



SESSION FIVE

Jesus Lives Forever

SCRIPTURE

Mark 14:27—16:20; Luke 22:47—24:53; John 21:15-17

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:7-8

LESSON FOCUS

God's love never fails.

BIBLE AIMS

During this session, each student may

1. DISCOVER that Jesus died and rose again so that we can experience God's love and be in His family forever;
2. DESCRIBE situations in which it helps to remember God's love;
3. THANK God for offering him or her God's eternal love through His Son, Jesus;
4. PRAY to become a member of God's family, as the Holy Spirit leads.

BIBLE STORY RECAP

One night Jesus and His friends went to a garden to pray. Suddenly, soldiers appeared and arrested Jesus! Peter was so angry, he cut off a soldier's ear. Jesus told Peter not to fight. Jesus knew this was part of God's plan.

Even though Jesus had done nothing wrong, the Roman governor sentenced Jesus to die on a cross. But Jesus didn't stay dead! Three days later, women came to visit His tomb, but Jesus wasn't there. Then Jesus visited His friends and talked with them. Finally, Jesus returned to heaven, where He lives today. Because Jesus died and rose again, we can all become members of God's family and experience His love forever!

TEACHER'S DEVOTIONAL

How many times have we promised that our love and friendship would last forever? A childhood friend, a high school sweetheart, a college roommate. Something in us makes us want to pledge to love forever—even if we have done so before and seen that love come to an end. Perhaps this is because we were made by God to give and to receive a love that is true and lasting.

Being created in God's own image endowed us to receive God's love and to love Him in return. God's original plan for us was a love relationship that would last forever. Although this plan was broken through our sin, we still consistently desire to love forever. But we cannot know the true and lasting love God wants us to experience until we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and our Savior. Only He can remove the sin barrier to open the way to the Father. And although our love frequently falters, God's love never fails.

Before this week is over, make sure every child in your circle of influence understands the reality of God's forever love. Each child needs to know that our desire for a relationship that lasts forever was put there by God. And when we become members of God's family, nothing will ever separate us from His love. What a reward it will be to experience the forever love of heaven with these young ones!

