



LESSON 10: JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

OBJECT LESSON: POWER OVER GRAVITY

SUPPLIES

- pencil
- [Powerful Magnets handout](#)
- string
- 2 paper clips
- scissors
- tape
- metal ruler
- stacks of Bibles
- 2 ceramic magnets (available at craft stores)

Easy Prep

- Before doing anything else, review the “Powerful Magnets” handout. The photos on the handout will make this activity clear.

Tips

- Use ceramic magnets $\frac{3}{4}$ inch or larger.
- Instead of having kids tape the magnets to the rulers, you could use metal rulers that the magnets are naturally attracted to.

Learn About Gravity

Today we heard about the miracle of how Lazarus rose from the dead when Jesus called him out of the tomb. We're discovering that Jesus has power over death. Let's experiment with paper clips as we think more about what rising from the dead might look like.

Using Step 1 of the “Powerful Magnets” handout as an example, tie two lengths of string to the pencil. Then tie two paper clips to the other ends of the string. Gently wave it and notice which way the paper clips point and what happens when the pencil tilts.

No matter which way you tilted the pencil, the paper clips always pointed to the ground. That's called **gravity**.

Overcome Gravity

Gravity is what is holding each of us to the ground. When we jump, we always come back down because of gravity. Even though gravity is incredibly strong, there are some things that can be more powerful than gravity. Can you imagine that?

Grab the tape, a ruler, and two ceramic magnets. Have kids follow Step 2 of the handout and attach the magnets to the ruler. Then grab a stack of Bibles and divide the stack of Bibles evenly in two and then lay the ruler across the Bibles as demonstrated in Step 3 of the handout. Remove the strings from the pencil but keep the paper clips attached to the strings. Take one paper clip and hold it so it's suspended just below the first magnet as shown in Step 4 of the handout. Tape the string to the ground or table so the paper clip floats about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch below the magnet and then repeat with the second paper clip.

Remove the ruler with the magnets so the paper clips fall to the ground. Then put the ruler with magnets back above the paper clips. Slowly lift each paper clip toward each magnet until the paper clips are suspended again.

Talk About It

How could you tell the magnets had power over gravity in this experiment? How is that like or unlike how Jesus is stronger than death? What does knowing Jesus has power over death mean to you?

In this object lesson, we learned that gravity always pulls objects down toward the ground. However, we also discovered that the magnets had the power to overcome gravity. In the same way, we've learned that while everyone dies, Jesus has the power to overcome death. Just as the paper clips rose, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus has power over death.