

LESSON 6

THE FACES OF EASTER V

LESSON NOTES

FOCUS: JESUS AS HEALER AND PARABLE-MAKER

- **LITURGICAL ACTION**
- **CORE PRESENTATION**

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: EASTER SHELVES**
- **PIECES: SEVEN PLAQUES ILLUSTRATED WITH FACES OF CHRIST, WITH RACK**
- **UNDERLAY: PURPLE AND WHITE**

BACKGROUND

Lent is the season when we prepare for Easter. This lesson continues to help children prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This week's presentation focuses on the face of Christ as healer and parable-maker.

You will begin this week's presentation by presenting a summary of the first four plaques:

- Jesus' Birth and Growth (pp. 32-36)
- Jesus Is Lost and Found (pp. 37-41)
- Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God (pp. 42-46)
- Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience (pp. 47-51)

Begin with those four presentations before adding the fifth plaque and its story.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

Find the materials for this presentation in the middle of the top shelf of the Easter shelves, in between the material for the Mystery of Easter, and the Synagogue and the Upper Room.

The material consists of a set of seven faces of Christ, mounted on wood or card-stock plaques. The underlay is a purple and white "scroll" that unrolls to show six purple rectangles and one white rectangle. Roll up the underlay so that the white rectangle is hidden inside.

A special carrier rack for the Faces plaques stands them up, making them visible to a child scanning the room full of materials. This stand for the plaques holds the rolled-up underlay. (See the illustration on p. 33.) If you do not use this stand, put the rolled-up underlay and plaques in a tray.

SPECIAL NOTES

Storytelling Tips: When Jerome Berryman first developed the presentations of the Faces of Christ, he thought it might be suitable only for older children. However, teachers at Christ Cathedral in Houston, who worked with these materials, used them with younger children, too—children as young as two years old. For the youngest children, keep the stories short, especially the summaries of previous stories. When you summarize the stories for very young children, you might only use a sentence or two for each story, for example:

- Here is the baby who was born.
- Here is the boy who was lost and found.

MOVEMENTS

When the children are ready, go to the Easter shelves and bring the plaques and rolled-up underlay to the circle.

Put the cards at your side and place the underlay in front of you. Unroll the underlay toward you to uncover the rectangle for the first plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 32-36). When you are finished, lay down the first plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the second plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus Is Lost and Found" (pp. 37-41). When you are finished, lay down the second plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the third plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God" (pp. 42-46). When you are finished, lay down the third plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fourth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience" (pp. 47-51). When you are finished, lay down the fourth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the fifth rectangle. Pick up the fifth plaque and hold it so that the children can see it as you tell this story:

Point to the blind man.

WORDS

☞ Watch carefully where I go so you will always know where to find this lesson.

☞ Jesus came back across the Jordan River and began to do his work ...but what was his work? His work was to come close to people, especially the people no one else wanted to come close to.

☞ See? He has come close to this blind man; he is so close that he has touched the blind man's eyes.

When Jesus came close to people, they changed. They could see things they could never see before. They could do things they could never do before. They became well.

MOVEMENTS

Put the fifth plaque down on the fifth rectangle of the underlay.

Begin to go around the circle, asking each child if he or she would like to bring something to put by the plaque illustrating "Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker." Some children may not be able to think of anything, so move on if it looks as if they are stuck. You can then come back to them later. If they are still stuck, that is okay. Many children learn by watching as well as by doing.

