

JUNIOR PRIMARY
FAMILY WORSHIP

He is
Risen!





The man said, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus from Nazareth, who was nailed to a cross. God has raised him to life, and he isn't here. You can see the place where they put his body.

- Mark 16:6

Dear Parents/Carers,

He is Risen, Hallelujah. Today's session will be a celebration of the empty tomb and the victory that Jesus won for us.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for all your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

I would love to see any photos of your completed dioramas or your family celebrating Easter. With your permission it would be fantastic to be able to include a photo in our bulletin showing what the children are doing.

Blessings,
Jess

Topic: Easter Sunday – He is Risen!
Sessions Aim: Children complete the story of Easter focusing on the victory Jesus won in the Empty Tomb.
Bible Passage: Matthew 28:1-10

A Time of Prayer

Come together in a time of prayer with your children. Everyone can share something they would like to pray for or share a God Story. These are stories of where we have been able to see God at work in our lives or each other's lives during this week.

Dear God,
Thank you for raising Jesus back to life,
Thank you for defeating death and sin,
Today as we celebrate the empty tomb, please bless our time together.
Amen

Worship Songs

Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service. Below are some children's worship songs. Some have actions other don't, please feel free to make your own as a family or play percussion instruments during the song.

- Jesus is Alive
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzxN0D3voo0&feature=youtu.be>
- Lord I Lift Your Name on High
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SeqQjBNoj4>
- Happy Day <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIWPGWflwU>

Easter Egg Smash

1: Ask your children to tell you the story of what happened on Easter Day. Try to encourage them to give as much detail from the story as they can remember and make it like a theatre production. They can try to act it out for you.

2: What a surprise that would be for the women who found the empty tomb. There was also an earthquake and an angel waiting for them. The large heavy stone that was in front of the tomb was rolled away.

How would you feel if you found the empty tomb? Would you be afraid or surprised? Would you have thought someone stole the body?

But we know How Jesus got out. His body was not stolen it was brought back to life!

3: On Easter Day we are celebrating the empty tomb. Jesus' body was raised back to life. We give each other Easter eggs that are empty on the inside or hollow to help remind us that the tomb is empty.

If you have a hollow egg for your child, consider letting them smash it on their head to demonstrate that it is hollow on the inside. Alternatively, you can play an egg toss. Start close together tossing a hollow egg to one another. Each time you catch the egg take a step back. When you drop the chocolate egg look inside to see that it is hollow. Take a picture or short video and share it with your children's friends in the church as we all connect remotely this Easter.

Bible Study

1: Have your children find Matthew 28 in their Bibles. Encourage them to use the contents page to help them learn their way around their Bibles.

Either you or one of your children pray for God's Spirit to be at work in our hearts revealing His meaning.

You or your children reads Matthew 28:1-10.

2: Discuss the following points with your children and hear what their thoughts are:

1. Jesus was the first one to be raised back to life. It has happened once and it will happen again. Today's victory is that we have confidence that as Christians when Jesus returns we also will be raised to new life. This new life will be greater than anything here now. Today is so happy and exciting as it confirms that what we believe will happen.
 - a. Help your children turn to 1 Corinthians 15:20. *"But Christ has been raised to life! And he makes us certain that others will also be raised to life."*
2. Jesus has defeated sin and death. Jesus death on the cross was a sacrifice for the whole world's sins. The resurrection is proof that the sacrifice was enough for God. Death was the punishment for sin but Jesus' sacrifice paid that price. Being raised back to life proves that death is no longer the punishment, we have been forgiven and will be raised again with Christ.
3. The women were filled with joy! The angel told them the good news of Jesus resurrection and that they were to share it with his disciples. (Read Mt 28:8)
 - a. The women were afraid but still filled with joy. Finding an empty tomb and having an encounter with an angel could all be a little scary. But main emotion they would have felt is Joy.
 - b. Today is really important, the empty tomb fills us with joy just like the women.

Victory Song

1: What footy team or sport team does your family support? Do you know their team song?

When our team wins we will often sing this song of victory with them. Even though we didn't play the game we share in their victory.

We have learnt that today is a victory! Jesus defeated death and sin, and we are going to be raised back to life one day too. We get to share in Jesus victory, he is the one who did it all, he is the one who won. But we get the prize.

2: As a family come up with a victory song for Jesus' (and our) victory! It could be based off other songs about Easter, a simple chant or cheer. Write it down and find percussion instruments (this could be banging a book, or shaking rice in a container) to perform your victory song.

Sing it as loud as you can and celebrate with Jesus that on Easter morning the tomb was empty and Jesus is alive!

Holy Week Diorama

1: Today we come to the end of Holy Week and what a great way to finish, in victory.

Before you create the empty tomb with your family recap each of the scenes that you have already made. Try to link the story together, remembering what the significance of each event was.

2: Create the empty tomb.

