resurrection

the Wonder of Easter!

by FamilyLife.

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by FamilyLife.

Mine-to-Make[™] Printables

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Quick-Start Guide

QUICK-START: YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER EGG HUNT

- 1. Purchase Resurrection Eggs[®] from ShopFamilyLife.com or another retailer. Each set contains twelve colorful plastic eggs with objects inside that represent parts of the Easter Story.
- 2. Prayerfully decide the scale of your event, considering your available resources—time, money, adult help, location, and energy.
- 3. Glance through the party-planning resources in this Resurrection Eggs activity book. Print those that will be helpful for you.

Be sure to

- pray for your event. (page 2)
- compile your guest list. (page 3)
- ask adults for help. (page 3)
- pick your location, and determine the hunt's length. (page 6)
- for large parties, create smaller groups of children. (page 7–8)
- send invitations. (pages 9–12)
- gather supplies. Purchase anything else you'll need. (pages 14 and 15)
- construct a simple schedule. (page 17)
- prepare to share Jesus! (pages 17–19)
- follow up with children who've expressed interest in Him. (page 20)



CHOKING HAZARD: Resurrection Eggs contains small parts that could be ingested by children ages 3 and under.

Prayer: Ask God to Guide You

When it comes to hosting a successful event, prayer is our best tool. God urges us to share His message and to give Him our troubles (Matthew 28:19–20, 1 Peter 5:7).

Before you launch your event, pray through the following as the Holy Spirit leads you. Consider either assembling a team of people to pray or taking your prayer requests to an established prayer group in your church.

- 1. God, do you want me to host this event? Should I partner with another host? If so, with whom?
- 2. With whom can I pray? Who will intercede for me during the event?
- 3. Whom should I invite?
- 4. Please guide me in planning and being faithful to the task. Help me show Your love and trust You with this party.
- 5. Help me to act faithfully in what I can do and to trust You for the rest.
- 6. Help me talk about Jesus in a way that honors You. Please open the hearts of the listeners.
- 7. How and with whom should I follow up?
- 8. Help me to faithfully and lovingly present the gospel.
- 9. _____
- 10. _____



Тне Guest List

God knows who needs to come, so ask for His guidance as you brainstorm your guest list. You may want to invite more than your target number since some will not be able to attend.

Consider inviting

- your child's classmates, teammates, and friends;
- your coworkers' children;
- neighbors;
- a mix of Christians and non-believers; and
- adult helpers!

If you need to keep it light 'n easy, limit your list to the children in your neighborhood. This simplifies matters because they will know each other already, no one will need a ride or directions, and the invitations can be delivered promptly.



God, who do You want me to invite? It's Your party.

Help! I need grown-ups!

Even if only one child shows up, you should always have two responsible adults on hand. This is more for your legal protection than your sanity. As you recruit your helpers, keep these tips in mind:

- We suggest a 4:1 or 5:1 kid-to-adult ratio, depending on children's temperaments, behavior, and ages.
- Recruit adult neighbors, friends, grandparents, teens in your youth group, and other church members. Or hire your babysitter to pitch in.
- Some roles your staff can fill include:
 - » Storyteller: If you prefer you can delegate the telling of the resurrection story to one of your friends. (Loan him/her your Resurrection Eggs kit in advance to prepare.)
 - » Navigator: Equip someone with directions to your event and a cell phone. Have them direct guests who've called and lost their way.
 - » Greeter: Give this person the guest list, a clipboard, marker, and adhesive name tags. Have her assign guests to groups or teams as they arrive. (More on this later.) Designate a coat storage area if needed.

Ask helpers to arrive one hour before the party starts to set up last-minute details, welcome guests, and keep the children occupied (and from finding the eggs) until the hunt starts. Use the chart on page 5 to start brainstorming potential helpers.

Tracking Guests and RSVPs

Name _____

Age: □ 4 yr - K □ 1st - 3rd □ 4th - 6th

Coming? Yes! No Maybe

Parents Attending Dad Mom Will help!

Address: _____

Phone:	
Special Needs:	

Age: 🖬 4 yr - K 🔲 1st - 3rd 🔲 4th - 6th

Name _____

Coming? Yes! No Maybe

Parents Attending Dad Mom Will help!

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Special Needs: _____

Name _____ Age: □ 4 yr - K □ 1st - 3rd □ 4th - 6th Coming? □ Yes! □ No □ Maybe

Parents Attending Dad Mom Will help!

Address:	 	

Phone:_____

Special Needs: _____

Name
Age: 🖬 4 yr - K 📮 1st - 3rd 🖬 4th - 6th
Coming? 🗆 Yes! 🗅 No 🗅 Maybe
Parents Attending 🗅 Dad 🗅 Mom 🗅 Will help!

Address:	
Phone:	

Special Needs: _____

Adult Helpers for a Large Party

To get started, consider asking these people for help:

- neighbors
- friends
- coworkers

- babysitters
- guests' parents
- grandparents

- church youth
- retired church members
- church prayer teams

Role: (Check all that apply.)

	Name	Phone number
0 storyteller		
O cook or server		
O craft coach		
O greeter		
O crowd controller		
O prayer team member		
O navigator		
O decorator		
O group leader		
0 driver		

Location

The simplest location is your own backyard. If it rains, no change in location is needed—you've got your house right there. And the messier it is, the more hiding spots you'll have!

If you choose a location that does not have shelter, include either an alternate rain location or a rain date on your invitation.

For larger events, a park with a pavilion is a good rain-proof choice. When the skies crack open, you can still have storytime and play games.

Time and Date

Choose a day—one that works for your family and for a majority of the guests invited. Check community and school calendars before scheduling, but don't let a conflict stop you entirely.

Now, as to the *length* of your party . . . for ages 4 to 5, plan for 60 to 90 minutes; for older groups, 90 minutes to 2 hours. Keep each activity short and sweet as suggested by the schedule on page 17. Otherwise interest may wane.

During the hunt, you may find that you've hidden the eggs a little too well. Gather the hunters and charge them with retrieving only the numbered eggs, per the locations you listed on page 20.

Include an ending time on your invitation, even if neighborhood children will not need their parents to pick them up. Otherwise, you may be hosting an all-day event.

Use Facebook, Twitter, or church website to announce the event for the larger event.

Entertainment

In addition to telling the Resurrection story and hunting eggs, here are a few fun options:

PLay Games!

Prepare to play at least two games—one as guests continue to arrive and another if events move more quickly than planned (for suggested games see pages 26-29).

Eat and Drink!

Find recipes for fun Easter foods on pages 21–25.

Тне Маіп Еvenт

The highlight of your egg hunt is the Resurrection story. Make sure you've prepared by reading through the Resurrection Eggs booklet and the Tips for Cracking Open the Gospel on page 17 of this book. You may want to practice telling the story before a mirror so you can be sure to use facial expressions and gestures to keep the children's interest.

> Lord, please help me to plan an event that glorifies You.

GROUPING FOR SANITY AND SIMPLICITY

Hosting a *lot* of kids? Break them into manageable groups by age or gender.

- Note their ages on the Guest List. As guests arrive, reference this list to choose their groupings. Indicate their group number on their nametags.
- Assign one or two adults to each group and introduce the children to their team leader.
- Section your egg-hunt area into zones by difficulty. Invite the younger children to hunt eggs in the easy area, where the eggs are within reach and eyesight.
- Match your other games and activities to the ages and genders of the groups.
- You will need a separate Resurrection Eggs kit for each group.

GROUP
Group Name (optional):
Age Group:
Team Leader:
Children:
Games:

GROUP

GROUP	GROUP 3
Group Name (optional):	Group Name (optional):
Age Group:	Age Group:
Team Leader:	Team Leader:
Children:	Children:
Games:	Games:



Invitations: BID THEM "Come For Fun!"

Once you've thought and prayed about whom to invite, you can start getting the word out.

Prepare Invitations

A festive invitation sets the tone for a fun event. FamilyLife has made this simple by providing a template for you to customize.

- 1. Print both pages of the invitation template on pages 11–12 of this document.
- 2. Fill in the appropriate information.
- 3. Make enough for those on your Guest List and copy a few extra just in case you've forgotten someone.
- 4. Deilver your invitations.

If you have the time and inclination, you could make your own by using rubber stamps, thumbprints and ink, or finger paints! If you hand deliver the invitations, you may want to slip them in envelopes with some jellybeans or foil-wrapped chocolates.