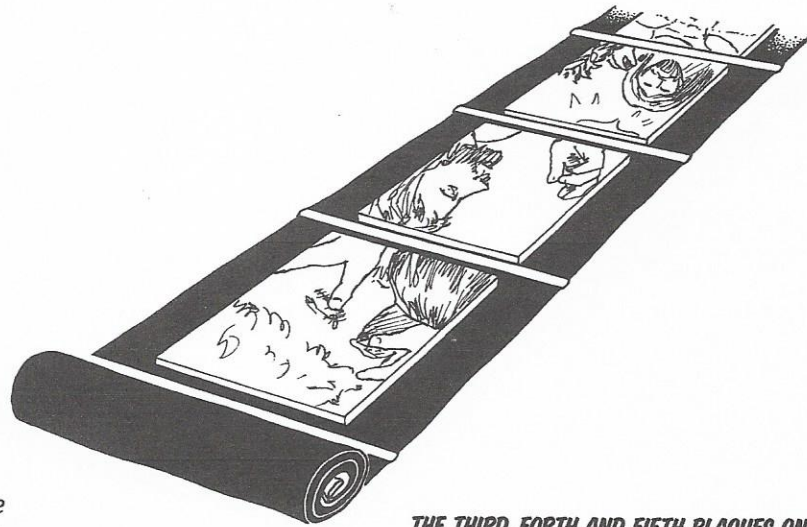
Enjoy the items that the children bring to help tell the story. When you have had time to enjoy the entire layout, invite children, one at a time, to return their materials. Then take the plaques and underlay back to the Easter shelves.

Help the children begin to get out their work.

WORDS

Jesus also told parables. Finally, he knew that he had to become a parable, so he turned toward Jerusalem for the last time.

Now I wonder what there is in this room that can help us tell more of the story. Look around and see if you can bring something to show more about this part of the story. I will go around the circle and invite each one of you to go and get something to put by the picture to help us show more of the story.



THE THIRD, FORTH AND FIFTH PLAQUES ON THE UNDERLAY (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

LESSON 7

THE FACES OF EASTER VI

LESSON NOTES

FOCUS: JESUS OFFERS THE BREAD AND WINE

- **LITURGICAL ACTION**
- **CORE PRESENTATION**

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: EASTER SHELVES**
- **PIECES: SEVEN PLAQUES ILLUSTRATED WITH FACES OF CHRIST, WITH RACK**
- **UNDERLAY: PURPLE AND WHITE**

BACKGROUND

Lent is the season when we prepare for Easter. This lesson continues to help children prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This week's presentation focuses on the face of Christ as he enters Jerusalem and offers the Twelve—and us—the bread and wine.

You will begin this week's presentation by presenting a summary of the first five plaques:

- Jesus' Birth and Growth (pp. 32-36)
- Jesus Is Lost and Found (pp. 37-41)
- Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God (pp. 42-46)
- Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience (pp. 47-51)
- Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker (pp. 52-56)

Begin with those five presentations before adding the sixth plaque and its story. If this is the last week you will meet before Easter, then tell the seventh Faces presentation (pp. 63-68), too.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

Find the materials for this presentation in the middle of the top shelf of the Easter shelves, in between the material for the Mystery of Easter, and the Synagogue and the Upper Room.

The material consists of a set of seven faces of Christ, mounted on wood or card-stock plaques. The underlay is a purple and white “scroll” that unrolls to show six purple rectangles and one white rectangle. Roll up the underlay so that the white rectangle is hidden inside.

A special carrier rack for the Faces plaques stands them up, making them visible to a child scanning the room full of materials. This stand for the plaques also holds the rolled-up underlay. If you do not use this stand, put the rolled-up underlay and plaques in a tray.

SPECIAL NOTES

At Home: When telling these stories in a home setting, remember to substitute “I wonder” questions for the activity of bringing other materials to place beside the plaques. Suitable “I wonder” questions for the last four Faces stories include:

- I wonder if anybody around this table has discovered who they are and what their work is going to be?
- I wonder if anyone in this family has come close to people—especially people no one else wanted to come close to? I wonder if anyone here has told parables? I wonder if anyone around this table has ever been sick?
- I wonder if anyone here has come close to holy bread and holy wine?
- I wonder if anyone here remembers their very best Easter? I wonder what the earliest Easter is you can remember?

MOVEMENTS

When the children are ready, go to the Easter shelves. Bring the plaques and rolled-up underlay to the circle.

Put the cards at your side and place the underlay in front of you. Unroll the underlay toward you to uncover the rectangle for the first plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 32-36). When you are finished, lay down the first plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the second plaque. Tell in summary the story of "Jesus Is Lost and Found" (pp. 37-41). When you are finished, lay down the second plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the third plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God" (pp. 42-46). When you are finished, lay down the third plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fourth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience" (pp. 47-51). When you are finished, lay down the fourth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fifth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker" (pp. 52-56). When you are finished, lay down the fifth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the sixth section. Pick up the sixth plaque and hold it so that the children can see it as you tell this story:

WORDS

Watch carefully where I go so you will always know where to find this lesson.

