

# HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE EASTER?

## *Let's be honest.*

Easter can be a little confusing—at least when it comes to celebrating.

On the one hand, you've got bunnies, egg hunts, and possibly the best candy options of the whole year. (What's your favorite? \_\_\_\_\_)

Then you've got the cross and the empty tomb. It's great to celebrate the REAL reason for the holiday and remember that it isn't just about bunnies and Peeps®.

The challenge is, how can you celebrate Easter when it's NOT Easter? How can you keep remembering what Jesus did after the last Cadbury Egg is gone?

## *Look around.*

- There's new life everywhere; the trees and flowers are starting to wake up and bloom.
- Look at the people God has put in your life. You can show love to them by following Jesus' example.
- Look at how God is working in YOUR life. In the good things and in the challenging things, remember that He's always with you!

# PATIENCE

*Waiting until later for what you want now*

## *Read 1 Peter 1:3*

"Are we there yet?"

Have you ever asked that question on a road trip or just driving around town? Probably so!

None of us like to wait, but waiting is part of life. That's why you've got to have patience. Patience is **waiting until later for what you want now**.

If you think about it, life is a lot like a road trip. There are times in your life when you want things to happen right away, but they don't. You think to yourself, "Are we there yet?"

At Easter, we celebrate how Jesus died for our sins and then rose from the dead. Looking back, we can see how God's Big Story led to what Jesus did for us. God's people had waited centuries for the Savior to arrive. If you were living back then, you probably would have thought, "Are we there yet?"

If we believe, we have the promise of eternal life. Jesus is alive—that's the **living hope** Peter is talking about. You can trust God, even when you're waiting. Because you know that His plans are always worth the wait!



Think for a minute about that first Easter.  
Think about everything Jesus did for you.

He was arrested.  
He went on trial.  
He was crucified.  
He rose from the dead.  
He appeared to His friends to prove He was alive.

How does that make you feel?

*Circle the words that jump out to you the most.*

<i>hopeful</i>	<i>peaceful</i>	<i>frustrated</i>
<i>sad</i>	<i>sorry</i>	<i>joyful</i>
<i>confident</i>	<i>overwhelmed</i>	<i>love</i>

That's a lot of different emotions. And you could probably think of some more, right? Talk to God about how you feel. Take some time to thank Him for sending Jesus, and for making a way for you to have a relationship with Him forever.

*Look back at the list of words for Day 2.*

Easter may be over, but you're probably still feeling a lot of those emotions that got stirred up inside you. That's a great thing! That'll help you keep remembering what Jesus did, even as you move on with the regular, everyday things in life.

What Jesus did is so monumental that it should **change** us. Every single day, it should make us want to be more and more like Him. It should make us more loving, more compassionate, more courageous and yes, more patient.

So don't forget. Don't let "regular life" drown out the living hope of Easter. Find a way to remind yourself about what Jesus did for you.

*Here's an idea . . .*

Tonight, tell your mom, dad, or older sibling about the words you circled. Tell them how you really feel—and find out why Easter matters to them, too.

