



Fun Fish EASTER ASSEMBLIES for Primary Schools

By Eva Leaf
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2 | Fun Fish Easter Assemblies

Theme: Living with Surprises – (Easter)

Memory Verse: “Don’t let good advice go in one ear and out the other.” (Proverbs 4:2)

Sing a Song:

Welcome: Welcome the children and the Fun Fish team and theme

Puppet Introduces Theme: Did you know that in long ago people threw their cloaks on the road for someone important? It showed honour, like a red carpet being unrolled for movie stars.

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children): Jesus Rose from the Dead (Matt. 21-28)

Cast Needed:

Narrator

Jesus

Helpers

Women

Religious Leaders

Soldiers

Materials needed:

Donkey

Palm Branches

Green cloth for hill

Cross on top of hill

Grey cloth for Tomb

Black cloth pinned to a hula-hoop - for the stone in front of the tomb

White cloth to cover Jesus

Puppets Chat about Theme (interactive): Has something ever surprised you? Something wonderful? What did you do? Something not so wonderful? What did you do?

Short Prayer: “Dear God, thank you for the Surprise of Easter. Thank you for filling our lives with good surprises. Amen.”

Sing a song:



Story: Living with Surprises – Jesus Rose from the Dead. (Easter) (Matthew 21-28)

The news was out! Jesus did amazing things. His helpers knew it. The crowds knew it and everyone loved him. Well, almost everyone. “He’s too popular,” the religious leaders hissed. “We must stop him.”

Now Jesus planned to go into the city. “Find me a donkey,” he told his helpers. “I must ride in today.” The helpers found one and put a cloak on it.

When Jesus sat on the donkey, something surprising happened. The crowds laid their cloaks on the road in front of him, like a red carpet. Some even laid branches down. “God sent you to us,” they shouted. “You will save us.” Then they ran beside him and cheered.

The religious leaders watched. “We must kill Jesus,” they whispered to each other. “This is getting out of hand. He is too powerful.”

One night the religious leaders sent soldiers to catch Jesus. They said he deserved to die, and had him nailed to a cross. They killed him, just like that. What a horrible surprise. How could they do that? Weren’t religious leaders supposed to be good?

Some helpers lifted Jesus off the cross. They put his body in a cave, and rolled a huge stone in front of it. They went away, crying. Their hero was dead.

But the religious leaders laughed and sent two soldiers to guard the tomb. “Make sure no one steals the body,” they ordered.

Three days later, at sunrise, two women went to visit the tomb. There was another surprise. An earthquake! The soldiers and women fell to the ground. They saw an angel came down from heaven and roll the giant stone away.

The soldiers shook with fear and fainted. The women stared. “Don’t be afraid,” the angel said. “Jesus isn’t here. He’s alive. Take a look in the cave and see for yourselves. Then go and tell his helpers.”

The women tiptoed in and looked around. Jesus was gone! They turned to run and bumped into someone. “Hello,” the man said.

The women looked at him. “Jesus!” they cried and fell down at his feet. That was the best surprise of all. Jesus was alive!

“Don’t be afraid,” Jesus said. “Go and tell everyone the good news.” It really was good news. So good, the women ran and told everyone.



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Theme: Forgive Everyone – (Easter Story)

Memory Line: “Avoid evil and walk straight ahead. Don’t go one step off the right way.”
(Proverbs 4:27)

Sing Songs:

Welcome: Introduce Fun Fish team and “Forgive Everyone”

Puppet Act Out Bible Theme:

What is Easter all about? One puppet thinks it is about Easter Eggs. Another about chocolate bunnies. Another says, “Actually Easter is all about forgiveness.”

“What is forgiveness?” asks a puppet.

“Forgiveness is not getting even.”

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children): “Easter Story” (Luke 22 - 24)

Cast needed: Narrator

Jesus

Soldiers

Religious Leaders

Materials needed:

White Robe for Jesus

Garden on one side of stage

Hill where Jesus dies on the other side of stage

Soldiers gear

Puppets Chat about Theme (interactive):

So, what is forgiveness? How can we forgive others?

Short Prayer: “Dear God, help us to forgive. Help us to do what is right. Amen.”