Jesus went to Jerusalem for the last time. It was the time of the Passover, and the city was full of people from many different lands. They thought Jesus was coming to be king, but they weren't paying attention.

He wasn't riding on a great white horse when he came into the city. He wasn't being carried by soldiers. He was riding on a donkey, and it wasn't even his. He had borrowed it.

MOVEMENTS

WORDS

Still, that Sunday when Jesus came into Jerusalem, people waved palm branches, which were a sign of kings.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jesus went into the Temple to teach. Every night he went back to the Mount of Olives with the Twelve. The people watched him and whispered that the Mount of Olives was where angels were supposed to come down to make an army to drive away the Roman soldiers.

One day when Jesus was teaching in the Temple, he said, "Do you see that old woman over there? She's going to put something in the money box. Listen. Did you hear anything? No. She put the smallest coin there is in the box. That was all the money she had."

Now, here comes a rich man. He has so much money to put into the money box that he had to have help to carry it. His money makes a huge clanging and ringing as they pour it into the box.

Now, I wonder which one really gave the most, the old woman or the rich man.

Some said the rich man gave the most. Some said the old woman.

The Temple guards said, "On Thursday we will take him." But on Thursday, they could not find him. That evening, Jesus and the Twelve hurried through the dark streets to a house. They climbed up the stairs to an upper room and shared their last supper together.

After they had everything they wanted to eat, Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it and said something like, "Whenever you break the bread like this and share it, I will be there." He also took a cup of wine, gave thanks to God for it, and said, "Whenever you share a cup of wine like this, I will be there."

What was he talking about? He was always saying things like that. How could they know? Still, they did not forget, and later they would understand.

Suddenly Judas got up and left. The rest sang a hymn and then went to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. Jesus wanted to pray. When he was finished, he joined the

MOVEMENTS

Put the sixth plaque down on the sixth rectangle of the underlay, with the face of Jesus toward the children.

Begin to go around the circle, asking each child if she or he would like to bring something to put by the plaque illustrating "Jesus Offers the Bread and Wine." Some children may not be able to think of anything, so move on if it looks as if they are stuck. You can come back to them later. If they are still stuck, that is okay. Many children learn by watching as well as by doing.

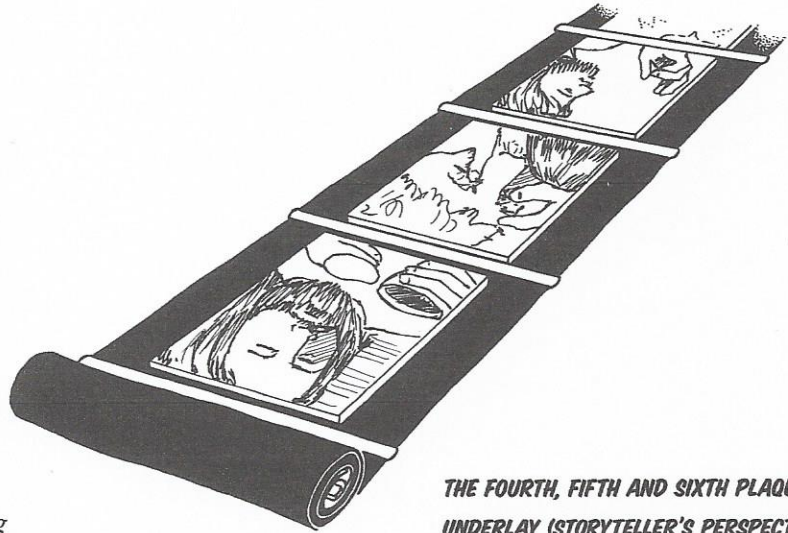
Enjoy the items that the children bring to help tell the story. When you have had time to enjoy the entire layout, invite children, one at a time, to return their materials. Then take the plaques and underlay back to the Easter shelves.

Help the children begin to get out their work.

WORDS

Twelve, but Judas came out of the dark and greeted him. This was a signal for the Temple guards to take him. They too came out of the shadows and took Jesus away with them into the night. The Twelve disappeared into the darkness as well.