Deliver Invitations

Since this event is an evangelistic outreach, try to hand deliver each invitation. You can meet parents you don't know, answer questions, and even invite others to join in or help. Pray as you walk to your neighbors' doors and after you speak with them. Remember that many of the parents you speak with may not know Christ.

No time for door-to-door visits? Congratulate yourself on planning this party as you drop the invitations in the mailbox.

Try to get them in the right hands one or two weeks in advance.



King of Kings, Help me to Reach People for You and to do it in a way that is personal and Loving, with Christ-Like Humility.

FOLLOW-UP CALLS

- Pray before dialing.
- Ask: "Do you have any questions about the egg hunt?"
- Ask: "Is (child's name) able to attend?" If the answer is



Yes!

Invite the parents, too!

Remind the child to wear play clothes.

Ask if the child has any allergies (food, grasses, animals, bee stings, etc.).

Ask about any restrictions (food, behaviors, concerns) that would apply to the child. No.

Express your regrets. If you choose, invite them to visit another time. Then follow through on your invitation.



Holy God, Help me to Be a good steward of all Your GIFTS (see James 1:17).

Join us for an easter easter eggg hunt!

Let's have fun and learn about Easter!

SamilyLife

Date:

TIME:

LOCATION:

Bring your Easter basket and wear play clothes—parents are welcome to join us.

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Preparation: "Снеск, снеск, снеск."

The following checklist will help you get ready as you count down the week of the big event.

SUPPLY CHECKLIST

Resurrection Eggs®	□ Buy from ShopFamilyLife.com or your local Christian retailer. □ Read the Resurrection Eggs booklet and practice presenting the story.
Plastic Eggs	\Box Have at least six plastic eggs per participant.
Egg Fillers	 Candy, stickers, trinkets (Account for any dietary restrictions by trading trinkets for items that a child cannot eat.)
Prizes	 One grand prize for egg #12 Candy bars or small prizes to exchange for the 11 other Resurrection Eggs Prizes for games or "egg-ceptional" egg hunters
Easter Baskets or	Bags
	□ Loan baskets to children who forget to bring their own, or provide festive gift bags as party favors.
Permanent Ink Ma	arker
	\Box To number the Resurrection Eggs
Name Tags	\Box If young ones are tempted to peel them off, place the tags on their backs.
Sunscreen	□ As needed
Clean-up Supplies	 Wipes for chocolate-covered fingers Trash bags for candy wrappers Spray cleaner Stain removal spray Other:
Chairs	\Box Not enough? Ask adult guests to bring their lawn chairs.
Photos	□ Camera □ Film or digital media
Adult Help	 Recruit another mom, dad, or older family member to help prepare or pitch in during the event.
Drinks	 Soft-drink mix, lemonade, juice boxes, etc. Avoid dark-colored beverages that may stain clothing. Pitcher Ice and ice bucket, cooler, or plastic bowl Cups—small size for small hands Paper towels and/or sponges for spills

SUPPLY	CHECKLIST Continued
Snacks	 Prepackaged snack cakes or homemade goodies Napkins Plates Other:
Games	List supplies needed for games. (pages 26–29)
Activities, Crafts	 At least one activity sheet per child (pages 34–48) Crayons or markers Table or a flat surface for each attendee
Decorations	 Helium-filled balloons for the mailbox and backyard Streamers Tablecloth and duct tape (Tape it down if it could be windy.) Centerpieces—Easter baskets, basket grass, extra eggs, chocolate bunnies, etc.
Party Favors	 Chocolate bunnies or candy Easter baskets Other:
Foul-Weather Plan	 Get a 10-day forecast for your hunt date at www.weather.com; consider your alternative plan if needed. Alternate date, or Sheltered location with alternate games planned (reserve shelter if required by park service) Driving directions to alternate location

Egg Hunt Contests

Build enthusiasm by announcing these winning categories before the hunt.

Egg-cellent Hunter: girl and boy who finds the most eggs; or, if you're limiting the number of eggs per child, whoever reaches the limit first.

Egg-ceptional Hunter: whoever finds the most Resurrection Eggs

The Great Egg: whoever finds Resurrection Egg #12 (reward at the end of story time)

Consolation Prizes

Don't announce these contests until *after* the hunt.

The Empty Nest: boy or girl who found no eggs

Don't Count Your Chickens: when all hunters found at least one egg, reward the lowest total

The Good Egg: awarded for good sportsmanship

Suggested Rules for Egg Hunt

Rule #1: Don't open the eggs until the host says so.

Tell the Resurrection story after the hunt. Then let the children open their eggs.

Rule #2: Stay in your hunting zone.

Explain the boundaries of the yard and the hiding locations, giving clear directions. For example: "You will not need to climb trees or leave the fenced area to find the eggs."

Rule #3: Numbered eggs are extra special.

Tell children not to open numbered eggs until they're asked to during story time. Reassure them that these eggs will be exchanged for special treats.

Rule #4: Bag your limit.

Tell the children that they should stop hunting eggs when they find their limit, which is _____. They can return to a designated place—such as a patio, deck, or back door. Allow the quick little bunnies to color, play a game, or help younger children until the hunt is over.

Egg Limit:



Rule #5: Be a good sport.

- Remind older kids to watch out for little ones and to help them out as needed.
- Pushing, shoving, stampeding, or egg-stealing children will sit out the remainder of the hunt.

My Schedule for the Egg Hunt

Suggested Schedu	le	My Schedule	
Event	Time	Event	Time
Welcome and Game	25 minutes		
Egg Hunt			
Story Time			
Refreshments			
Game and/or crafts			
Good-bye			

TIPS FOR CRACKING OPEN THE GOSPEL

Pray.

Ask God to help you talk about Him in a way that is loving, simple, and accurate. Ask Him to open the hearts and minds of the children and to prepare and guide you for this discussion.

Trust God.

Keep in mind that changing the heart and mind of any person is God's job. We are responsible to deliver His message lovingly and accurately, but we're not responsible to wrench a decision from someone who is not ready. Asking "Would you like to hear more about this now or at a later time?" may help you know when or whether to continue the conversation.

Listen.

Pay attention to the questions children ask. When you don't know the answer, tell them so and be sure to talk with them again when you find the answer. Listen for their heartfelt concerns and fears.

Keep IT SIMPLE.

Children are literal. Avoid using phrases like "ask Jesus into your heart," which to a child may seem more surgical than metaphorical.

Ask questions.

You'll know how well they understand when you ask who-what-when-where-and-why questions. Ask questions that require them to offer their thoughts and their opinions—not a pat answer.

ALLOW TIME FOR PRIVATE CONVERSATION and THOUGHT.

Some children are afraid to ask questions in a group setting, and some may need a little time to think things over. Let them know you'll be available to answer questions later. Pay close attention if a child brings the subject up in a more private setting.

Be an example.

Your life can show them that God's love matters.

GOD'S GOSPEL FOR YOUNG ONES

God's Love

God loves each of us and wants to adopt us as His children.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12

Sın

Each of us does things that are wrong. These wrongs are called "sin," and God has a rule that sin must be punished. This is called justice. Having sin in our lives makes it impossible for God to adopt us—unless our sins are somehow removed.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Jesus

Jesus is God's Son. He had always lived in heaven with God until about 2000 years ago. At that time, He was born as a baby on earth. God sent Him here to carry out a special mission. His plan made a way for our

sins to be removed so that we could be adopted into God's family.

Here's how the plan worked: Jesus grew up without ever sinning. Since Jesus is perfect, He's the only one who could take the punishment for our sins. He did this by dying on a cross, and after three days, He came back to life. This showed that He had power over sin and death. (Later on, He went back up to heaven to live with God again.) Jesus gave His life as a gift to us so that our sins could be removed and we could be adopted into God's family.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received; that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3–4

ADOPTION

We can be adopted into God's family. These are some good things about being adopted by God:

- 1. You can still keep your family on earth, too. (Yes, you get to belong to two families!)
- God forgives us of our sins. This means the wrong things we've done and sometimes continue to do won't get us kicked out of God's family.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

3. God sends us His Spirit. (You can't see Him, but He's there.) His Spirit guides us as we make choices, and He helps us in our lives.

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Romans 8:16

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22–23

4. When our bodies die, the invisible parts of us (our spirits) go to heaven to live with God forever!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

If we want God to adopt us, we need for our sins to be removed. This happens when

- we tell God that we've done things that are wrong,
- we thank Him for allowing Jesus to take our punishment for us,
- 3. we ask God to forgive us of our sins, and
- we invite God's Spirit to guide us for the rest of our lives and help us keep from sinning. (When we sin again, we ask God to forgive us again and recommit to following His guidance.)

