§ Explore it

Easter Story Part Two: Jesus shows himself in glory



Bible verses:

Luke 9:28-36; 24:1-8 Jesus rises from death



Aim:

To discover the source of Christian jou



In today's session we will explore what it means for Jesus to be our source of joy, and discover more about the joyous occasion when Jesus rose from the dead.

Some of the disciples had the chance to witness this amazing supernatural event. They heard a voice from the heavens say that Jesus was the Son of God and a source of great joy.

Each child will need:

- Pens/pencils and paper
- Comic strip template (optional)
- Explore It ideas handout

You will need:

- Some Kids Alive! current or past editions
- A flip chart and pens
- To source some comic strip templates online



🗀 Start it

Start with a *True or False Easter Quiz*. Read out the questions for the children as they appear on the screen. By the time the timer runs out they need to show a thumbs up for true and a thumbs down for false.

Video

Easter true or false quiz by Games 4esl (4:29)



Ask:

Which fascinating fact about Easter did you learn from the quiz?

Say:

The quiz told us lots of fun facts about Easter around the world.

Ask:

What important information about Easter was missing from the quiz?

Say:

Easter isn't just about chocolate eggs; it's an important Christian celebration. Today we will be focusing on the real story of Easter and what it means to Christians throughout the world.



Say:

Today we are thinking about Jesus being the source of all our joy. Our song reminds us that we can have the joy of Jesus deep down in our hearts.

Song

'The joy, joy, joy, down in my heart!' kids praise and worship by Listener Kids (1:41)



Ask:

Think back to our story last week. How did Peter anger Jesus? What did he say?

Say:

Jesus knew that he would have to face death on the cross and wanted to share this news with his disciples. Peter said, 'God save you from those things, Lord! Those things will never happen to you!' (Matthew 16:22). It may seem strange to us, but Jesus chose to face the cross. He knew that it was something he needed to go through as part of God's plan.

Ask:

What do you think it was like for Jesus knowing he would have to go through something so difficult?

Say:

In today's story some of the disciples, including Peter, witnessed an amazing supernatural event.



Video

The Transfiguration by Saddleback Kids (2:11)

Ask:

- How would you have felt if you had been one of the disciples watching this amazing event?
- Do you think you would have been afraid like the disciples? If so, why?
- Why do you think Jesus wanted the disciples to keep the story to themselves until he was raised from the dead?

Say:

It must have been a very confusing time for the disciples as they tried to understand what was happening and what would happen in the future. One thing they were beginning to understand was that Jesus was the Son of God. They had heard a voice from the heavens telling them, 'This is my dearly loved son, who brings me great joy.'

(Matthew 3:17 NLT)

Ask:

- Do you ever feel like God is talking to you? If so, how?
- In what way does God share messages with you?

Say:

The message from God made it clear to Peter that Jesus was his son. Peter may not have understood what Jesus was talking about, but he knew who Jesus was.

Say:

Last week we watched a clip that shared the story of Easter up until the death of Jesus. Today we're going to watch the joyful end to the story.

Video

The Easter story by J John

Watch 7:06 to end.

At the end of the clip there is a prayer for those in the group who might feel that this is a moment when they want to start following Jesus. You can use this, as appropriate, for your group.



Show the children the *Kids Alive!* Bible comic strip that is included in each week's edition. The aim of the activity is for the children to create their own comic strip based around Luke 24:1-8. Read through the Scripture with the children, jot down the key events on a flip chart and then



encourage the children to create their own comic strip. If the children need additional support to structure their ideas, then a range of comic strip templates are available online.

Read:

'Very early on the first day of the week, the women came to the tomb where Jesus' body was laid. They brought the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance of the tomb. They went in, but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, two men in shining clothes suddenly stood beside them. The women were very afraid; they bowed their heads to the ground. The men said to the women, "Why are you looking for a living person here? This is a place for the dead. Jesus is not here. He has risen from death! Do you remember what he said in Galilee? He said that the Son of Man must be given to evil men, be killed on a cross, and rise from death on the third day." Then the women remembered what Jesus had said.

(Luke 24:1-8 ICB)



Say:

Throughout this month we have met different Bible characters who were asked to follow God's plan, even if it didn't make sense to them.

- Samuel showed kindness to Saul even though he knew the last thing the Israelites needed was a king.
- Saul chose to ignore God's plan and it did not end well.
- Peter struggled to believe that God would let his son die on a cross and thought he knew better.
- Jesus followed God's plan carefully, even though it would come at a great cost to him.

Say

Throughout all these stories we have discovered exactly what our memory verse told us. Let's share it together.

Memory verse

'The Lord's orders are right.
They make people happy.
The Lord's commands are pure.
They light up the way.'

(Psalm 19:8 ICB)





Ask:

- How does following God's guidelines bring joy to our lives?
- In what ways do you need to follow God's guidelines for your life instead of your own ideas?

Using the children's answers as a starting point, pray on behalf of the group asking God to guide each one of them. To bring this set of sessions to a close, sing the following song all about following Jesus. We've used this song a number of times before, so the children should be able to join in with the dance moves as well.

Song

'Every move I make' dance-a-long with lyrics by CJ and Friends (3:18)



Remember to send home the *Explore It ideas* for children and families.



Explore It is produced by the Children and Youth Department in collaboration with Kay Moorby (soulwithaview)



Explore it

Easter Story Part Two: Jesus shows himself in glory explore at home.

Here are some ideas for you to



Bible verses:

Luke 9:28-36; 24:1-8 Jesus rises from death



To discover the source of Christian joy



Watch

Just like last week, you're going to discover more about the Easter story. Share what you have discovered with your friends and family.

The story of Jesus' resurrection (the Easter story for kids, Pt 4) by Minno -Bible Stories for Kids



Create

At the beginning of our session we tried a quiz all about Easter, but it never mentioned the most important person - Jesus. Create a new Easter quiz that includes Jesus' story and try it out on your friends and family.



'The joy, joy, joy, down in my heart!' kids praise and worship by Listener Kids



Memory verse

Children & Youth

'The Lord's orders are right. They make people happy. The Lord's commands are pure. They light up the way.'

(Psalm 19:8 ICB)



Kids Alive! Online - salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive

Kids Alive! The UK's only weekly Christian comic - is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!



Jesus has good news



Bible verses: Luke 24:1-8



Aim:

To know that Jesus came alive again and appeared to his friends, before going into Heaven



Memory verse

'The Lord's orders are right.
They make people happy.
The Lord's commands are pure.
They light up the way.'

(Psalm 19:8 ICB)



Sing It

'The lion's roar' by Sarah Pickering uploaded by Vineyard Worship UK & Ireland

'Friend of God' by Israel Houghton uploaded by Spring Harvest – Topic



Start it

I wonder what Heaven actually looks like? For Jesus, dying was not the end, and so it isn't for us too!



Tell it

Share a child-friendly version of Luke 24:1-8

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- On which day of the week did Jesus come back to life?
- I wonder what it would have been like to find the tomb empty?
- Where do you think Jesus is now?
- I wonder if it surprises you that he is alive?
- What might it feel like to be in Heaven?



> Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- Any games where something is hidden and needs finding
- Games where children lie down, then spring up
- Games where children can go from being very small to very large
- Sharing what brings us 'joy', eg dancing, singing, having friends