Now I wonder what there is in this room that can help us tell more of this part of the story. Look around and see if you see something you can bring to put beside this picture. I will go around the circle and invite each one of you to go and get something to put by the picture to help us show more of the story.



THE FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH PLAQUES ON THE UNDERLAY (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

LESSON 8

THE FACES OF EASTER VII

LESSON NOTES

FOCUS: THE ONE WHO WAS EASTER AND STILL IS

- **LITURGICAL ACTION**
- **CORE PRESENTATION**

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: EASTER SHELVES**
- **PIECES: SEVEN PLAQUES ILLUSTRATED WITH FACES OF CHRIST, WITH RACK**
- **UNDERLAY: PURPLE AND WHITE**

BACKGROUND

Lent is the season when we prepare for Easter. This lesson continues to help children prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This last presentation focuses on the faces of Christ on the cross and on Easter.

You will begin this week's presentation by presenting a summary of the first six plaques:

- Jesus' Birth and Growth (pp. 32-36)
- Jesus Is Lost and Found (pp. 37-41)
- Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God (pp. 42-46)
- Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience (pp. 47-51)
- Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker (pp. 52-56)
- Jesus Offers the Bread and Wine (pp. 57-62)

Begin with those six presentations before adding the last plaque and its story.

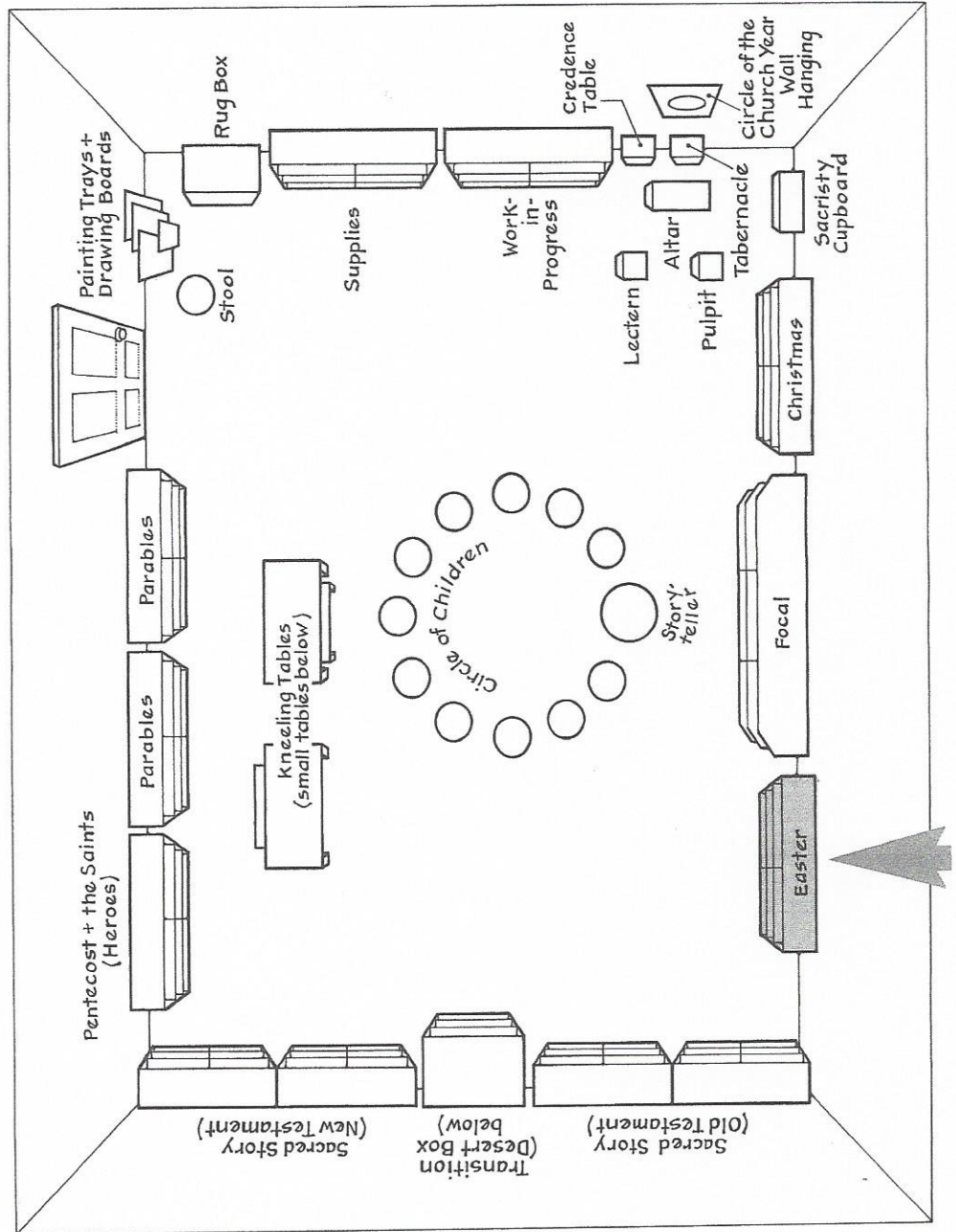
NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

