

Children's Message

Scripture Reference

"Sing to the Lord, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world!" Isaiah 12:5

Materials

A small table, some playing cards, some blocks, a sign with the words: *Look what He has done!* written on it, a picture of God's creation (trees, mountains, etc.), picture of Jesus on the cross, well-used Bible

Message

I'm going to make a house using these cards. (Use three cards to make a simple card house.) Look what I have done! I think my house is so strong that none of you could blow it down. Oh, you think you could? Well, let's see. (Let child blow.)

You were right! My house wasn't as great as I thought it was. Well, let me build one with these blocks. (Build a simple house.) Now, I'm sure you can't blow this one down, so it's a very strong, good house. Right? (You can either ask someone if he/she thinks they could knock your block house down or you can knock it down yourself.)

Hmmm. My block house wasn't very great either. Do you think there is anything I could build or make that couldn't be destroyed in some way? You're right! There is nothing that we can make that will last forever.

(Hold up the sign.) Will someone please read what this sign says? (Choose someone.) Good job! Now, to whom do you think these words are referring when it says "Look what He has done"? They mean God, don't they?

What are some things that God has done? (Possible answers: He made the world, He made us, He sent Jesus. You can give some hints if they have a hard time listing things.) The things that God made are very good, like this mountain here (show picture) or these trees. But will they last forever? No, they won't. When Adam and Eve sinned, the world was no longer perfect. Sin brought disease, death, dirtiness, and more.

There is something that will last forever. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." (Hold up a well-used Bible.) Does that mean that this Bible will last forever? No, it won't. You can see that it isn't in very good shape.

So what did Jesus mean? What does this picture show? (Hold up picture of Jesus on the cross.) Yes, it shows Jesus. God gave His Word—He promised—that He would send a Savior to save us from our sins, and Jesus came and died for us. But He didn't stay dead, did He? He rose from the tomb, and what He did for us will last forever. All that God promised in the Bible will last forever. That's why we read it and listen to what it says.

There are many people, though, who do not have any part of the Bible in their language. That is why missionaries with Lutheran Bible Translators are helping people around the world have God's Word in their language so that they can learn about Jesus and see what God has done for them. LBT has helped complete 22 New Testaments, which make it possible for over seven million people to "look what God has done" as they read and hear His Word in the language of their hearts.

You can help make this possible for other people as you pray for LBT missionaries and those who still need God's Word and as you give your offerings for Bible translation work. Some day, God may lead you to go overseas as a Bible translator. But no matter how you respond to Jesus calling to make disciples of all nations, remember Jesus' final promise before He ascended into heaven: "I will be with you always to the very end of the age."

