



# Children's Story

Cycle C: Easter 4

## From Sadness to Joy!

Title: From Sadness to Joy!  
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Text: Acts 5:17-32

Today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, the season when Christians around the world celebrate that Jesus is alive! You might wonder what difference does it make that Jesus is alive? We can't see him or touch him, so does it matter that the disciples saw him on Easter morning? During this Easter season, we are hearing stories from the Bible book of Acts. The stories are about what happens to the disciples after Jesus goes to heaven.

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**Bible story:**

Once, during the time when the apostles were travelling to tell people about Jesus, there was a special disciple named Dorcas. She was an amazing woman who helped everyone. She cooked food for sick people, sewed clothes for poor people, and did nice things for her neighbours. She was the person people went to for advice and help because it felt good to be around her. Everyone loved Dorcas very much. They were so sad when she got sick and died. They called the apostle Peter. Peter came and knelt down beside Dorcas and prayed that God would help these sad people and that Dorcas would live. God did a miracle, and Dorcas got up! The sadness of all of Dorcas' friends turned to joy.

**Sophie's sadness:**

Sophie was very, very sad. Her old pet cat, Sassy, whom she loved, had died. Sophie's mom and dad hugged her and explained that it was okay to be sad because it was good to show that she had loved her pet. "But in the Bible, God does miracles to make people alive again," Sophie said. "I want Sassy alive again too!"

"We would all like that," Dad said. "And we don't understand why sometimes God does miracles and sometimes does not. Sassy is not going to come alive again, but that doesn't mean that God isn't here. God knows what we need and is taking care of us, even when we don't understand. God will take good care of you too, even though right now you feel like you will never be happy again."

Two weeks later, when Sophie got home from school, there was a grey kitten playing in her room. It was not Sassy, but Sophie started to feel happy again. Later that night, when Sophie said her bedtime prayer, this is what she prayed; (ask children to bow their head and pray this with you.)

**Prayer:**

God, thank you that you care for me even when I don't understand why pets and people die. I know that you take care of them too. Thank you for the miracle you do for us when you help change our sadness back into joy. Thank you that you take care of us always, here on earth and in heaven. " AMEN

**Question for adults:**

How does knowing Jesus is alive help move your sadness toward joy?