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rectangles and one white rectangle. Roll up the underlay so that the white rectangle is hidden inside.

A special carrier rack for the Faces plaques stands them up, making them visible to a child scanning the room full of materials. This stand for the plaques should also hold the rolled-up underlay. (See the illustration on p. 33.) If you do not use this stand, put the rolled-up underlay and plaques in a tray.



WHERE TO FIND MATERIALS

MOVEMENTS

When the children are ready, go to the Easter shelves and bring the plaques and rolled-up underlay to the circle.

Put the cards at your side and place the underlay in front of you. Unroll the underlay toward you to uncover the rectangle for the first plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 32-36). When you are finished, lay down the first plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the second plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus Is Lost and Found" (pp. 37-41). When you are finished, lay down the second plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the third plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God" (pp. 42-46). When you are finished, lay down the third plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fourth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience" (pp. 47-51). When you are finished, lay down the fourth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fifth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker" (pp. 52-56). When you are finished, lay down the fifth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the sixth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus Offers the Bread and Wine" (pp. 57-62). When you are finished, lay down the sixth plaque.

WORDS

☞ Watch carefully where I go so you will always know where to find this lesson.

MOVEMENTS

Don't unroll the seventh section of the underlay yet. Pick up the seventh plaque and hold it, with the face of Christ on the Cross facing the children. Tell this story:

Point to the dark sky.

Turn the plaque slowly back and forth as you describe the Faces in this part of the story, showing first one side, then the other. Finally, turn the edge of the plaque toward the children and "try" to pull the two sides apart.

Now unroll the white rectangle of the underlay ...and so the colors change.

Put the seventh plaque down on the white rectangle, with the face of the Risen Christ facing up.

WORDS

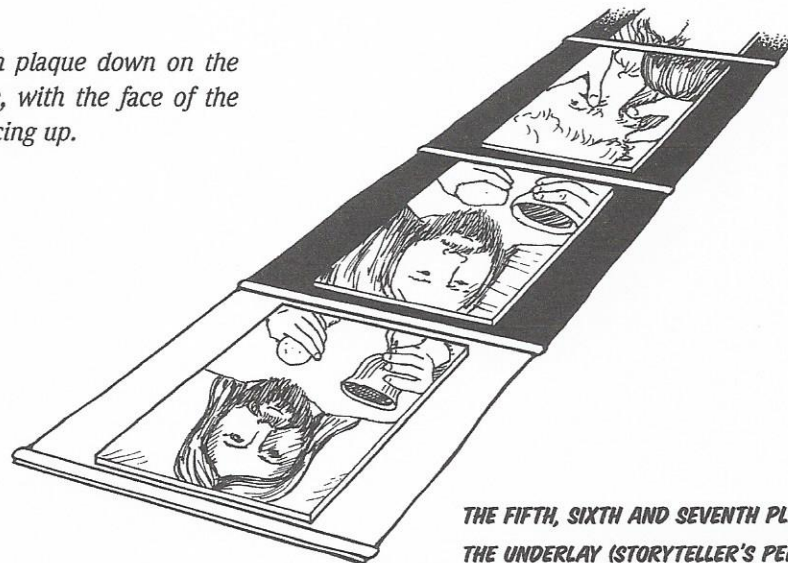
The night was a confusing one. The next day, Jesus was taken outside the walls of the city and crucified.