Right then, God will take our sins away and we become His adopted children!

Prayer

Ask the child if she would like to pray with you to be adopted into God's family. Together, you can pray something like this:

Dear God,

I know that I've done things that are wrong. I'm sorry; I want to change. Thank you for sending Jesus to die in my place, for forgiving me of my sins, and for adopting me as your child. Please guide me every day and help me to follow You.

Amen.

Celebration!

If you prayed and asked God to adopt you, the angels in heaven are now celebrating. God delights in adding you to His family!

"Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Luke 15:10

More Resources

For Children:

Child Evangelism Fellowship provides products, teaching tools, music, curriculum, and free downloads.

www.cefonline.com • 1-800-748-7710

DiscipleLand, created by Through the Bible Publishers, offers a variety of resources for children from nursery to 14 years old. www.discipleland.com • (800) 284-0158

For Grown-ups:

The Gospel of John in the Bible

More Than a Carpenter by Josh McDowell, Tyndale House Publishers

Knowing God, by J. I. Packer, InterVarsity Press

Right with God by John Blanchard, Banner of Truth

FINISHING Well

Pray and Praise

Once the guests are gone, gather your helpers. Thank God for His help. Praise Him for the work of His Holy Spirit. Talk about who seemed receptive to the gospel and discuss how you might follow up.

Reflect

Think back on the difference this egg hunt may have made. Perhaps someone came to know Christ through this event. Or maybe it will be years later when a young one reflects on your words and prays to receive Christ.

FOLLOW UP

Praying to receive Christ is not just a decision, it's a lifelong journey. Do what you can to foster relationships between the children and their Creator.

Resurrection Eggs List where you hid each egg below.

1	blue	little donkey
2	light pink	silver coins
3	light purple	cup
4	orange	praying hands
5	green	whip
6	yellow	rooster
7	light orange	crown of thorns
8	light green	nails in the Cross
9	purple	spear
10	light blue	white linen cloth
11	pink	stone
12	white	empty (for empty tomb)



Easter Bunny Cake



your child's favorite 2-layer cake, baked in two round pans

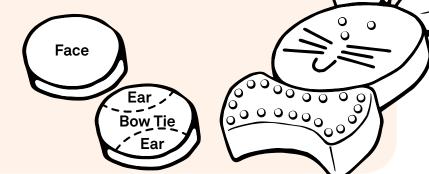
white frosting

coconut

candy-coated chocolate pieces, jellybeans, or other colorful candy

black licorice laces

- Bake cake, dividing batter into two round pans. Leave one round for the head. Cut the other according to the diagram below to form two ears and a bow tie.
- 2. Assemble, frost, and decorate.
- 3. Use candies for the eyes, nose, and polka dots on the bow tie. Place licorice laces for whiskers and curves in the mouth and ears.



BIRD Nest Cupcakes



2-layer cake mix

frosting

paper baking cups for muffin pans

jelly beans

toasted coconut

Bake and frost cupcakes. Top with a circle of toasted coconut. Place a cluster of jelly beans in the center for eggs.

To Toast Coconut:

Spread coconut flakes in a thin layer on a baking sheet and toast in 350-degree oven for 7–9 minutes until golden brown. Stir often. Watch closely, as coconut can burn quickly.

Resurrection Cookies



We recommend baking these cookies on the Saturday night before Easter.

But before you start, read the full recipe and collect all the materials and ingredients needed. As you make the cookies with your child, read aloud the Scripture story of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection where inserted in the recipe.

1 cup pecan halves

- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- 3 egg whites (room temperature for best results)

pinch of salt

1 cup sugar

Preheat oven to 300°F. Place the pecans in a plastic freezer bag. Let your child break the pecans into small pieces by beating them with a wooden spoon. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, Roman soldiers beat him.

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands.

John 19:1–3

Now, ask your child to smell and taste the vinegar. Add 1 teaspoon vinegar to a bowl. Explain that Jesus was offered vinegar to drink while He hung on the cross.

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

John 19:28–30

Add the 3 egg whites to the vinegar. Discuss with your child that eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life in order to give us life.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and

destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:10–11

Sprinkle a pinch of salt into your child's hands. Allow them to taste a tiny bit and shake the remainder into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers.

> And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. Luke 23:27

Gradually add 1 cup of sugar to the bowl while beating ingredients on high with a mixer. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know we belong to Him.

Resurrection Cookies

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Psalm 34:8

"For God so loved the world that he gave only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

C Egg whites are ready when they are glossy white and stiff peaks form (peaks stand straight when beaters are removed). Share how the color white represents purity and how Jesus can cleanse us of our sins.

"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

Isaiah 1:18

Now, add the nuts and fold in gently. Drop the mixture by teaspoon on a cookie sheet covered with wax paper. Explain that these mounds represent the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid.

> When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.

Matthew 27:57–60

O Put the cookie sheet in the oven. Then close the door and turn the oven off immediately.

Give your child a piece of tape to seal the tomb (oven door). Explain the fact that Jesus' tomb was sealed.

> Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. Matthew 27:65–66

Go to bed! Explain that your child may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. To a much greater extent Jesus' friends were sad when He died and was placed in the tomb.

> "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you." John 16:20 & 22

Do not open the oven until the following morning. Allow your children to examine the cookies. They will form small mounds and have a cracked side. When the children taste them, they will discover that the cookies are hollow representing that on the first Easter, Jesus' friends were surprised to find the tomb empty.

> Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like

CONTINUED

Resurrection Cookies

lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from CONTINUED

the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Matthew 28:1–9

Kellogg's Rice Krispies Treats



- 3 tablespoons margarine or butter
- 1 package (10 oz., or about 40) regular marshmallows or 4 cups miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal

 Using low heat, melt margarine in large saucepan. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat.

Microwave directions: In a microwave safe bowl, heat margarine and marshmallows at HIGH for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes until smooth. (Microwave cooking times may vary.)

- 2. Add Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal. Stir until well coated.
- 3. Follow one of the variations below. Best if served the same day.

NOTE: For best results, use fresh marshmallows. One jar (7 oz.) marshmallow cream can be substituted for marshmallows. Diet, reduced calorie, or tub margarine is not recommended. Store no more than two days in airtight container.

Easter Variations

Egg Shapes

Using 1/3 cup measure, shape mixture into egg shapes. Decorate as desired. Yield: 12 eggs

Nests

1/2 cup coconut (tinted green)

miniature marshmallows

jelly beans

Shape mixture into sixteen 3-inch nests. Fill cooled nests with miniature marshmallows, jelly beans, or chocolate eggs. Yield: 16 nests



Games are a great way to keep kiddos busy and burn off that sugar! For the best success:

- Read all game instructions in advance.
- Collect the materials needed long beforehand.
- Choose games to fit the ages and temperaments of the majority of guests.
- For team games, determine which team starts by flipping a coin.

Lord, keep us safe. Help us to play fair, and when we don't, to learn from our sins and become more like You. It may help to have the following supplies on hand:

- clipboard
- list of groups
- starting and finish lines (Mark lawn with flour, landscaping spray paint, string, streamer, or tape.)
- timer or stopwatch
- whistle
- pad and pen for scorekeeping
- several small prizes

EGG Spoon Race



1 piece of string, streamer, tape, etc. (for clearly marking the starting and finish lines)

1 raw egg for each player

1 spoon for each player

Provide each player with a raw egg and a spoon. At the starting line, instruct players to place their eggs on their spoons. The first one across with an intact egg wins. The hand not holding the spoon must be held behind their back.

If you run short of eggs and/or spoons, play the game in two rounds, having someone begin the race and time it. In this case, the player wins who crosses the finishing line with the best time and an intact egg. Even with this adaptation, don't expect to reuse all of your eggs in the second round—some won't make it!

Games

Egg Spoon Race

Optional Versions:

A cleaner but less dramatic version: Use plastic eggs and specify that dropping the egg will disqualify the player instantly.

Three-legged race: Pair players in groups of two. While the children are standing side-byside, tie their inner legs together in two or three places with old nylon stockings or strips of cloth. Have each child carry an egg with a spoon. The first pair of children to cross the finish line with the eggs intact wins.

