

# Easter Sunday



### Bible verses:

Matthew 28:1-10

Jesus rises from death



### Aim:

To consider Jesus' resurrection and the difference it makes to us



### Today's fruit:

Joy



In this session we explore the events around Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

In last week's session we saw how the crowds cheered when Jesus entered Jerusalem. Things are very different for Jesus in this week's story. We'll discover what happened on Good Friday when Jesus died on the cross and we'll celebrate with the disciples that Jesus is alive!

Mary was filled with joy when she discovered that Jesus had been raised from the dead. This joy is for all people who know that Jesus is alive.

## Each child will need:

- A hot cross bun and some fillings – please be aware of allergies
- Coloured tissue paper torn into different shapes and sizes, a plastic wallet or greaseproof paper, glue, scissors and a sheet of black card with a cross already cut out
- Pens/pencils and paper
- *Explore It ideas* handout

## You will need:

- Today's fruit sign: *Goodness*
- To watch **QDos creates at Easter: How to make cardboard stained-glass windows** by Barnsley Museums (2:38)

## Start it

Start by eating hot cross buns together.

### Ask:

- Do you prefer them hot or cold?
- With or without butter? Or any other fillings?
- What other flavours of hot cross bun have they tried? Chocolate? Apple? Some shops have cheesy Marmite ones or with chilli!
- Does anyone know what is in a traditional hot cross bun?
- Why is there a cross on it?

### Say:

Hot cross buns are traditionally eaten by Christians on Good Friday. They have a long history going back hundreds of years, and at one time you could only sell them at Easter, Christmas or at burials. But nowadays lots of shops sell them all year round. It is generally thought today that the cross on the top is a symbol of the cross on which Jesus died, and the spices are a reminder of the spices used in his burial.

## Sing it

### Say:

Easter Sunday is a day of celebration because Jesus is alive. Our song for today will help us to join in the celebration.

### Song

'He is alive' by Christ Fellowship Kids (1:59)

## Share it

### Ask:

Think back to last week's story. How did the people treat Jesus when he arrived in Jerusalem?

### Say:

This week we will learn about what happened when Jesus rose from the dead. Before we do that, we need to see how the crowd's cheers of 'Hosanna!' changed to shouts of 'Crucify him!' Watch the clip to find out what happened to Jesus once he entered Jerusalem.

## Video

*The story of Easter (Jesus' sacrifice)* by Saddleback Kids (5:21)

**Watch: 0:00-4:02** 'Three days passed and it seemed that there was no hope.'

### Ask:

- Why were the religious leaders angry with Jesus? Why did they want Jesus to die?
- How did the people treat Jesus? How was it different from the time Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey?
- How did Judas betray Jesus?
- How did the soldiers treat Jesus?
- What happened at the moment Jesus died?
- Where was Jesus' body placed?

**Watch: 4:03-end.**

### Say:

The women who visited the tomb were in shock. They couldn't believe their eyes. The angel had an important job for them to do.

### Read:

**'And go quickly and tell his followers. Say to them: "Jesus has risen from death. He is going into Galilee. He will be there before you. You will see him there." Then the angel said, "Now I have told you."'**

(Matthew 28:7 ICB)

### Ask:

How do you think the women felt when they discovered that Jesus was risen from the dead?

Display the *Joy* sign.

### Say:

Mary was one of Jesus' closest friends. She was filled with joy when she realised that Jesus was alive.

### Read:

**'The women left the tomb quickly. They were afraid, but they were also very happy. They ran to tell Jesus' followers what had happened. Suddenly, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings." The women came up to Jesus, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go on to Galilee. They will see me there.''**

(Matthew 28:8-10 ICB)

## Ask:

- Have you ever been afraid and happy at the same time? If so, what made you feel that way?
- Why do you think the women felt afraid and happy as they ran to tell the disciples that Jesus was alive?
- What did Jesus tell the women to do?
- Do you think anyone expected Jesus to rise from the dead? Why/why not?

## Say:

On Easter Sunday we celebrate that, after three days in the tomb, Jesus rose from the dead. We call this his resurrection.

## Ask:

- Why is it so important that Jesus rose from the dead?
- What does it mean for us, or what difference does it make?

## Say:

Jesus rising from the dead shows us that God has power over all things – even death.

## Action it

Explain that, to remind them of the joy of Easter, the children are going to make a brightly coloured stained-glass window. The clip fully explains how to make the stained-glass window, but you may want to prepare the cross outlines in advance of the session.

## Video

*QDos creates at Easter: How to make cardboard stained glass windows* by Barnsley Museums (2:38)

## Pray it

## Say:

We are going to share a song that gives us the opportunity to say thank you for what Jesus did for us on the cross.

## Song

*'The story of the cross' (lyric video) feat Rend Co Kids*, by Young Saints (3:58)

## Say:

Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead so that we could have a relationship with him.

He lives today in the hearts of everyone who believes in him.

Our memory verse reminds us of the strength we can draw from Jesus when we remain connected to him. Let's share it together.

## Memory verse

**'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'**

(John 15:5 NIV)

### Say:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for dying on the cross and rising from the dead for us. We are so grateful that you love us that much. Help us to keep growing and becoming more like you. We promise to stay connected to you, Jesus, the vine that gives us the power to live lives full of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Help us to keep following you in our everyday lives and to tell others about what you have done for us on the cross.

Amen.

## Explore it

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



## Easter Sunday

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.



**Bible verses:**  
Matthew 28:1-10



**Aim:**  
To consider Jesus' resurrection and the difference it makes to us



**Today's fruit:**  
Joy



### Watch

In this clip, some children retell the story of Easter. Which bits did they get right and which bits aren't quite what the Bible says?

*Easter according to kids* by Southland Christian Church



### Bake

Ask someone at home to help you make some Easter biscuits to share together.

*Mary Berry's Easter Biscuits* by BBC Food  
[www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mary\\_berrys\\_easter\\_46791](http://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mary_berrys_easter_46791)



### Song for the week

'He is alive' by Christ Fellowship Kids



### Memory verse

'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'

(John 15:5 NIV)

**LIVING  
OUT FAITH**

*Kids Alive!* Online – [salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive](http://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!



Children  
& Youth