That afternoon, Jesus died. The sky grew dark. Jesus was taken down from the cross and buried in a cave. A great stone was rolled into the opening of the cave to close it like a door.

Saturday was so quiet you could almost hear the earth breathing. On Sunday, it was the women who had the courage to go to the tomb just to be close to Jesus. They wanted to remember, even if it was sad. When they came to the tomb, they found that the stone had been rolled back and that the tomb was empty.

Jesus had died on the cross, but somehow he was still with them as he is with us, especially in the bread and the wine.

When you look at this side (crucifixion), you know that the other side is there (Easter). When you look at this side (Easter), you know that this side (crucifixion) is there, and you cannot pull them apart. This is the Mystery of Easter, and that makes all the difference...



THE FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH PLAQUES ON THE UNDERLAY (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

MOVEMENTS

WORDS

Sit back and enjoy the complete story laid out in a line, then look puzzled. Say:

Point to each part as you call attention to the linear layout of the story.

Pick up the seventh plaque and turn it to the crucifixion side.

Turn the plaque over to the Easter side and show it to the children.

Put the Easter plaque back on the white panel, resurrection side up.

Pick up the first plaque and roll the underlay toward you out of the way. Place the first plaque down where the first portion of the underlay was.

Pick up the second plaque and roll up the second section of the underlay. Place the second plaque where indicated in the illustration on the next page.

Pick up the third plaque and roll up the third section of the underlay. Place the third plaque where indicated in the illustration.

Pick up the fourth plaque and roll up the fourth section of the underlay. Place the fourth plaque where indicated in the illustration.

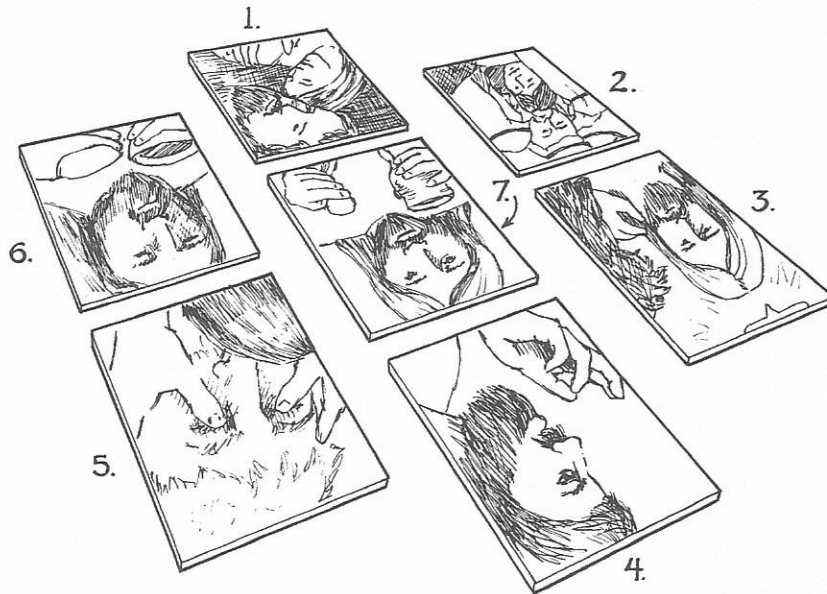
Pick up the fifth plaque and roll up the fifth section of the underlay. Place the fifth plaque where indicated in the illustration.

Pick up the sixth plaque and roll up the sixth section of the underlay. Place the sixth plaque where indicated in the illustration.

MOVEMENTS

Finally, pick up the seventh plaque and hold it while you finish rolling up the underlay. Place the underlay beside you. Place the seventh plaque (resurrection-side up) in the middle of the layout where indicated in the illustration.

WORDS



THE CIRCLE OF FACES (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)

Say:

➡ Now the story can go on forever.

I wonder what part of this story you like best?

I wonder what part of the story is the most important part?

I wonder where you are in this story? What part of the story is about you?

I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have all the story we need.

When the energy in the wondering begins to wane, help the children to make choices about the work they are going to get out.