

Easter Sunday

Family Pack –12th April 2020

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for Easter!

Please help us as we read your word and to think about what you have to say to us through it.

We ask that you help us switch off from all the other things we have to do today as we spend time together worshipping you.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.

Craft idea

- Make an Easter bonnet with whatever materials are around the house put your creations on the Facebook page and we can judge!
- Colouring sheet The empty tomb. (see attached picture)
 Colour in the open tomb, remember that the tomb was empty because Jesus is risen!

Watch the video – Where's the body?!

https://youtu.be/BiCnzRiGNxQ

Reading

Read the following passage.

Luke 24: 1-35 NIV

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Jesus has risen

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 "The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again."' 8 Then they remembered his words.

9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. 12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

On the road to Emmaus

13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16 but they were kept from recognising him.

17 He asked them, 'What are you discussing together as you walk along?'

They stood still, their faces downcast. 18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?'

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19 'What things?' he asked.

'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.'

25 He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going further. 29 But they urged him strongly, 'Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them.

30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32 They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'

33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34 and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' 35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

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Discuss the following questions:

- How do you think Jesus' friends felt when His body was put in the tomb?
- What thoughts might they have had when they saw that the stone wasn't covering the tomb?
- Do you think they found it easy to believe that Jesus was alive again?
- How do you think they felt when Jesus appeared to them?
- Why was it important that Jesus rose from the dead?
- If the disciples hadn't seen Jesus alive, what do you think would have happened?

Jesus had taken the punishment for the things we do wrong, our sins, and had beaten death. And now, because Jesus has been raised from the dead, He promises that those who believe in Him will equally one day enjoy life after death with Him for ever.

Think some more about the story:

Make an Easter card, one that tells the story of Jesus being alive.
 Write in it a message for someone special, about the great news that Jesus is alive!

Either give it someone in the family, or post it to someone who may be lonely in their house at the moment.

Prayer

Finish with a time of prayer where children can pray aloud, thanking Jesus that he didn't stay dead, but is alive again, and He wants to be our friend. You might also like to give space for children to talk to God privately about anything that they want to thank Jesus for, or anything they are worried about.

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Dear God,

I thank you for this glorious day we call Easter, where we celebrate that Jesus beat death & is alive again. Let us be happy in remembering why we celebrate.

We thank you for our families and for our eggs and all the special treats! We pray that those we love, even if we can't see them today can also be happy knowing the great news of Easter – Jesus is alive!! We pray in Jesus name,

Amen.

Worship

Watch the following worship song and sing together if you like.

Happy day

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ixN8BuqVmQ

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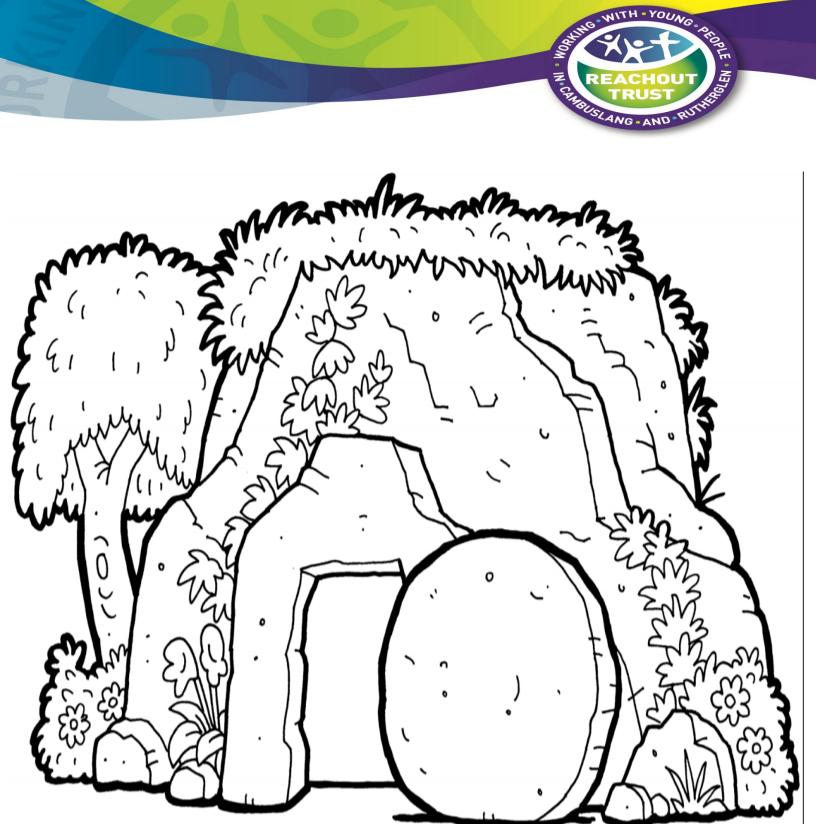
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