Cardboard Egg Hop Race

- 1 12- to 18-inch cardboard or construction paper egg* per player
- 1 piece of string, streamer, tape, etc. (for clearly marking the starting and finish lines)

*The designing and decorating of the paper eggs can be done

- in advance by you
- by the children at the party, or
- on simple grocery sacks or poster board squares instead of decorated paper eggs.

Divide the children into pairs and give each pair two paper eggs. One child will play the "hopper" role, and the other will play the "helper" role in this variation of leapfrog.

The hopper stands on Egg 1 at the starting line, and the helper places Egg 2 a short distance in front of the hopper, who hops onto it. Then the helper moves Egg 1 in front of Egg 2, and once again, the hopper hops to it. The pair moves from the starting line to the finish line where they reverse roles. The first pair to complete the course wins.



CONTINUED

Waterbed Egg Race



- 1 16-inch balloon per team (and extras for breakage)
- 1 water faucet
- 1 egg* per team (and extras for breakage)
- 1 piece of string, streamer, tape, etc. (for clearly marking the starting and finish lines)

* If you can withstand the drama and the mess, use raw eggs. If not, opt for hardboiled eggs. Fill balloons with water to 3/4 capacity. Divide the players evenly into two or more teams. Explain that each team will be given a waterbed (balloon) and an egg.

The objective is to have each team member travel to the finish line and back while nesting the egg in the balloon without breaking the egg. If a player breaks an egg, he must return to the starting line and begin the course again. If the egg falls, but does not break, the player can stop, re-nest the egg, and resume the race from that point. The first team to complete the course wins.

Tip:

Create a nest by pressing an indentation on both sides of the center of the balloon. The egg can rest in this. (As players hurry, eggs may become airborne!)

Duck Race



1 piece of string, streamer, tape, etc. (for clearly marking the starting and finish lines) When you say, "On your mark," the children are to squat down and grasp their ankles. At "Go!" they are to waddle to the finishing line, without letting go of their ankles. The first one across the finish line wins.

'Rez' Eggs Chalkboard Charades



chalkboard, chalk, & eraser

or

flipchart, easel, & markers Except for egg #12 (it's empty), place the Resurrection Eggs in a paper sack so that they are hidden from players. Divide children into two groups. Invite a child from the playing team to approach the board or flipchart, choose and open an egg (so that no one else can see), and identify the object.

Set a timer for 30 seconds. Explain that on your mark, the player should draw the object and refrain from using written or spoken words. To score, his or her team members should guess what the drawing is before time runs out. Should the team fail to score, the opposing team has a chance to score by guessing the correct answer within five seconds.

Whichever team scored in the last round is "up" to play in the next round. If both teams fail to score, the opposing team from the previous round is up. Play until a team scores ten points or your predetermined winning score.

Easter Twenty Questions

The team leader starts by choosing an Easter-related person, place, or thing. When she says, "I'm thinking of something. What is it?" the children try to guess what it is by asking no more than 20 questions that can be answered "yes," "no," or "I don't know." The child who guesses correctly wins a small prize (optional) and becomes the leader of the next round.



EGGSHELL MOSaICS

eggshells (washed and dried)

Easter egg dye

white craft glue

posterboard or lightweight cardboard

newspapers

1 reproduction of template per child

Preparation:

1. Break the clean, dried eggshells into small (but not tiny) pieces.

PREP: ADVANCED

- 2. Color the shell pieces in separate color batches, following the Easter egg dye package instructions, and allow them to dry thoroughly.
- Draw egg designs on separate pieces of cardboard or use the template on page 48; then glue these to cardboard sheets. Make one template for each participant.

Activity:

- Help the children spread white glue in one area of the design and fill it in with eggshell bits. A small gap should be left between pieces. Continue until the design is filled.
- 2. Keep the mosaic flat and allow it to dry overnight. Shake the dried designs to allow unattached egg pieces to fall off.

These creative eggs can be hung as decorations or used to make the front of an Easter card.

CRafts

Hatching Easter Chick



- 2 yellow cotton balls (or 2 yellow pom-poms)
- 1/2 of a clean eggshell, 1/2 of a plastic egg, or a cup from an egg carton
- black construction paper
- orange construction paper

scissors

hole punch

craft glue

plastic Easter basket grass

- 1. Punch two black circles from the black construction paper for the chick's eyes.
- 2. Cut a small square from the orange construction paper and fold it in half to form a triangle for the beak.
- Glue a pom-pom/cotton ball into the bottom of the eggshell. Glue the other pom-pom/cotton ball on top for the head. Hold the two balls together for 1 minute.
- 4. Attach the eyes and beak to the top cotton ball or pom pom with craft glue. You can add Easter basket grass to your eggshell or carton cup to make a pretty nest for your chick.

Lacey Easter Eggs



balloons

colored yarn cut into strips

white glue

1-inch paintbrush

- 1. Blow up the balloon and tie a 2-foot piece of yarn to the knot end. This will be used to hang the completed project to dry.
- 2. Brush the entire surface of the balloon with watered down glue. Work quickly (before the glue dries) and wrap a yarn strip around the balloon in one direction, leaving approximately 1/2" wide gaps.
- 3. Brush a second layer of watered-down glue and wrap another piece of yarn in a different direction. Repeat the layering of yarn one more time. You should be able to see some gaps.
- 4. Hang the yarn-covered balloon and allow it to dry for 24 hours.
- 5. When it is totally dry, pop the balloon and carefully pull it out through the gaps.

"Egg"cellent Decorating Ideas!

Here are some creative ways to decorate your hard-boiled eggs. If you plan to eat them, use only non-toxic dyes (food coloring) or paints on your eggs. Do not leave the eggs unrefrigerated for more than two hours.

Dyed Eggs

- bowls or teacups
- slotted spoons
- paper towels
- newspaper
- hard-boiled eggs
- hot water
- egg dye made from food color or crepe paper
- masking tape (optional)

Egg Dye from Food Coloring

- Mix 2/3 cup of boiling water, 2 teaspoons of distilled vinegar, and food coloring in each cup. Add food coloring one drop at a time until you reach the desired color. You may need to use 1/4 teaspoon (about 24 drops) of food coloring.
- 2. Allow mixture to cool.

Red, blue, green, and yellow are usually included in food coloring packages. To mix additional colors, try these ratios:

- Orange—mix about 10 drops of red with about 15 drops of yellow.
- Turquoise—mix about 5 drops green with about 20 drops of blue.
- Violet—mix about 12 drops red with about 12 drops blue.

Egg Dye from Crepe Paper

- 1. Soak crepe paper in hot water in individual bowls or cups for each color.
- 2. Add eggs and allow them to soak until the desired color is achieved.
- 3. Remove eggs with slotted spoon and allow to dry.

Stripes from Masking Tape

- 1. Use masking tape to mask a pattern of stripes or lines on a plain hard-boiled egg.
- 2. Dip egg in dye and leave until desired color is reached.
- 3. Remove with slotted spoon and air dry.
- 4. Remove masking tape when dry.
- 5. Leave masked areas white or dip again in lighter dye.

CRafts

More "Egg"cellent Decorating Ideas!

Painted Eggs

disposable plates

newspaper

paper towels

nontoxic paints

toothbrush, toothpick, or cotton swabs

Toothpick

Paint flowers on your eggs! Choose two colors of paint to decorate your egg. Pour those paints into a disposable plate. To make the petals of the flower, dip about 1/4 inch of the toothpick into the paint, then lay the toothpick down onto the egg, making a petal. Repeat making petals, leaving a space in the middle for the flower center. Using a new toothpick and another color of paint, dip just the tip of the toothpick into the paint and dot the center two or three times. Let the egg dry.

Toothbrush

Pour paint onto a disposable plate. Dip the tips of the toothbrush bristles into the paint and dot the egg with the paint. Let one side dry, and then dot the other side.

Cotton Swab

Pour paint onto a disposable plate. Dip just the end of the cotton swab into the paint. Then dot the egg, paint creative designs, or write messages. Use a different end of the cotton swab for each color or mix them together to create a new color.

