

Equipment

A photograph album with lots of pictures in it, a Bible.

Show the children the photo album. Ask them if they know what it is? What do we use it for? Ask the children why they think we take pictures? It is so that we can remember things and people that are important to us. Say that if you have grannies and granddads that live a long way away, then mummy and daddy probably send them photographs of you so that granny and granddad know what you look like. We want people to enjoy the things that are important to us.

Say that John was one of Jesus' friends. After Jesus died John was very sad. Ask the children to make a sad face. But as he sat in his house, thinking sad thoughts, there was a knock at the door. Ask the children to make a knocking sound. John wondered who was there. The knocking came again (knock again) and again (knock again).

John went and opened the door. And guess who was there? (Let children guess). It was Mary. Mary was one of Jesus' friends and she had a strange message. She had come to tell John that she had been to where Jesus was buried – and he wasn't there anymore. He had gone! John was worried. He went with Mary and Peter back to the tomb – and it was empty. But the cloth that Jesus had been wrapped up in was still there.

And suddenly John knew! What did he know? (Let children suggest) John knew that Jesus was alive again. And he knew something else – he knew that Jesus was a very, very special person. Later that day, Jesus met John and his friends and had dinner with them. What do you think they ate? Fish!

Because John realised that Jesus was so special, he decided that everyone in the world needed to know about Jesus. So what do you think he did? He wrote a book all about Jesus – here it is. (Show a Bible and John's gospel in it) It is in the Bible and we can still read in it so that we can learn to love Jesus as well.

The Point: To share how John came to realise how special Jesus was.

Followed by

Equipment

A copy of "We wanna see Jesus lifted high" (Doug Horley), ribbons or flags.

Sing "We wanna see Jesus lifted high" together. Let the children use flags and ribbons as they dance to the music.

The Point: To respond to Jesus.

And

Equipment

Take home sheet for each child, a copy of "We wanna see Jesus lifted high".

Bring the children back together. Remind them that John wanted everyone in the whole world to know that Jesus is God. Sing "We wanna see Jesus lifted high" to finish the session and then give each child a copy of the Take Home sheet.

The Point: To round off the session.