

Your Redemption is Drawing Near (Easter, 4/9/23)

Main Verses: Luke 21:25-31 (Your Redemption is Drawing Near)

Key Verse: Luke 21:28

'Takeaway': The wonderful truth that **Jesus is alive** reminds us that he is coming back one day to **finish what he started**.

Getting Started: How do you feel when you finish something?

READ the main verses: Luke 21:25-31 (or have older kids help read)

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What will be the signs that Jesus is coming again?
- How will Jesus come again? (v 27)
- If Jesus is coming again (and He is!), what should that tell us about Easter?
- How should we who have faith in Jesus respond to these wonderful things? (v28)

Elementary:

- What will be the signs that Jesus is coming again? How will people react to them?
- What does Jesus' coming again tell us about Easter, about his death & resurrection? What does that mean to us?
- How does verse 27 tell us Jesus will return? (see also Daniel 7:13 & Revelation 1:7)
- How should believers (those who have faith in Jesus) respond to these wonderful things? (v 28)

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- Jesus is teaching about when he will come again.
- When Jesus comes again, his coming will be visible to all people.
- **Redemption** (v 28) means to pay a price to rescue someone held captive.
- Thru faith in Jesus, we can have hope & confidence here & now ("straighten up & raise your head") because Jesus had paid the price thru his death to redeem us.
- When Jesus returns, all things will be made new in him, & we will be with him, face to face.

Elementary:

- Jesus is teaching about the completion of all things when he returns again.
- The return of Jesus will be visible to all, & will bring history to an end.
- "Straighten up & raise your head" is a posture of hope & confidence that comes only thru believing in Jesus' death & resurrection.
- Redemption means to pay a price (a ransom) to rescue someone held captive. Jesus, thru his death & resurrection, paid the price to rescue us from our sin so we can know God.
- Redemption also refers to the return of Jesus - a time when all things will be made new in him - & we will be fully with God, **face to face**.
- **True** hope & confidence are found thru faith in Jesus.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin so we can live with him. Thank God for Jesus' death & resurrection which paid the price for our redemption. Ask him to help you learn more about him, & to help you have hope & confidence **now** because Jesus paid the price thru his death to redeem us.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank him for providing for our rescue from death & sin thru the death & resurrection of His Son, Jesus. Thank God that Jesus will return again & that when he does we will be fully with God, face to face. Thank him for the hope & confidence we can have **now** thru believing in Jesus. Think about your own heart & life. Do you have faith in Jesus? Has it changed your life & heart? **Admit** you are guilty of living a me-centered life instead of a God-centered one. **Believe** that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom, & forever with God. With your whole heart & being, **commit** yourself to following Jesus' loving leadership. If you pray this, or have questions about what it means, talk to a trusted adult in your life about it.