Есс Үоік Раіптя

raw eggs

water

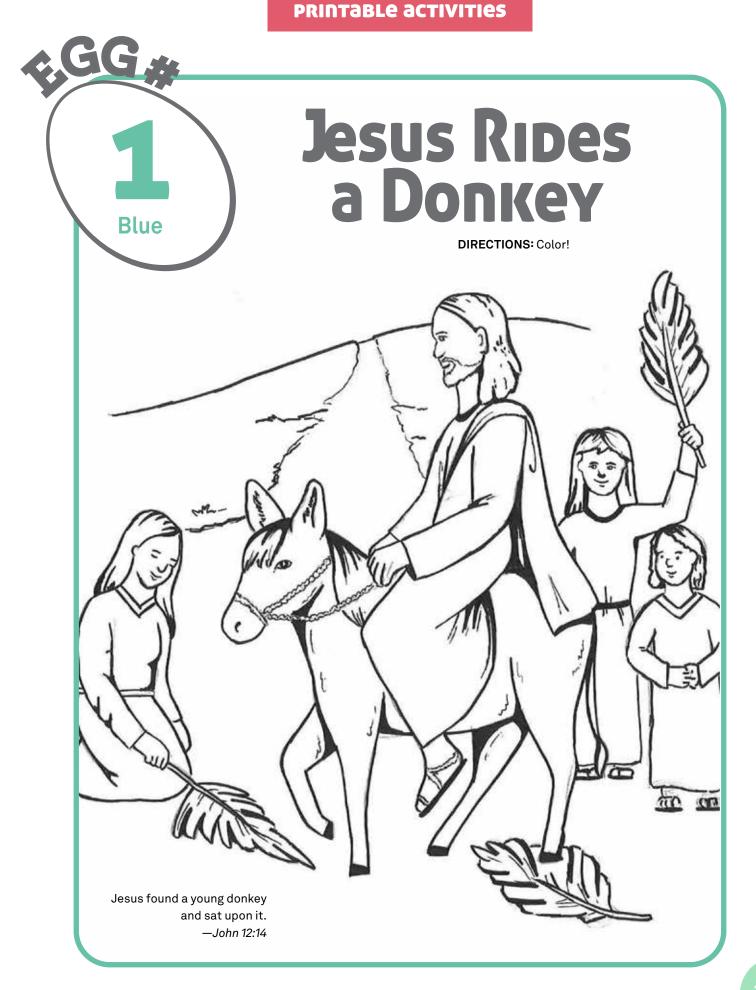
food coloring

paintbrush

cups or small bowls

- 1. Carefully crack open an egg, separating the yolk from the white.
- 2. Mix 1/2 teapoon water with the yolk.
- 3. Divide the yolk mixture into several small cups.
- 4. Add food coloring, using a different color in each cup.
- 5. Use a brush to paint your egg. If the paint gets too thick, add a few drops of water.

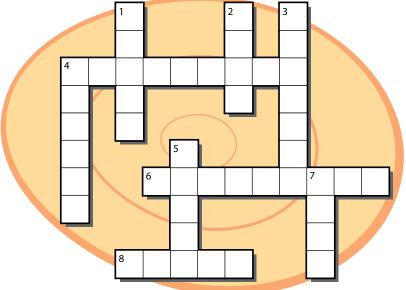
You can also use this to paint to decorate sugar cookies before baking or draw designs on bread before toasting.



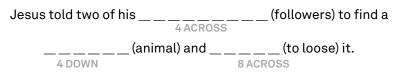
The Triumphal Entry



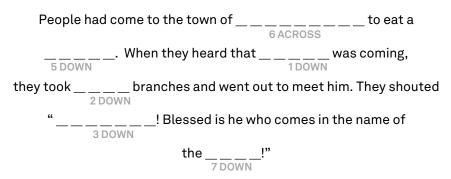
DIRECTIONS: Read the following verses. Then use what you learned to complete the puzzle.



Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me." —*Matthew 21:1-2*



The next day the large crowd that had come for the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" —John 12:12–15



Light Pink

Betrayal DIRECTIONS: Color the numbered sections with matching color in the color key.

2

2

4

3

3

THE PRICE OF

COLOR KEY

- 1-GRAY or SILVER
- 2 BLUE or YELLOW
- 3 GREEN or RED
- 4 TAN or FLESH

Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. --Matthew 26:14-15

3

3

3

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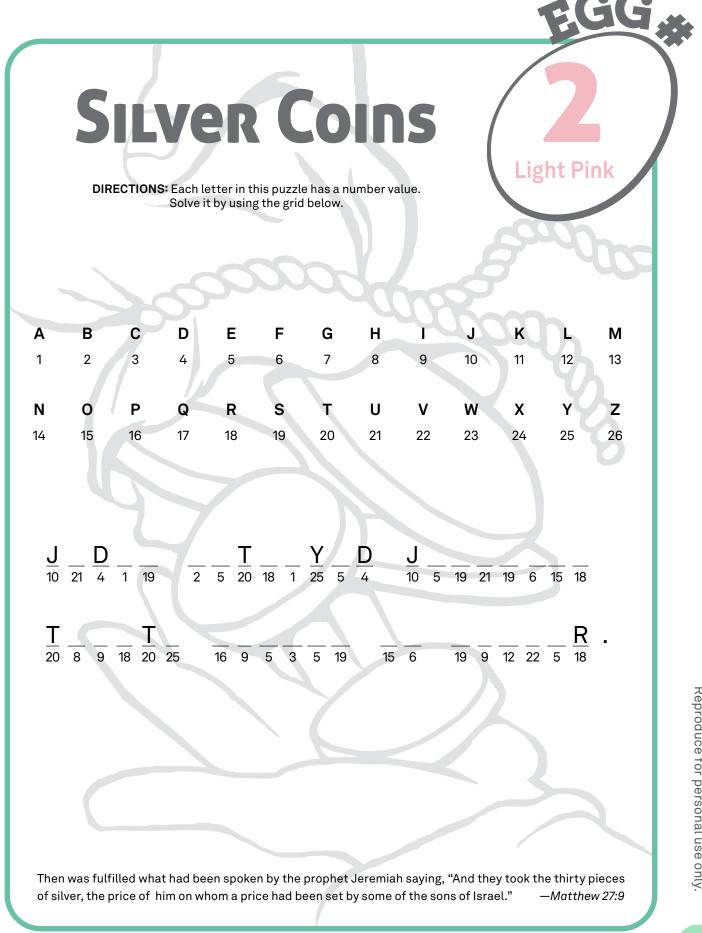
2

