

Teaching Plan - Easter

Aim - To show that Easter is about more than chocolate eggs and hot cross buns.



Welcome



Game

Guess the logo (There is an accompanying Powerpoint to download with a variety of logos to use if you wish)

When we look at logos we know immediately what it represents - when we look at the cross what does that mean to us?

And/or

Wrap some items up separately - don't wrap them too much so people can feel them and have a guess at what they are (Hot cross bun, nails, Easter egg, small cross, dice) Explain that they are all connected to the Easter story.



Talk

Ask a team member (in advance!!) to tell a story about something that has happened to them - a situation that started out badly but had a good ending.

And/or

Give everyone a black card and a white card - read out a few situations and ask people to hold up black for bad news and white for good news.

Examples could be (but make them current)

1. The supermarket has run out of bread
2. Prescriptions (need to explain) are now free for everyone.
3. It rained all day.
4. Princess Beatrice is getting married.
5. There was a train crash in Coronation Street.
6. Jesus died on a cross.



Bible reading: Matt 27:22, Mark 15: 24 and 37, Matt 28:5-6



Drama or Talk



Could use “props” and ask people to bring them and put them on table at right time or act it out.

Jesus told people how much God loved them and how he wanted them to live. Almost everyone liked this.

But not everyone...

Jesus had enemies. They plotted and planned for Jesus to be killed. They had him arrested when it was very dark. They brought him before a judge where people told terrible lies about him

They dragged him to a hill outside the city.

Jesus was nailed to a cross and left to die. The soldiers threw dice to see who would get his clothes.

His family and friends watched. They couldn't do anything.

But after he was dead, they took his body down and put it in a cave. A huge stone was rolled across the entrance.

For two days, Jesus' best friends were sad and scared.

They had believed that Jesus was a very special person.

He had loved and cared for them.

They never thought he would die like this.

Then it happened!

It was Sunday morning. Some of Jesus' friends went to the cave where Jesus was buried.

They saw that the huge stone had been rolled away.

An angel spoke to them and said, "Why are you looking for someone who's alive in a place for dead people?"

They were confused and afraid and amazed!

They rushed back to tell everyone the news.

Over the next 40 days, Jesus appeared to hundreds of people, but especially to his friends.

Jesus was alive, very much alive!

He had died but now he was alive, forever!

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Questions to test out what has been understood.

What does the hot cross bun remind us of?

What do Easter eggs remind us of?

Why did Jesus have to die on the cross?



Prayer Time

Prayer time: Have simple happy and sad faces cards - invite people to pick a card and thank God for something that makes them happy and ask for God's help for something that makes them sad or worried.



Possible Craft

Make Easter cards to give to someone else to tell them the great news that Jesus is alive.



Possible Songs

- Come on and celebrate
- Jesus has died for me and for you (Prospects)
- You can be sure (Prospects)
- Thank you Jesus for loving me.