jesus cry.

(1) The Bible tells us that Jesus cried when he prayed for others. It says, "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears." (Hebrews 5:7 NLT)

(2) The Bible also tells us that Jesus cried when he saw people who were missing out on what God wanted for them. Luke tells us that as Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "I wish that even today you would find the way of peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from you." (Luke 19:41-42 NLT)

(3) Another time, the Bible tells us that Jesus cried when friends of his were hurting. Jesus had a friend named Lazarus who became very sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus and asked him to come and heal Lazarus, but when Jesus arrived, Lazarus had already died. The Bible tells us that when Jesus saw Mary weeping because her brother had died, he cried too. That isn't all that Jesus did -- listen to what happened next.

Jesus went with Mary and Martha and some others to visit the grave where Lazarus was buried. It was a cave with a large stone across the entrance. When they arrived at the tomb, Jesus said to some of the men who were with them, "Take away the stone." Then Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus walked out of the grave. I imagine that when she saw that, Mary's tears of sadness turned to tears of joy.

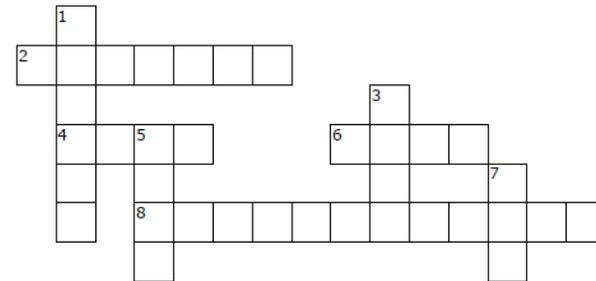
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia They are before the throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. Alleluia (Rev. 7:15)

We all cry, and I am glad that we have a Savior who weeps too. I am glad that he loves us so much that he hurts when we are hurting. He feels our pain.

Dear Jesus, it is comforting to know that when we cry, you cry with us. But it is even more comforting to know that you have power over death and the grave. Amen.

- Used by permission, sermons4kids

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- A man that Jesus raised from the dead
- A place where someone is buried
- To be physically ill; not well or healthy
- Rising from the dead or returning to life

DOWN

- One of Lazarus' two sisters
- To be alive or have life
- Woman who poured perfume on Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair
- To stop living

TOMB
LIVE

MARTHA
RESURRECTION

DIE
LAZARUS

MARY
SICK

TEAR DROP HUNT: The teacher can cut out large tear drop drawings with words from today's lesson written on each tear drop. The children can be sent out to find some tear drops and bring them back to the classroom table. Discuss the words on the tear drops. Then tape the tear drops to a poster that will have a large title - JESUS WEEPS WITH HIS CHILDREN.

BIBLE ART: Children can draw a Bible and cut it out. Then trace that Bible onto a larger paper and glue the two Bible tracings together. In various colored markers, children can decorate and write JESUS WEPT. With pencil or pen, children can write some of the reasons that Jesus wept. Encourage children to take their "Bibles" home this week and to remember that JESUS cried and HE cries with us and understands!

JESUS RAISES LAZZARUS.

JOHN 11



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