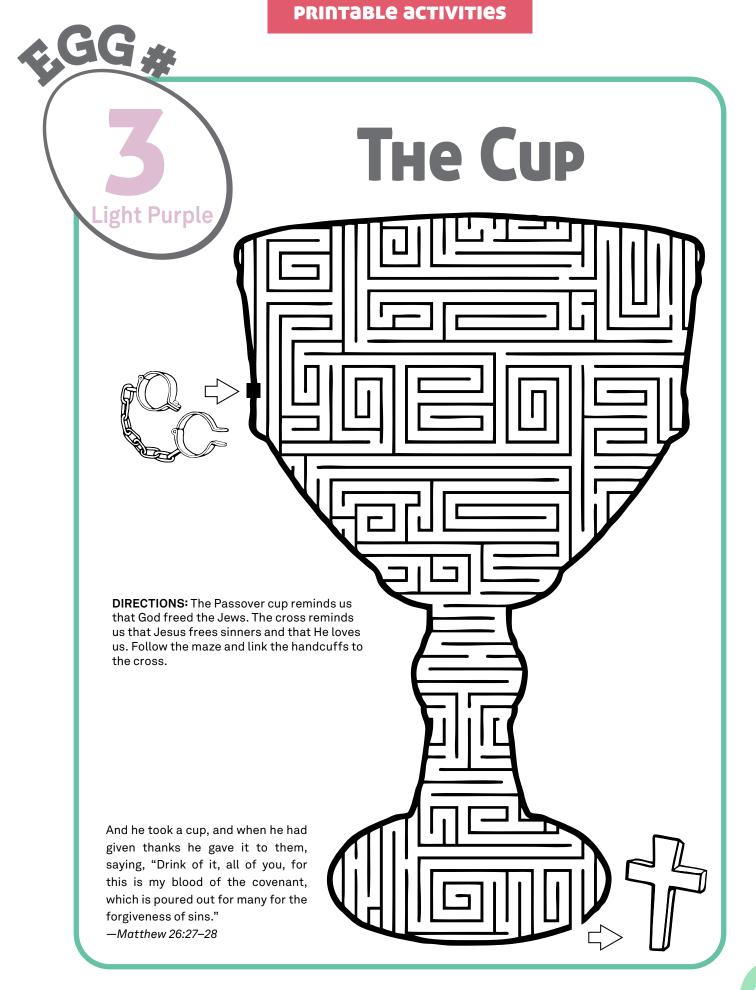
4

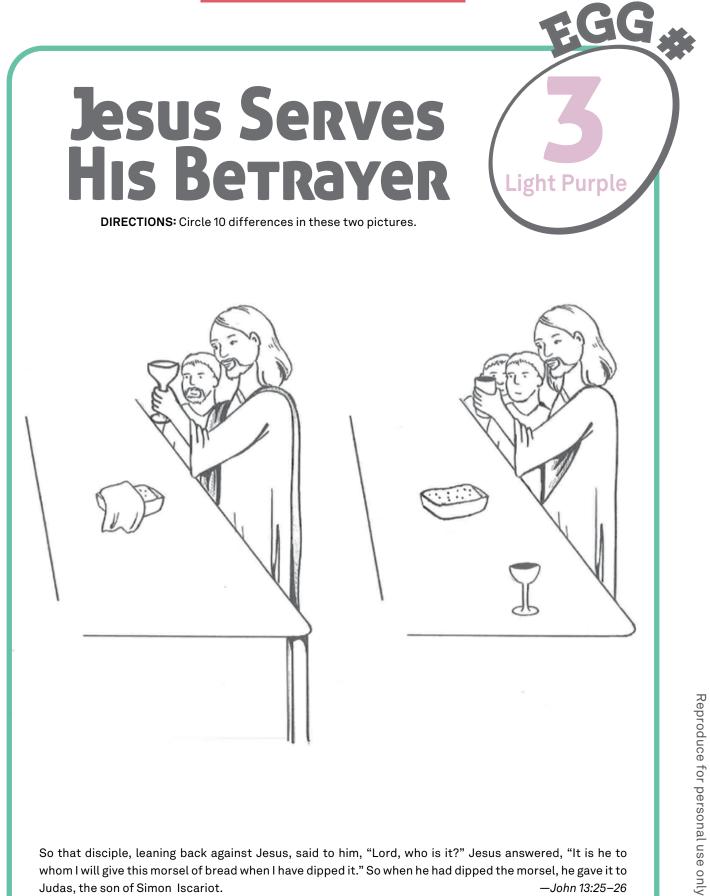
3

2

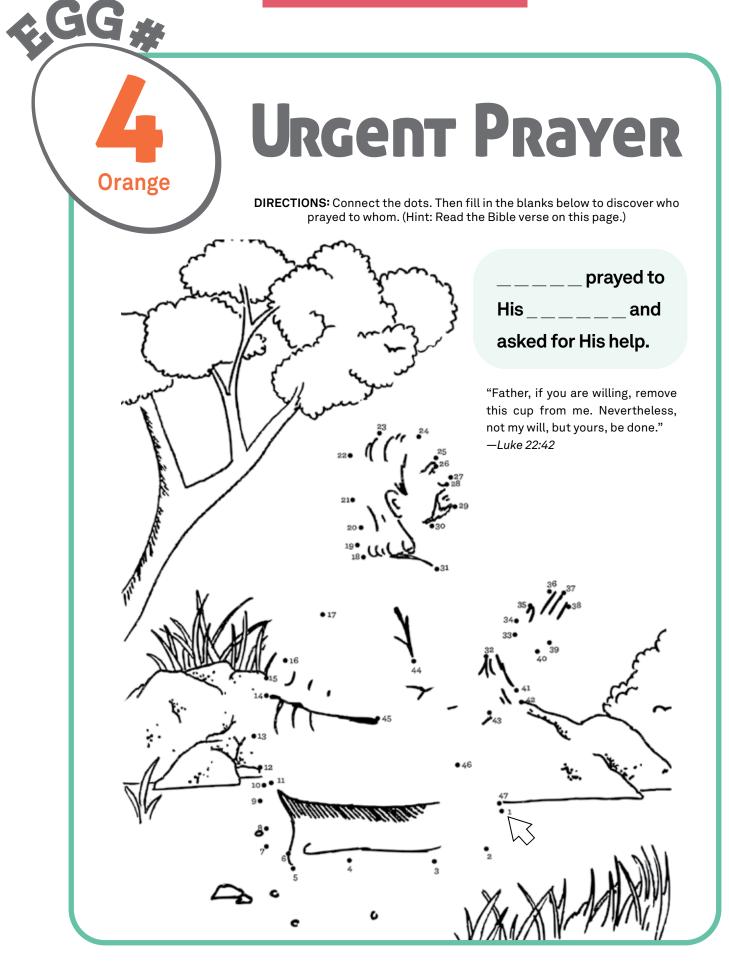
2

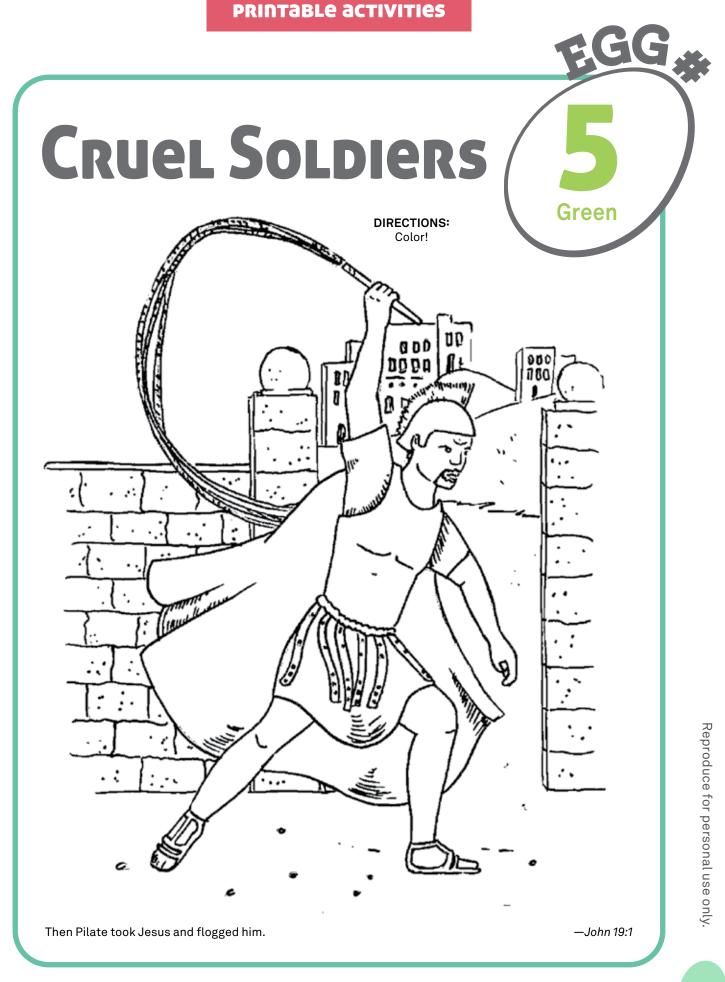














Rooster

DIRECTIONS: Color the numbered sections with matching color in the color key.

