

Youth Reflections: Easter



Let's think about Easter this school holidays.

Date: Resurrection Sunday: Sunday 12th April

Big Idea: Jesus rescued us.

Key Verse: *"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. | John 3:16-17 (NLT)*

You will need:

- Your Bible
- Pens/Pencils/Highlighters
- Journal or blank paper
- A snack and/or drink
- A snazzy attitude

How?

1. Watch this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6tloBiplaw&list=PLB5r2P47beqJmdfpmBamsYfd58QWQ0Y_V&index=3

2. There are now two ways!

a. Work your way through the questions to come.

You can answer these questions by writing them down in sentences or dot points, discussing them with a friend or family member, reflecting on them to yourself...there are no rules about how you engage with this content!

b. Join the other youth on Zoom to have a group discussion! (note: the leaders are not a part of this, so you will need to contact the other youth parents for the meeting ID)

STORY TIME!

Someone might like to read this out to the group.

When I was 5 years old and my brother Ben was 1 we lived in an apartment in Hawthorn (there is a photo of this time of our lives to the right). We had just moved to Australia and I was learning about fire safety at school. One night



we were both in the bath upstairs when Ben got soap in his eyes. He started crying, so mum left the kitchen downstairs, where she was cooking with oil, and came upstairs to help. Suddenly we heard my Dad downstairs yelling in panic. My mum raced down to see what was happening and to help my Dad.

Meanwhile, it grew smokey upstairs, so I wrapped Ben in a towel, and we got down low and go, go, go-ed onto the balcony. It turns out the cook top in the kitchen had caught fire and we had to call the fire brigade. Luckily, I knew the Australian number from school - 000.

Mum found us semi-naked and shivering on the balcony, but I had saved Bens' life and mine!

You can hold your applause until we see each other in person ;)

INDEPENDANTLY REFLECT ON or DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING TOGETHER – 10 mins (no need to write answers):

- Have you ever tried to help someone and then been sucked into the situation so that you needed help as well? Or have you tried to fix something that ended up causing more problems? Have you ever needed to be rescued?

LET'S READ THE BIBLE – 20 mins

Discuss:

- **What is sin? How would you explain it to someone who had never heard of the concept of sin?**

Answers could include:

- In the original Greek, the word for 'sin', *hamartia*, is an archery term that literally means "to fall short or to miss the mark."
 - Sin = death of our connection with ourselves, others, and God.
 - Sin = separation from God that's created by us—not by him!
- **What's your gut reaction when you hear the word "sin"? Why do you think that is?**
 - **Split the group in half or continue in your personal reflection. Each group should go through the group questions below and then come back together after 10 mins to discuss what they found.**
 - **Group 1:**

Look up and read 1 John 3:4-5.

 - What does this passage say that sin is?
 - What does this make you think of?
 - Do you think that most people recognize sin (or "wrongs") in the world? In their own life? Why or why not?
 - **Group 2:**

Look up Colossians 1:13-14.

 - What do these verses say about Jesus' rescue? What does it mean for you and your life?
 - What have we been rescued from? What have we been rescued to?
 - What does this look like today?
 - **Come back together and discuss what you found.**
 - **Look up and read 1 John 1:5-10 together.**
 - What do you need to be rescued from? Your own judgment? Bad choices? Fears or worries? Expectations?
 - Have you ever felt as if something inside was "killing" you but on the outside no one could tell that you needed rescuing?
 - Everyone should try and share what they need Jesus to rescue them from right now. Remember the rescue is already done. We just need to ask Jesus for help!

PRAY! - 10 mins

Remember, God didn't create rules to make life difficult. He showed us his best way of living so that we can have an amazing life. God gives us freedom to choose how we live.

Jesus came to show us God's love and set up his kingdom. We see that in his life. We also see it in his death. Jesus' death is an unassuming rescue. He rescues us from a life of selfishness, loneliness, and sin to an eternal life with God. He came to save us from sin, show us God's love and set up his kingdom. We are rescued!

- Spend some time praying to God and bringing your thoughts before Him.
 - o You might like to pray publicly together, or on your own write God a prayer letter, draw a mind map or picture, go for a prayer walk, listen to some worship music, or even pray silently to yourself.
God hears us when we talk to him!
- Spend some time listening to His response and have a go at writing down what you think he may be saying.

Your leaders are always here to talk and pray with you if you need.

We love you and so does God!

You can contact us at youth@oaktreeanglican.org.au or through our Instagram page @oaktreeyouth.