

Come AND See



Intergenerational worship helps foster healthy faith communities and individual faith development. This segment is an opportunity for all members of your church to learn and grow together.

To maximise impact:

- Choose volunteers/participants from different generations
- Ask everyone to participate in discussions
- Involve everyone in interactive activities

Option 1: Hidden eggs with Scripture and chocolate inside

Materials:

- Plastic Easter eggs
- Printed Scripture verses - Appendix 1 (cut out and place inside plastic eggs)
- Small chocolate eggs (place inside plastic eggs with Scripture)
- Four plastic eggs for the speaker with a chocolate egg, small toy, \$20 note inside and one empty

Before the service, hide plastic Easter eggs around the room. Each plastic egg should contain a printout of the Scripture verse (see Appendix 1) and a chocolate. Give the congregation a few minutes to find as many as they can, then return to their seats.

Ask the congregation:

Do you know what the goal of an Easter egg hunt is?

Allow time for answers.

Why are Easter egg hunts traditionally done on Easter Sunday?

Responses may vary. Try and get answers from different generations.

Do you think we are missing a connection between what Easter Sunday means and the Easter egg hunt? This is what the Bible says (you could organise a child, or someone else, to read the passage out loud):

Read Matthew 28:1-6 (NIV)

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from Heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

In this Bible passage the women were going to the tomb expecting to find Jesus inside. But SURPRISE! They found something else! What did they find?

Open the egg with the chocolate.

Was it this? Or was it this?

Open the egg with the toy inside.

Chocolate and toys are pretty great, but they're not life changing, are they?

What about this?

Open the egg with the money inside.

Did the women find money inside the tomb? No? Chocolate, toys and money are super great to find in an Easter egg hunt, but that's not what the women found. Instead, they found this!

Open the egg with nothing inside.

Why do you think finding nothing inside the tomb was the most life-changing, incredible thing they could have possibly found?

Allow time for answers.

Yes! Because Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead. These women were going to take care of Jesus' body to make him ready to be buried. This is what happened back then

when someone died. But they couldn't find Jesus at all! Instead, they found an angel sitting on the stone that had been rolled away. The angel invited the women to 'come and see' for themselves that Jesus wasn't there.

Easter egg hunts are fun, and it can be really exciting when we find eggs that have chocolate inside them! But the most important eggs we could find are the ones with nothing inside them, because it reminds us of what Jesus did for us, when he died for us on the cross, then rose again to be with us here. The angel invited the women to 'come and see' that Jesus is alive. The empty egg is an invitation for us to 'come and see' that Jesus is alive!

Message

When we do something wrong, we might say 'sorry' and ask someone to forgive us. We might even try to do something nice to make up for it. Back in the time that Jesus lived, one way that the Jews tried to make up for their sin was to kill a lamb. This might seem surprising to us today but thousands of years ago, that was what happened. This lamb was called the sacrificial lamb.

Jesus was the sacrificial 'Lamb of God'. By dying, he made up for the wrong things that we have done! Jesus is inviting us to come and see him, who he is and what he has done for us this Easter. It is an invitation that is given many times in the Bible, and one that is being given to us, here today.

Jesus came to give us life to the full (John 10:10). He died on the cross that we might know what that is.

Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross for us then rising again so we could have a relationship with you. We thank you for asking us into a beautiful relationship with you, that we may know your goodness and the love you have for us.

Amen.

Option 2: Wheel of Easter guessing game

Materials:

- PowerPoint (Appendix 2)

Set up the PowerPoint to show the first slide with the empty spaces. Arrange the congregation into teams of varying ages. Try to get multiple generations in one team.

This Easter Sunday, we are starting with a little game. The aim of the game is to be the first to guess the correct word before all the letters are shown on the screen.

Play the game. Leave the last slide up on the screen.

You can see up on the screen that the last phrase is 'come and see'. Today we are celebrating Easter Sunday, the day when the women went to the tomb Jesus was placed in and found no one inside. We have been playing this game, trying to guess what the words will be. On this Easter Sunday there is no more guessing. We know Jesus is the Saviour of the world.

Scripture

John 1:35-39, NLT

The following day John was again standing with two of his disciples. As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and declared, "Look! There is the Lamb of God!" When John's two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus.

Jesus looked around and saw them following. "What do you want?" he asked them.

They replied, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

"Come and see," he said. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon when they went with him to the place where he was staying, and they remained with him the rest of the day.

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Option 3: Easter trivia: True or false

Materials:

- PowerPoint (Appendix 3)

Set up the PowerPoint and start at the first slide.

We're going to play a trivia game. If you think the answer is true, put your hands on your head. If you think the answer is false, put your hands on your hips. We will start standing up. If you get one wrong, sit down.

12 true or false questions

- Australia's alternative Easter animal to a bunny is a kangaroo
- False, it's a bilby
- Jesus was crucified on a hill that looked like an egg
 - False, the hill of Golgotha looked like a skull
- On Easter Sunday, children hunt for hot potatoes
 - False, they hunt for chocolate eggs
- In the 16th century Queen Elizabeth forbade the sale of hot cross buns other than at Easter, Christmas and burials
- True, and if you were caught baking them at home, they were taken away and given to the poor
- Easter's date is determined by the moon
 - True
- The first decorated Easter eggs were given in the year 1932
- False it was, 1290 when King Edward bought 450 eggs to be coloured or covered in gold leaf and distributed to the royal entourage
- The Easter weekend is made up of Good Friday, Mid Saturday and Easter Sunday
 - False, there is no 'day' called Mid Saturday
- Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection took place during the Jewish festival of Passover
 - True
- The first Easter eggs were dyed purple
 - False, they were red

Lots of these questions look at the history of our Easter traditions. Traditions are the things we do to celebrate and to remember. We are doing both today. We remember what Jesus did on the cross for us, and we celebrate that he is alive and we are free from sin and death.

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