COLOR KEY

Yellow

1-Blue

2-Red

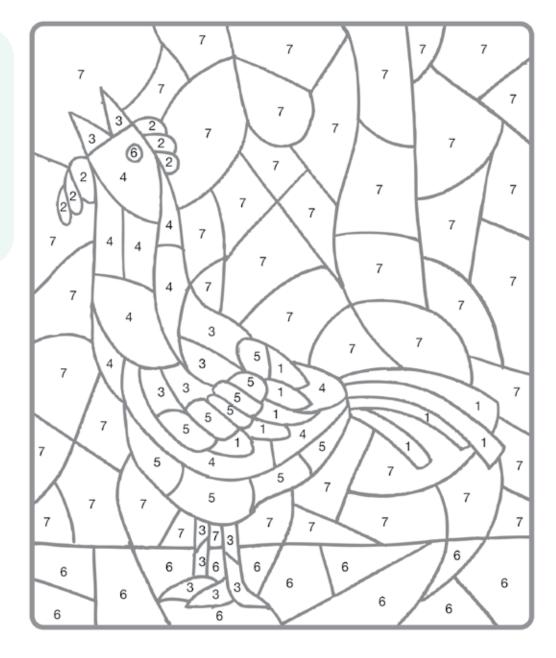
3-Yellow

4-Orange

5-Green

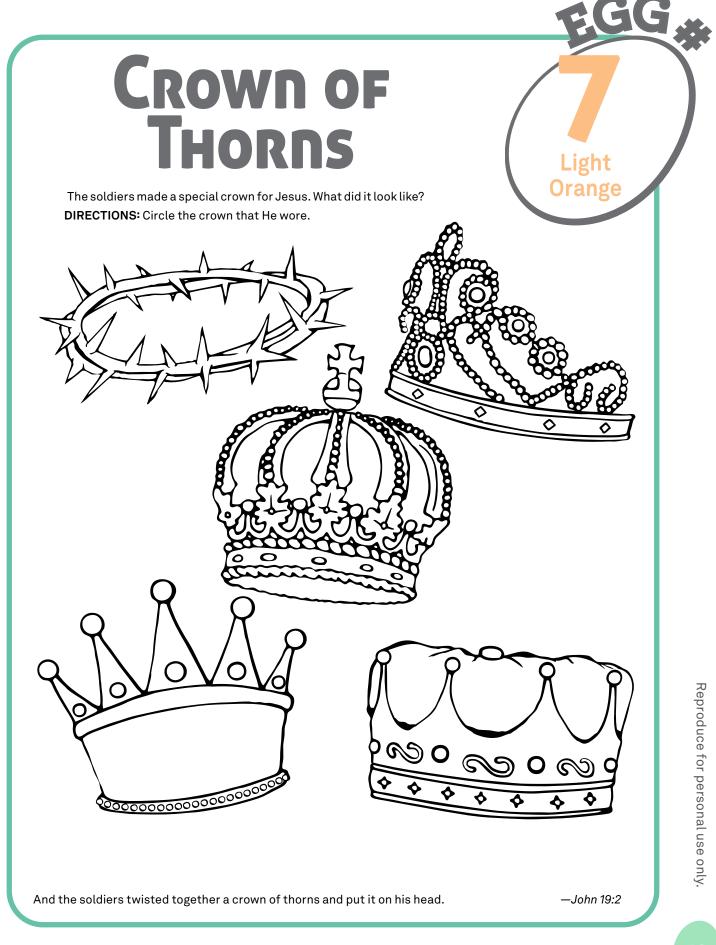
6-Brown

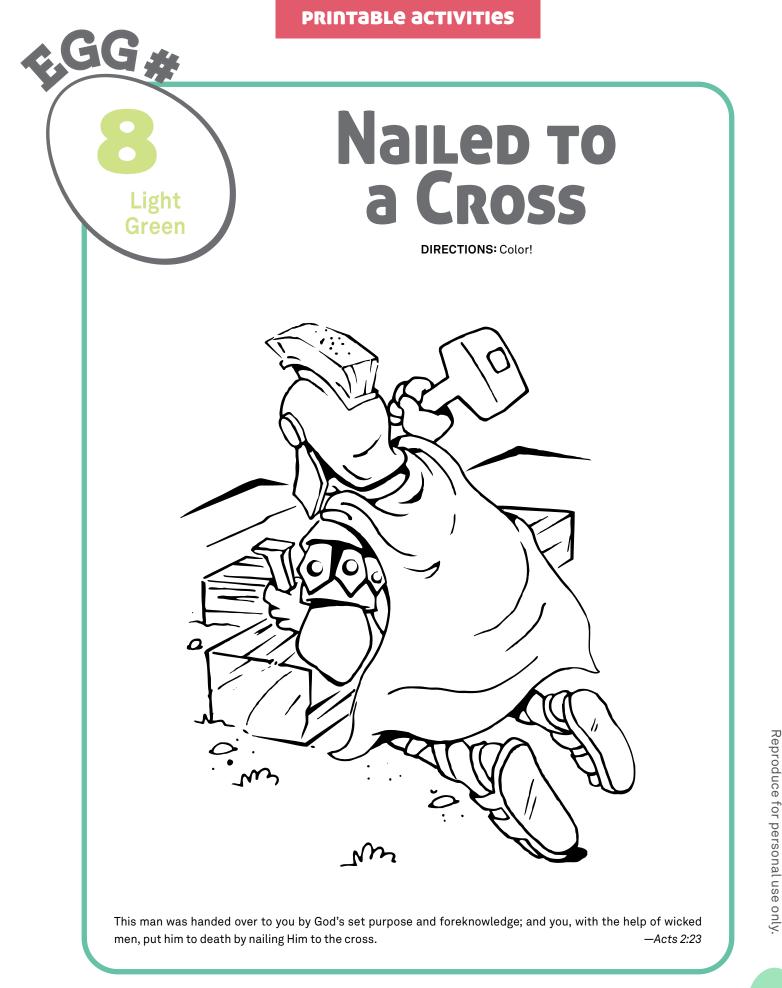
7-Purple

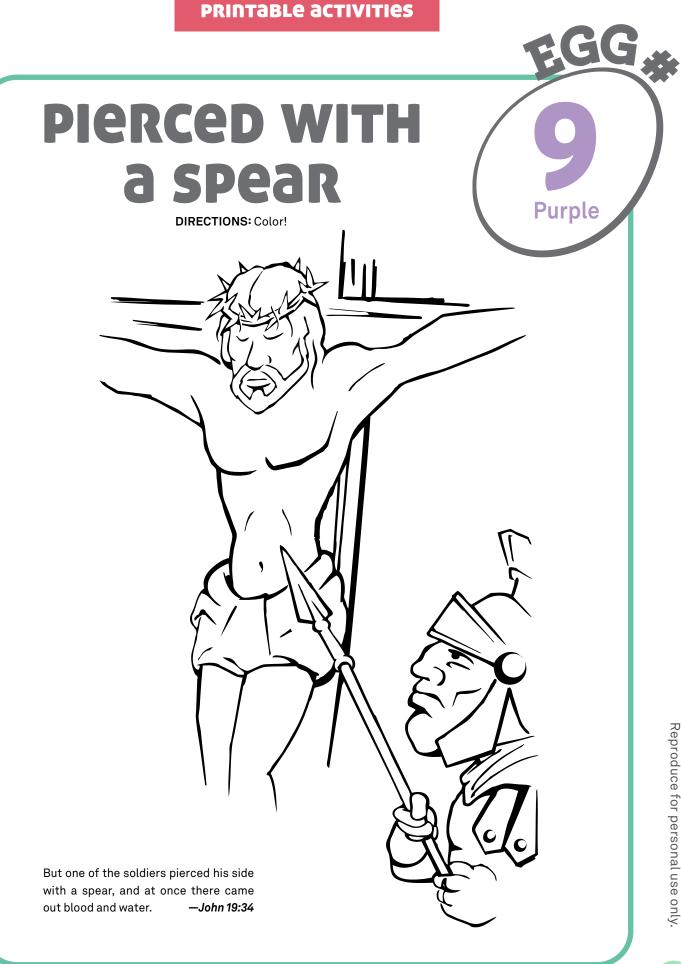


"Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times."

—Mark 14:30









Тне Stone ат тне Тотв

DIRECTIONS: Find two words that tell what happened to the stone on Easter morning. Start at the **1** egg and, moving clockwise, write every other letter to learn the first word. Then start at the **2** egg and, moving counter-clockwise, write every other letter to learn the second word.

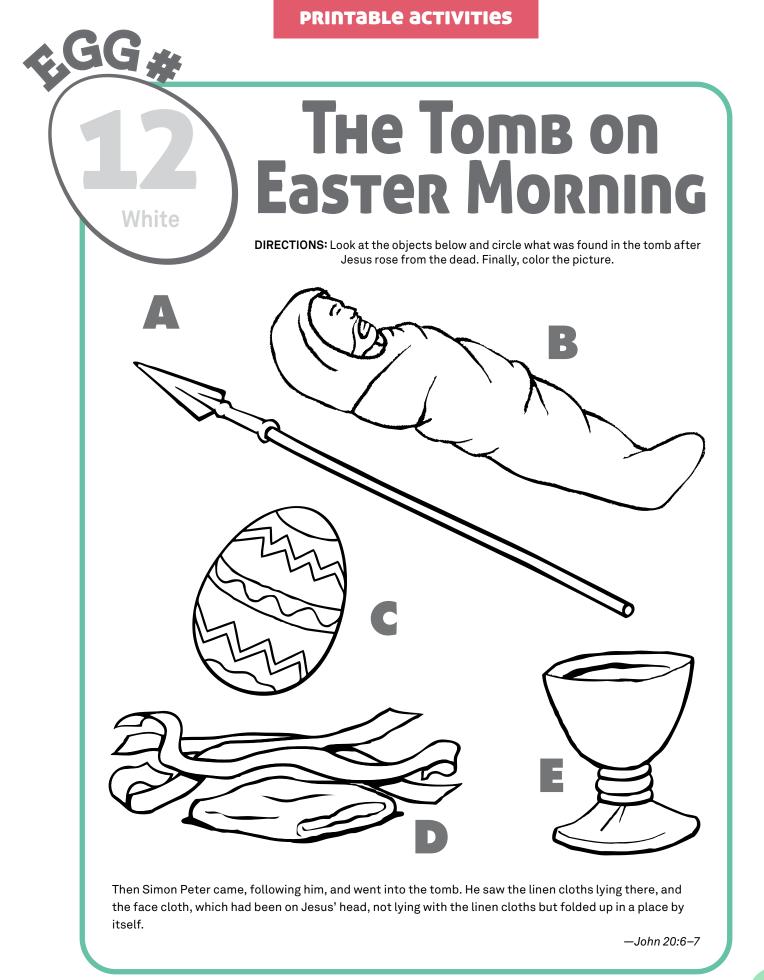
Now complete this sentence:

And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.

