



Easter 2023

Intergenerational segments



Good Friday - Hope in times of waiting: waiting, watching, willing

You will need:

- a seed
- three refillable eggs
- foil (coloured chocolate foil if available)
- a miniature toy sword (often found in LEGO sets), a stone and a small cross (each one needs to be small enough to fit into the eggs)

Place the sword, the stone and the cross each into one of the eggs then wrap it with foil. (You will need to keep track of what is inside each one by using a small label or different coloured foil for each.)

Show a seed.

Who can tell me what this is?

I wonder if anyone here has ever tried to grow a plant from a seed. What happened?

When we plant a seed we water it and place it in the sun. Then we watch, and we wait.

I wonder if you can think of any other things that we watch and wait for? An egg to hatch, a cake to bake, the sun to rise... (Allow for other suggestions.)

When we watch and wait, we usually hope for something to happen. We hope the seed will grow into a plant. We hope the cake will be delicious. We hope the egg will hatch a healthy bird. We hope for a beautiful sunset sky.

Matthew 27:35 tells us that, as Jesus was on the cross, *"...many women who had come from Galilee with Jesus to care for him were watching from a distance."*

These women were friends and relatives of Jesus. They watched and they waited, and they hoped. They hoped that they would see a miracle. They hoped that Jesus would be rescued. They hoped that he would live.

Show the eggs that you have prepared.

What do you hope will be inside these? Let's watch and wait for Sunday and see what happens.



Easter Sunday - Hope revealed: past, present, future

I wonder what you are hoping for this year?

What are some things you hope will happen in the next couple of years?

What do you hope for in your future? Tell someone next to you one thing that you hope for.

I wonder if you have ever really hoped for something? What happened?

Show the eggs that you have prepared.

On Friday, I showed you these eggs. What do you hope will be inside?

Ask for a volunteer to unwrap the first egg (containing the sword).

- The followers of Jesus expected that he would fight for them. They hoped that he would deal with the bullies who were making their lives so difficult. Instead, Jesus was a peaceful man.

Ask for a volunteer to unwrap the second egg (containing the stone).

- The friends of Jesus went to the tomb, hoping to find his body and prepare him to be buried. Instead, they found that the stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty.

On Friday, we talked about the women who watched and waited and hoped as Jesus was dying on the cross.

Can you remember what they were hoping for?

Ask for a volunteer to unwrap the third egg (containing the cross).

- The women hoped that they would see a miracle. They hoped that Jesus would be rescued. They hoped that he would live. Jesus died on the cross and they felt very, very sad. But God had promised that Jesus would live forever, and God always keeps his promises. Three days later, the tomb was empty because Jesus had risen. He lived then and he lives now.

This Easter, we remember that we can put out hope in God.