Sing a song:

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Story 14: "The Sun Disappears" – (Easter Story) (Luke 22 – 24)

Jesus was kind to everyone. People thought he was wonderful. Well...almost everyone. The religious leaders hated him. He was just too good for them.

The religious leaders stood in the temple. "We must get rid of that man," they said. "We need to find him all alone and grab him when no one sees."

One night, someone tipped them off. Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane. The religious leaders laughed. "Now we can get rid of him," they said.

They called the temple soldiers. "Soldiers, go catch Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane."

The soldiers bowed. They marched to the garden with swords and clubs. They surrounded Jesus and waved their weapons. "We got you," they shouted.

But Jesus didn't cry or run away. He stood there, calm. "Why do you come with swords and clubs?" said Jesus. "I'm not doing anything wrong."

But the soldiers didn't listen. They had to follow their orders. They grabbed Jesus and dragged him away. They took him to the religious leaders. "Here is the man," they said.

"This man says he's the Son of God," said the leaders. "He's lying. Get rid of him."

The soldiers bowed. They followed their orders. They took Jesus out to a hill called Golgotha. They hung him on a cross. Then they sat down to guard him.

Jesus looked down and felt very sad. "Dear God, please forgive those soldiers," he prayed. "They don't have a clue what they are doing." Then Jesus died, just like that.

Suddenly the sky turned black, like night. The soldiers jumped up. They were scared. "This man really was the Son of God," they said. "We just killed an innocent man."

The leaders were there too. They gloated and went to the temple to celebrate. But they found the giant curtain tore in two. God did that to open the way, so people could come to him.

Three days later Jesus rose again. He walked out of that tomb. Jesus really was the Son of God. He came to forgive the world. Those soldiers got it right.



6 | Fun Fish Easter Assemblies

Theme: CROSS TO BELIEVE – Easter

Welcome: MC welcomes children, introduces Fun Fish and theme. Everyone believes in something, but do we believe what is true.

Memory Line: “For everything God made is good.” (1 Timothy 4:4)

Sing a Song:

Puppet Introduces Theme: If someone told you a crazy story would you believe them? If they told you they walked on the moon, or had super powers? What if they promised you it was true? Would you believe them then?

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children): “Jesus Keeps His Promise” (John 2, 20)

Materials needed:

Temple
Cross
Hill

Cast: Narrator

Jesus
Helpers
Temple leaders
Sad woman

Puppets Chat on Theme (interactive): What are some promises you made that are hard to keep? Like tidying your room...never fighting...

Short Prayer: “Dear God, please help us to keep our promises. Amen.”

Sing a song: If you’re Happy and You Know it...keep your promise!

...Wave Good Bye



Story: “Jesus Keeps His Promise” (John 2, 20)

Jesus and his helpers sat in the temple. It was beautiful, with pillars and arches. “If you destroy this temple,” said Jesus, “I will raise it up in three days.”

The temple leaders scratched their heads. “That is impossible. It took 46 years to build this place.” They thought Jesus was talking about the temple, but he wasn’t.

It didn’t take long for those temple leaders to hate Jesus even more. “Everyone likes him,” they hissed. “Nobody likes us. We must get rid of him.” They dragged him to the temple.

But what were the temple leaders going to do now? Jesus never did anything wrong. He never told a lie, or hurt anyone. How could they get him in trouble?

They scratched their heads. Finally a man stood up. He raised his hand. “I know! Jesus said he will rebuild the temple in three days. That is impossible. That proves he is wrong.”

The temple leaders nodded their heads. “This is a serious crime. Jesus must die. We cannot have liars around.”

They dragged Jesus out of the house, down the street, out of the city, and up a hill. They put him on a cross and left him there. But his helpers sat nearby. They cried. How could someone so good get treated like that?

Jesus died later that day and his helpers took him down from the cross. They laid him in a tomb and cried again. But that was because they forgot that Jesus always kept his promises, even if they didn’t understand.

Three days later some of the helpers went back to the tomb, but Jesus’ body was missing. “Where is he?” cried the helpers. “What have the temple leaders done?” But they forgot that Jesus kept his promises, even if they didn’t understand.

They all went back to their homes, all except one lady. She stood at the tomb crying. Suddenly Jesus stood beside her. “Why are you crying?” he asked.