8

—Mark 16:4

Pink



He Is Risen!

DIRECTIONS: Fourteen of the fifteen words below appear in the word search. Discover *which* fourteen by filling in the blanks. Then circle them in the word search. They can be spelled in any direction and even backwards and diagonally!

	С	L	J	κ	Х	s	Е	s	Ζ	0	в	М	в	R	в
AFRAID	Q	R	J	R	Ν	G	0	J	J	Е	н	т	I	н	G
ANGEL	E	J	0	R	Р	L	Е	Е	U		v	J	w	Р	J
BURIED	_	-	Ţ		-	_	_	_	•	L.	-	-			
CROSS	W	F	0	S	D	н	Ρ	S	G	Ν	I	Κ	0	0	L
JESUS	0	н	Ζ	I	S	I	Ζ	U	Ν	Е	S	I	R	S	D
JUDAS	т	Х	Е	V	н	W	W	S	Κ	Е	Ν	G	R	J	Т
LIFE	L	R	0	W	Κ	т	Ρ	Н	J	Ν	I	D	W	Х	Н
LINEN	S	L	Κ	S	W	С	Е	F	Μ	D	S	Е	Т	Т	Α
LOOKING	D	н	Е	т	Y	С	0	G	Α	Ρ	в	Т	Υ	Ρ	J
RISEN	Ν	Т	Α	Ν	G	Е	L	R	L	т	G	R	Е	в	Q
ROCK	N	R	Α	Α	s	L	U	s	Ρ	D	н	U	D	0	S
SINS	к	L	т	R	Т	Υ	κ	М	z	L	κ	в	Т	н	J
SOLDIERS	S	Ρ	в	Ν	F	н	Т	w	Α	Т	S	J	v	L	V
THORNS WHIP	v	к	Е	в	G	Α	Х	F	U	F	М	Y	Р	U	J
	К	Ν	D	S	Н	R	Y	Е	L	Е	Ν	L	т	Α	D

1. The soldiers put a crown of ______ on the head of Jesus.

2. The ______ were very mean to Jesus and hit Him with a ______.

- 3. _____ died on the _____ for our _____ .
- 4. Friends of Jesus wrapped His body in _____ and _____ Him.
- 5. The tomb was sealed with a big ______.
- 6. But Jesus came back to ______ and left the tomb empty!
- 7. We can be glad, because Jesus Christ has _____!
- 8. The ______ said, "Do not be ______. For I know that you are ______ for Jesus. He is not here."

But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." —*Matthew* 28:5–6

White

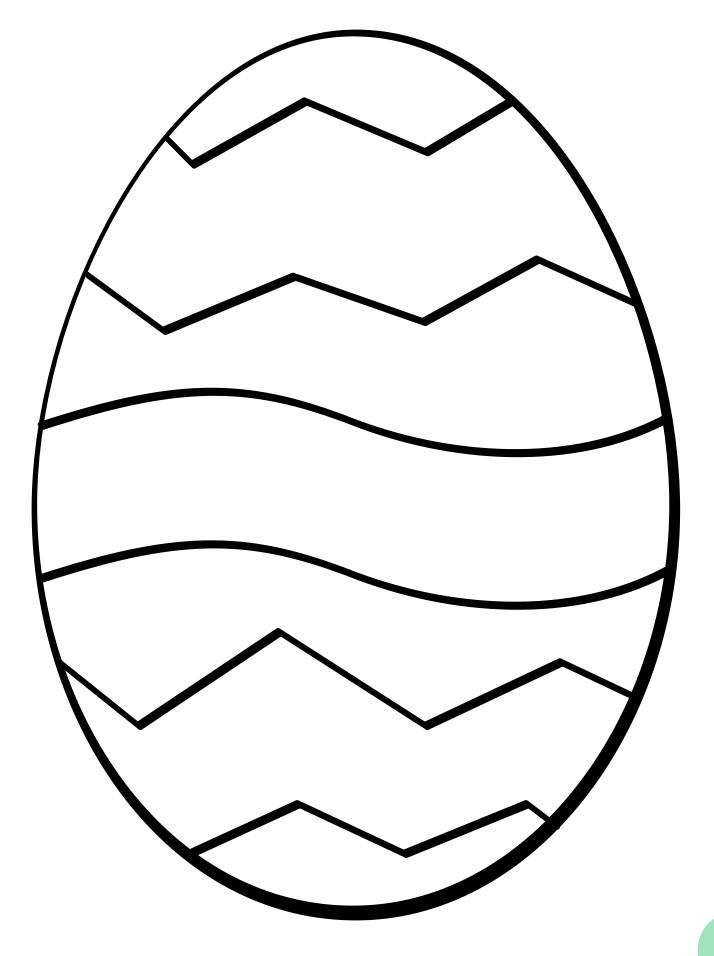
From the Cross to the Tomb

DIRECTIONS: Number these pictures 1 to 6 in the order that they happened. Then color the pictures.



For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

—1 Corinthians 1:18



Answer Key

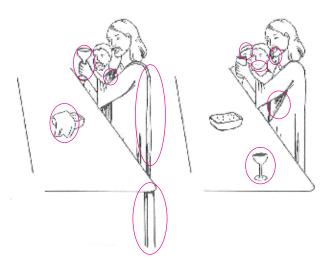
EGG #1: THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Jesus told two of his **disciples** (followers) to find a **donkey** (animal) and untie (to loose) it.

People had come to the town of **Jerusalem** to eat a **feast**. When they heard that **Jesus** was coming, they took **palm** branches and went out to meet him. The shouted, "**Hosanna**! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the **Lord**!"

- Down
- Across 4. Disciples
- 1. Jesus4. Disciples2. Palm6. Jerusalem
- 3. Hosanna 8. Untie
- 4. Donkey
- 5. Feast
- 7. Lord

Egg #3: Jesus Serves His Betrayer



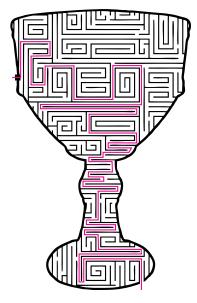
Egg #4: Urgent Prayer

Jesus prayed to His father for His help.

Egg #2: Silver Coins

Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.

Есс #3: Тне Сир



Egg #7: Crown of Thorns



EGG #11: THE STONE AT THE TOMB

The stone was **rolled away**.

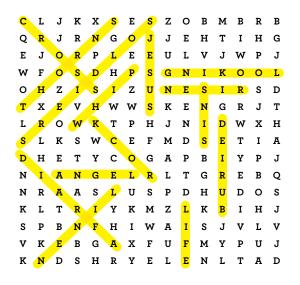
EGG #12: THE TOMB ON Easter Morning



Reproduce for personal use only

Answer Key

EGG #12: He IS RISEN



- 1. The soldiers put a crown of **thorns** on the head of Jesus.
- 2. The **soldiers** were very mean to Jesus and hit Him with a **whip**.
- 3. Jesus died on the cross for our sins.
- 4. Friends of Jesus wrapped his body in **linen** and **buried** Him.
- 5. The tomb was sealed with a big **rock**.
- 6. But Jesus came back to **life** and left the tomb empty.
- 7. We can be glad, because Jesus Christ has risen!
- 8. The **angel** said, "Do not be **afraid**. For I know that you are **looking** for Jesus. He is not here."

From the Cross to the Tomb

Pictures in the oder they appear: 2, 6, 1 5, 3, 5

53



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At FamilyLife, we get it.

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