

SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERINGS

2025 SUMMER FRIENDSHIP GATHERING

OBJECT LESSON, DAY 2 – All Wrapped Up

- The theme for this summer is, “RISE UP.” The Day 2 the lesson is “RISE UP and Believe”
- **Object Lesson** – This object lesson will demonstrate Lazarus walking out of the tomb when Jesus called his name. It will also show that we need one another to walk out in freedom when Jesus calls our name.
- **Supplies Needed:**
 - 2 – 3 rolls of toilet paper
 - 1 person to be Lazarus all wrapped up in the toilet paper (make sure his/her feet, nose and eyes are uncovered)
 - Transparent tape
 - 5 sheets of 8x11 paper with each one having a different word on it: FEAR, ANGER WORRY SINFUL HABITS, UNFORGIVNESS
 - 2 – 3 Friends to unwrap Lazarus
- **Do ahead of time:**

Wrap up a friend or volunteer in toilet paper to be Lazarus. Hide the sheets of paper with words, FEAR, ANGER, WORRY, SINFUL HABITS, UNFORGIVNESS within the wrapping.
- **As you get to the part of the lesson when Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb, invite everyone to shout out with the leader, “Lazarus come out!”**
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OBJECT LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

- **As Lazarus is walking out, the leader says:** Oh look! Here comes Lazarus now. Jesus raised him from the dead. Everyone was so happy! **(Invite the friends to cheer Yay!)** There is only one problem. Lazarus can't move. He is still all wrapped up in his grave clothes! He is not free.
- In our story, Jesus said to the people there, *"Take off his grave cloths he was buried in and let him go."* So, we are going to help Lazarus take off his grave cloths. **(Invite 2-3 friends to help him take off his grave clothes.)**
- Jesus wanted everyone to participate in this miracle by helping Lazarus shed his grave clothes. He needed the help of others to be free and live again.
- God doesn't want us to live all by ourselves. Many times, we are helpless to take off our grave clothes by ourselves. We need each other!
- You and I may not be wrapped like Lazarus in cloths, but we can be wrapped up in fear, worry, anxiety, ongoing sin, or anger. This can keep us bound and unable to rise up and be free to live the life God wants for us.
- **The leader can start by giving examples then ask friends for some ideas. As the mummy, Lazarus is being unwrapped hold the pieces of paper up so the class can see them.**
- **As the mummy Lazarus is being unwrapped pieces of paper will fall out of the wrapping. You can say:** This says FEAR. What are some things you are fearful of that might keep you from walking out in freedom? **(Give the friends time to answer.)**

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OBJECT LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

- **The leader says the word on the paper then let the friends repeat the word. For example: FEAR..** We can be afraid of meeting new people or a new situation. We can be afraid of what other people may think of us. We can even be afraid of what might happen tomorrow. When we ask God to take away our fear, we can trust and believe that He loves us and hears us. God doesn't want us to be wrapped up in fear, He wants to take that fear away and give us peace.
- FEAR can keep us from being free in Christ, so we are going to say "NO" to fear and ask God to take it away. **(Wad up paper and throw it on the ground. Do this with each word that is revealed as Lazarus is being unwrapped.)**
- **As each piece of paper falls out of the mummy have the group give examples of how that word can keep us wrapped up and not able to walk in the freedom of Jesus.**
- **Leader says:** Now, lets think of some ways we can help others walk out of their grave clothes and into new life when Jesus calls their name? **(Give the friends time to respond.)**
- Some other ways we can help our friends is, we can pray for them, encourage them, show them love and compassion, show them God's way, call or visit them.
- Earlier in the book of John Jesus says, "So if the Son (Jesus) sets you free, you will be free indeed."
- When we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the resurrection, and the life, He has given us freedom from the power of sin and death.

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OBJECT LESSON, DAY 2 CONTINUED

- In the story of Lazarus, by Jesus proclaiming to Martha, He is the resurrection and the life, He is pointing to His own resurrection. He knows that soon he will conquer sin and death and rise again.
- Do you believe that Jesus is the resurrection and the life? Is Jesus calling your name to rise up and walk with Him in freedom?