She looked at him and it took her a moment to recognize him, but then she fell to the ground. “Jesus, you’re alive!”

“Yes! Yes! I am. Now go tell my helpers the good news.” The lady ran with all her might. Now she knew Jesus always kept his promises, no matter how impossible they seemed. You see, the temple was his body, not a building. Jesus did tell the truth.



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Theme: Tell the Truth (Easter)

Memory Line: “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.” Colossians 2:23

Sing a Song:

Welcome: Introduce Fun Fish team and theme

Introduce Theme: This story is about a man who dared to tell the truth, even when people didn't believe him. Puppets discuss what it means to tell the truth. Is it a white lie? Or leaving out information? Or is it saying it as it is?

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children): Tell the Truth (Luke 22-23)

Cast needed: narrator –

Jesus

Angry crowd

Pilate

Materials needed:

Olive grove where Jesus is captured on one side of stage

Pilate's house centre stage

Hill with crosses on other side of stage

Puppets Chat on Theme (interactive): It is hard to tell the truth, especially if we might be into trouble? It takes a hero to tell the truth. How can we learn to tell the truth?

Short Prayer: “Dear God, please help us to be truthful with those around us. Help us to help others to tell the truth. Amen.”

Sing a Song:



Story: Tell the Truth (Easter) (Luke 22-23)

Wherever Jesus went he always told the truth. If sisters were fighting he showed them the right thing to do. If brothers wanted to get even with their enemies, Jesus told them to love their enemies. He always said what was true.

But one of the things he said seemed a bit crazy. "In a little while I will die," said Jesus, "but three days later I will rise again." Jesus' helpers wondered... was this the truth?

Not long after Jesus' enemies set a trap. They would find him and catch him and kill him. One night they found him and dragged him away. They beat him and spit on him.

The next morning those wicked leaders had second thoughts. "Maybe we should get some proof that Jesus is bad," they said. But they couldn't find a single thing wrong. Jesus was a good man. He had done good things.

Those wicked leaders had an idea. "Jesus," they asked, "are you the Son of God?"

Jesus never lied. "Yes," he said.

That was enough for those wicked leaders. "We don't need any more proof," they shouted. "We have heard with our own ears that he claims to be God. He deserves to die. Let's get the governor to execute him."

Those angry leaders dragged Jesus to the governor. "This man is evil," they shouted.

The governor asked Jesus some questions. But then the governor turned to the wicked leaders. "You leaders, this man has done nothing wrong. He doesn't lie."

Those angry leaders almost exploded. "Crucify him! Crucify him!" they shouted.

"Why?" said Pilate. "He has done nothing wrong."

"Crucify him!" screamed the leaders. "Crucify him!" They started a riot.

Pilate gave in and sentenced Jesus to death. They took Jesus and hung him on a cross. But Jesus never lied. Before he was killed, remember what he had said? It was something very important. "Soon I will die, but three days later I will rise again."

Sure enough three days later, Jesus rose again. He met with his helpers and they had meals together. The helpers remembered what Jesus had said. Jesus always told the truth.



Theme: Finding Love – (Easter Story)

Memory line: “Look for wisdom like silver. Search for it like hidden treasure.” Proverbs 2:4

Sing a Song:

Welcome and Introduce Theme: Introduce Fun Fish team and theme

Bible Facts with Puppets: Puppet discuss ‘what does it mean to be show love?’ They ask each other.

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children): “Finding Love” (John 11)

Cast needed: Narrator

Jesus

Crowd

Helpers

Materials needed:

Cross on hill on one side of stage

Olive tree on other side of stage

Court house in centre stage

Puppets Chat on Theme (interactive): In the story how did Jesus show love? How can we show love?

Short Prayer: “Dear God, thank you that you show love to us. Help us to show love to others. Amen.”

Sing a Song:



Story: Finding Love – Easter Story (John 18-19, Luke 22)

Jesus had friends everywhere. He had enemies too. It was dangerous for Jesus in go some places. People actually wanted him dead. For three years he escaped. But one night...

...Jesus was in an olive grove praying with his friends. Suddenly a crowd of soldiers and church leaders surrounded them. They carried weapons and lanterns. “What do you want?” asked Jesus, even though he knew.

