

BIBLE STORY

**MATTHEW 26:20-30;
27:1-2; 28:1-7**

Jesus has a last meal with the disciples before being hurt so bad that He dies, but then He comes back, just like He promised.

SAY THIS

**WHO CAN TELL OTHERS
ABOUT JESUS?
YOU CAN TELL OTHERS
ABOUT JESUS.**

DO THIS



MORNING TIME

When you go into your child's room this month say, "Happy Easter, [child's name]! Jesus is alive!"



DRIVE TIME

As you drive, look for people through the windows. When you or your child sees someone, cup your hands around your mouth and say, "Big news! Jesus is alive!" (Mom or Dad can cup one hand since the other is on the wheel.)



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child this month and pray, "Dear God, I pray [child's name] will believe Jesus is alive and that He wants to be [his/her] friend forever. Help me know how to tell [him/her] about Jesus and why Easter is so special. I love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



BATH TIME

Add one of your child's favorite water safe toys to bath time. Cover the toy with a washcloth and say, "[Toy's name] went away." Uncover the toy and say, "[Toy's name] came back!" Encourage your child to do the same. Talk about how Jesus went away and He came back, just like He promised.

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EASTER SUNDAY

by Sarah Anderson

IT'S EASTER!!!! JESUS IS ALIVE!!!!!!

Today is about a lot of things. First of all, it's about Jesus keeping His promises. He told the disciples He would leave and then come back, and when Peter and John and Mary went to the tomb and saw it was empty, and then saw Jesus alive, they knew Jesus could be trusted. He did what He said He was going to do. So anything Jesus says, we can trust. That He will be with us, that good always wins, that we have nothing to fear. Trust, trust, trust. True, true, true.

Today also shows how patient Jesus is. He had told everyone what would happen, and when it did, He wasn't mad they didn't believe. He didn't say, "Ugh! Why don't you listen to me?!" No, He met his friends in a garden and then again in a crowded room, and then again on a beach. And while they just tried to make sense of what happened, He smiled and stayed close and cooked them breakfast. He was so patient with them. He is so patient with us.

Finally, Easter reminds us that something good can always come out of something bad. See, Jesus told us life would be hard. That bad things would happen. That things that don't make any sense would confuse us and make us wonder about God and if He is really as good

as we want Him to be. We can count on life being difficult. But Easter is all about something being more true than life just being hard. Easter is about something new and something good happening in something old and something bad.

As parents it can be really easy to get discouraged in a tough season with our kids. It can feel like it can never end and things will never get better. But Easter is the reminder that no season lasts forever and to hang on. The story will get better.

It's like a new flower poking through the dirt after a long and cold winter.

It's like a new baby smiling at his mama and daddy, after a long night of crying and no sleep.

It's like the first day of summer vacation after a long year of getting up early for school.

That's Easter. (Except about a million times better!) The moment something really good arrives after something really hard. When life conquers death!

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