

## LESSON 3

# THE FACES OF EASTER II

## LESSON NOTES

### FOCUS: JESUS IS LOST AND FOUND

- LITURGICAL ACTION
- CORE PRESENTATION

### THE MATERIAL

- LOCATION: EASTER SHELVES
- PIECES: SEVEN PLAQUES ILLUSTRATED WITH FACES OF CHRIST, WITH RACK
- UNDERLAY: PURPLE AND WHITE

### BACKGROUND

Lent is the season when we prepare for Easter. This lesson continues to help children prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This week's presentation focuses on the face of Christ as the One who was lost and found.

Begin this week's presentation by presenting a summary of the first plaque, the Face of "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 32-36). Then add the second plaque and tell the story found in this second lesson about the Faces of Easter.

Since there are seven Faces presentations and only six Sundays in Lent, you may want to combine presentations, telling two or even three stories on a Sunday. Arrange the presentations to fit your church's religious education schedule or other situations.

### NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

Find the materials for this presentation in the middle of the top shelf of the Easter shelves, in between the material for the Mystery of Easter, and the Synagogue and the Upper Room.

The material consists of a set of seven faces of Christ, mounted on wood or card-stock plaques. The underlay is a purple and white "scroll" that unrolls to show six purple rectangles and one white rectangle. Roll up the underlay so that the white rectangle is hidden inside.

A special carrier rack for the Faces plaques stands them up, making them visible to a child scanning the room full of materials. This stand for the plaques should also hold the rolled-up underlay. (See the illustration on p. 33.) If you do not use this stand, put the rolled-up underlay and plaques in a tray.

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

**Storytelling Tip:** At the end of each presentation of the Faces stories, you invite children to choose materials from the room that will help tell more of the story. This activity helps children perceive connections between the stories. Because you add a story each week, only invite children to bring materials for that week's story. For example, when you tell today's story of the Face of "Jesus Is Lost and Found," one child might bring Solomon's Temple to place by the plaque.

Be sure you unroll the underlay so that its roll is toward you, not toward the children. This keeps the roll from blocking some of the children's view of the Faces. The underlay unrolls toward the storyteller; each new plaque will be placed on the underlay closest to the storyteller. This means that you need to slide the underlay away from you to allow room to unroll the next section of the underlay. (See the illustration, p. 41.) A child seated across from you can help pull the underlay away from you.

## MOVEMENTS

*When the children are ready, go to the Easter shelves and bring the plaques and rolled-up underlay to the circle.*

*Put the cards at your side and place the underlay in front of you. Unroll the underlay toward you to uncover the rectangle for the first plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 35-36). When you are finished, lay down the first plaque.*

*Unroll the underlay to uncover the second section. Pick up the second plaque and hold it so that the children can see it as you continue the story:*

## WORDS

◆ *Watch carefully where I go so you will always know where to find this lesson.*

◆ The baby grew and became a boy. When he was about twelve years old, he went with the Mother Mary and the Father Joseph and with many other people from their village of Nazareth to the great city of Jerusalem to keep one of the high, holy days. When the celebration was over, the people from Nazareth went out through the great high gate and started on the road toward home.

Suddenly, Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was not there! They thought he had been playing with the other children from their village as they walked together. They hurried back into the great city of Jerusalem to find him.

Mary and Joseph looked in the dark and narrow streets. They looked in the marketplace where they had bought their food. They looked where they had spent the night. They looked everywhere!

Finally, they even looked in the Temple—and there he was. He was talking to the rabbis, the priests. When he spoke, they listened, because he knew so much. When they spoke, he listened, because he wanted to learn more.

Mary and Joseph then asked Jesus the question all parents ask their children, the question you can never answer: "Why did you do this?" And Jesus said something very strange. He said, "Didn't you know I would be in my Father's house?"

Mary and Joseph did not understand. Their house was in Nazareth, where Joseph's carpenter shop was. They did not understand, but they did not forget.

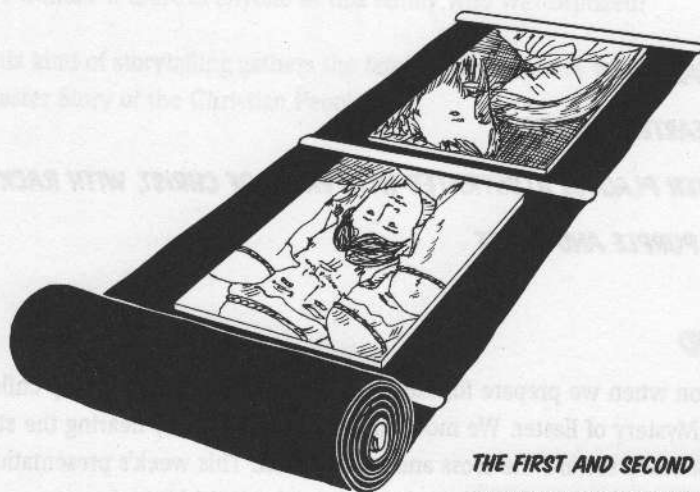


## MOVEMENTS

Put the second plaque down on the second rectangle of the underlay, facing the children.

## WORDS

Now I wonder what there is in our room that can help us tell more about this part of the story. Look around and see if you see something. I will go around the circle and invite you to go and get something to put by the picture of the boy who was lost and found to help us tell more.



THE FIRST AND SECOND PLAQUES ON THE UNDERLAY  
(STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

Begin to go around the circle, inviting each child to bring something to put by the plaque illustrating "Jesus Is Lost and Found." Some children may not be able to think of anything, so move on if it looks as if they are stuck. You can come back to them later. If they are still stuck, that is okay. Many children learn by watching as well as by doing.

Enjoy the items that the children bring to help tell more of the story. When you have had time to enjoy the entire layout, invite children, one at a time, to return their materials. Then take the plaques and underlay back to the Easter shelves.

Help the children begin to get out their work.