



UNIT 20 | EASTER | APRIL 11-12, 2020

Elementary Parent Guide

Easter

Bible Passage: Matthew 26-28; 1 Corinthians 15

Story Point: Jesus' resurrection gives us hope for eternal life.

Key Passage: "He must become greater; I must become less." John 3:30

Christ Connection: Jesus is alive! God gives new life to everyone who trusts in Jesus.

Use this guide to unpack what your kids are learning in the KidCity Online Experience. Pick an activity that works best for your family and lead your kids through the discussion questions. Check out the [Younger Kids Activity Page](#) for K-1st or the [Older Kids Activity Page](#) for 2nd-5th as an additional resource for your kids to do during the week.

ACTIVITY OPTION 1: WHERE IS JESUS?

(**"Where is Jesus?" Printable - 1 per kid, White Candle or White Crayon, Watercolor Paint & Brush or Food Dye & Water**)

SAY • The women have met the angels who told them that Jesus has risen. When they tell this to the disciples, they don't believe the women's story. Peter goes to see for himself – he runs to the grave and sees only the cloths lying there. He doesn't understand – "Where is Jesus?"

ASK:

- If you were Peter, what would you have thought?
- Why didn't the other disciples believe the women?
- If you had had to tell Peter what had happened, what would you have told him?

Give each child [a worksheet](#) and a white candle or crayon. Using the candle, they can write the words "Jesus is alive." Help them if necessary.

Once they finish, tell them that the women already knew that Jesus was alive, but Peter only discovered it that evening.

The children can paint over the wax words, and they will become visible!

ACTIVITY OPTION 2: MAKE A WAY

(**10 Sheets of Paper**)

Place two pieces of paper on the floor. Choose one piece to represent people and another to represent God. Have your children stand on the "people paper" and leave the "God paper" open. As you talk about how people were created to be close to God, move the God paper close so your child can easily step back and forth between the two papers. When you mention sin and our separation from God, move the God paper far enough away that your child can't jump to it,

representing our inability to fix what sin did to our relationship with God. To illustrate how Jesus' death and resurrection paid the penalty for our sin, create a "bridge" between the paper and let your children walk freely across.

SAY • When God created people, we were in a close relationship with Him (make sure papers are close together). However, when sin was introduced into the world, it created a big gap between us and God. (move paper apart). No matter what we try to do, we cannot fix the gap that sin created between us and God all by ourselves (have your children try to jump to the empty mat). God sent His son Jesus – who never sinned – to come and pay the penalty for our sins. Jesus' death on the cross repaired the gap that sin created between God and us (connect the two papers with your "bridge"). When we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, we are forgiven and can enjoy a relationship with God. That's what we celebrate at Easter!

ACTIVITY OPTION 3: I GIVE MYSELF TO YOU

(Strips of White Paper)

Use this Easter prayer idea to think about surrendering to God. At the moment that Jesus dies, he surrenders himself to God: 'Into your hands I place my spirit'. What does this mean and how can we surrender to God?

SAY • At the moment that Jesus dies, he surrenders himself to God: 'Into your hands I place my spirit.'

Give each kid a strip of paper.

SAY • The strip of paper stands for surrender. Tell the children about the use of the white flag to surrender. Is there anything in your life that you would like to surrender to Jesus? It might be a problem that you can't solve yourself.

- Someone or something that you are worried about?
- A sin that you struggle with?
- A conflict or challenge that you can't resolve?

Have the kids fold up their paper(s) and place it somewhere as a reminder that they have surrendered it to Jesus. Consider having them place their paper in the trash or a fire pit outside. As they do this they are really saying "God, I surrender to You."

DISCUSSION

(Bible)

Why is it important that Jesus didn't stay dead, but He came back to life? *Lead kids to recognize that Jesus' resurrection proved that God accepted Jesus' death as the payment for sin. It shows His victory over sin and death. Paul said if Jesus didn't come back to life, we would still be dead in our sins (1 Cor. 15:17). Jesus' resurrection gives us hope that we too will have life with God forever one day (Option: Read Rom. 8:11).*

How do we know Jesus is alive? Where is He today? *Guide kids to recall that after Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to the women and the twelve disciples as well as more than 500 other people. Emphasize that we ultimately believe by faith that Jesus came back to life. Today, Jesus is alive in heaven. One day, He will return to set up His kingdom forever (Option: Read Acts 7:55-56).*

How does the fact that Jesus came back to life affect how we live today? *Prompt kids to consider the reality that Jesus has defeated sin and death, providing forgiveness to all who trust in Him. The empty tomb shows that God is faithful, powerful, and loving. Jesus' resurrection gives us hope for eternal life. We can live with a purpose—to know God and tell others about Him. We have hope even in hard circumstances (Option: Read 1 Cor. 15:57-58).*

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Pray as a family and ask the following questions:

What does this story teach me about God?

What does this story teach me about myself?

Who can I tell about this story?

CONNECT

[\(Younger Kids Activity Page – K-1st, Older Kids Activity Page – 2nd-5th\)](#)

Download the Kids Activity Page and encourage your child to do it at home with you this week.