“Jesus of Nazareth,” they said.

Jesus raised his arms. “I am he,” he said.

All at once the soldiers and church leaders jumped back. They fell to the ground as if they had fainted. “Who do you want?” asked Jesus again.

The soldiers and leaders shook themselves. “Jesus of Nazareth,” they said again.

Jesus pointed to himself. “I already told you that I am he. But please let the rest of my men go.” Jesus loved his helpers and he didn’t want them to get hurt.

But one the helpers grabbed a sword. His name was Peter. He swung it at the crowd of soldiers and leaders. “Stay away from Jesus,” shouted Peter. “You’re not taking him away.” Then Peter slashed at one of the men. He cut off that man’s ear.

“Stop, Peter,” commanded Jesus. “Put that sword away. I must go with these men. This is what God wants.”

Peter drew back. He put his sword away. But Jesus reached out and touched the place where the man’s ear had been. Suddenly that ear reappeared again, as if it had never been cut off. You see, Jesus loved that man as well, even though he was an enemy.

Those soldiers and leaders took Jesus away. They tried him in court and found him guilty. But Jesus loved them too, even though they lied about him and put him to death. “Father,” said Jesus, as he hung on the cross, “forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Jesus died, and the Bible says he rose again. Jesus did it because he loves. He loves everyone so much.

12 | Fun Fish Easter Assemblies

Theme: Feeling Sorry: “A big Man in Trouble” (EASTER)

Memory Line: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” Mark 12:31

Welcome

Song

Puppet introduces Theme: Puppets on a beach. There is a “no swimming” sign. One puppet goes in and is overwhelmed by the water. One puppet throws in a welly. It doesn’t work. Another rings their mum for help, but she lives far away. Another throws in a life ring. The puppet is saved, but it realizes it didn’t obey the “no swimming” sign and says sorry.

Bible Story (spontaneous drama with children) Easter - A Big Man in Trouble (John 18, 21)

Materials needed:

The garden where Jesus is arrested in middle of stage

The priest’s house on one side of stage, with a fire in front

Swords and armour

Lake on other side of stage with fish and a boat

Cast: Narrator

Jesus and helpers

Soldiers

Peter

Servant Girl, other people around fire

Puppets Chat on Theme (interactive): It is hard to say, ‘sorry.’ What should we do when we say something unkind?

Short Prayer: “Dear God, please help us to be kind in what we say. And when we make a mistake, please help us to say sorry. Amen.”

Sing a Song: If you’re Happy and You Know it, say... I’m sorry.



Story: A Big Man in Trouble – Feeling Sorry (John 18, 21)

Peter was proud to be Jesus' helper. He smiled as he walked beside Jesus. Jesus was like movie star. Peter loved every minute. One day Jesus said to his helpers, "I will be arrested and you will all run away."

"Jesus, never!" Peter replied. "I will always stay with you."

Jesus shook his head. "Peter, when the cockerel sings three times you will disown me."

Suddenly they were surrounded by soldiers. They took Jesus away anyways. But Peter followed close behind. "I'm really scared," he thought. "But I promised I would stay close."

Peter followed Jesus to a house. He stood in the front, warming himself by a fire. A servant girl looked at Peter. She pointed to him. "This man was with Jesus!"

Peter growled at her. "I don't know him," he said.

Another person pointed at Peter too. "Hey, you there. You're one of Jesus' followers"

"No, I'm not!" Peter cried.

Another stranger shouted the same, and Peter almost exploded. "What are you on about?! Leave me alone! I NEVER knew that man."

Suddenly the cockerel sang three times. Peter heard it and remembered Jesus' words. He burst into tears and ran away. "I just let Jesus down," he cried. "I disowned my friend."

Three days later Jesus was alive again. It was a miracle, but Peter still was sad. One day Peter called the other helpers. "I'm going fishing. Want to come with me?"

They rowed out on the lake. They let down their nets. Suddenly someone called from the shore, "Do you have any fish?"

Peter looked across the lake at the man. "That's Jesus!" he shouted. He jumped into the water and swam for shore. Jesus smiled at him.

Peter was so happy. Jesus wasn't angry with him. Jesus even had a job for him, to tell everyone about God. Peter knew Jesus had forgiven him.