

The Future's Looking Bright

By Kelsey Grulke

for use as
STEP 1 **Lesson 3****Focus:**

Christ's resurrection
gives us a future with
God.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 15:1–23

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is
futile; you are still in your sins.
—1 Corinthians 15:17

Students will watch a video about dads as they begin to consider how Jesus' resurrection guarantees us a future with our heavenly Father.

Materials:

- ☐ Internet access
- ☐ Sticky notes
- ☐ Pens/pencils
- ☐ Whiteboard and marker

Greet your students as they enter. While everyone is getting settled, ask your students about their Father's Day plans. Be sensitive to the family dynamics in your class and the fact that some students might not have a dad at home to celebrate. Make mention of the fact that some single-mom homes celebrate mom on this day since she is doing double-duty. You can ask if they plan to celebrate any grandfathers or uncles or stepdads or other father figures, too.

Show this video to your students [3:00]:

Kids Perspective on Dads—The Fatherhood Project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htO0wSxVGyI>

- **What were some of the themes you noticed in this video? What did you hear over and over again?** (Answers will vary but may include: Dads are strong, they appreciate quality time and gifts from their dads, dads protect you and keep you safe, dads love you, etc.)

Draw a large stick figure person on the whiteboard. Hand out sticky notes and pens/pencils.

Let's use those ideas we saw in the video, plus some of our own, to cover this person in what we think makes a great parent. Write a characteristic of a good dad or other father-figure on a sticky note and stick it to our drawing. Share aloud what you're writing so we can come up with as many different answers as possible.

Once the drawing is filled up, read or ask a student to read the sticky notes. Ask the class if there are any great characteristics that were missed and add those too.

Name a few of the major themes represented in the sticky notes (examples might be: loves us, provides for us, and takes care of us). **Some of us probably have dads that are good at those things, and some of us probably don't. The good news is, God, our heavenly Father, is the best dad we could imagine. Sure, He takes care of us on earth, but He has promised to take care of us eternally, too! Our lesson today focuses on our heavenly Father's guarantee to take care of us for all eternity. Let's see what He did to guarantee us a future with Him.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

The Future's Looking Bright

By Kelsey Grulke

for use as
STEP 4 **Lesson 3****Focus:**

Christ's resurrection gives us a future with God.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 15:1–23

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
—1 Corinthians 15:17

Materials:

- ☐ Access to an outdoor area
- ☐ Cardstock cut into 4-inch by 6-inch rectangles
- ☐ Adhesives (tape, glue, etc.)
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Optional: Internet access, smartphones

Ask a volunteer to read the memory verse (1 Cor. 15:17) one more time.

Without Jesus' resurrection, our faith is worthless. Our whole existence as Christians hinges on that point. Our future with God depends on the fact that Jesus died and rose again. When we believe that Jesus died and rose again and that we too will rise from the dead and spend eternity with God, it changes us, not just for when we die, but how we live every day.

- **How is day-to-day life different because you believe that you have an eternal future with God? Or, if you're not sure you do believe that yet, how could your day-to-day life be different?** (Answers will vary and could include: I don't need to worry about the small things in life as much because my eternity is secure, I tell others about Jesus because I want them to share that eternity with me, I try to follow God's commands because I am grateful for His Son's death and resurrection, etc.)

Living our lives knowing that our eternal future is secure gives us amazing freedom and joy! Sometimes, though, we get bogged down in our normal, day-to-day routines and problems, and we can forget to live like people who are bound for heaven. Let's practice doing small things in our everyday lives that can help us remember Christ's resurrection and our future with God.

If possible, take the students outside and ask everyone to find something that they can either keep (a leaf or small stone or stick, etc.) or take a picture of with their smartphone (a tree, a beautiful landscape, etc.) that can remind them of Jesus' resurrection. Some examples could include: "I found a rock that reminds me of the stone that was rolled away from Jesus' empty tomb" or "I found a flower that reminds me of new life," etc. Come back inside and ask each student to share what they collected and how it can remind them of Jesus' resurrection.

If going outdoors is not possible, watch a couple minutes of this video and talk about what things your students see in nature on a daily basis that can help them remember Jesus' resurrection.

From Spring to Summer— Beautiful Nature Photos and Relax Music
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMRw8NGJ62Y>

Hand out 4-inch by 6-inch rectangles of cardstock along with other supplies. Have your students use the object they found from outdoors to create a reminder card to keep so they don't forget Jesus' resurrection. If they took a picture or watched the video instead of going outdoors, have them use their cardstock to write out a thank-You to God for the future they have with Him through Jesus resurrection.

End in prayer, thanking God for Jesus and His death and resurrection and asking God to help your students find ways to remember the resurrection every day.

(We are not affiliated with and do not endorse any website or any other media listed on these pages. At the time of writing, we carefully review the referenced material and non-referenced web page content. However, due to the nature of the Internet, non-cited content on the website [including pop-ups, links, and ads] changes frequently and is beyond our control. Please review carefully before showing links in the classroom.)