

Kids Story Time

In this portion you will look at 5 Easter story symbols.

In your box you will find a brown bag, a piece of white cloth, a nail, and a picture of praying hands. Get a small cup from the kitchen and put it, plus the other items, in the brown bag.

You will then pull the items out in this order: Cup, Praying Hands, Nail, then White Cloth.

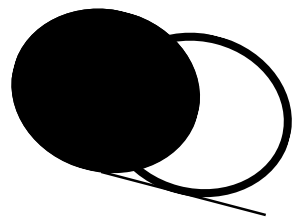
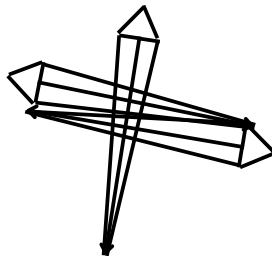
The Empty Bag will then represent your last symbol of the Empty Tomb.

As you pull out each item, read the scripture and small paragraph that corresponds.

Then take a minute to ask the corresponding question and let the kids answer.

Interactive Fun: when the bag is empty, ask one of the kids to reach in, without looking, and pull out whatever is left. The kid will try to find something but will eventually say it's empty or nothing is there. You can then reply along the lines of "That is just like the tomb." Thank your child for assisting and have them sit back down as you finish reading the scripture and then ask the question.

Once completed, pray over the lesson and the children.



This Kids Lesson should last about 5 minutes. It can lengthen depending on how long conversations go after asking each question.

There are many wonderful symbols in the Resurrection story and you are welcome to add in other symbols that may be special in your heart. Some ideas:

A Stone
An Angel
A Spear
Bread

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The Cup represents Communion

Matthew 26:26-29



"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'"

We receive communion now in remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. We drink it in remembrance that he paid the price that we would be whole and well.

Question: When did you last take communion? Where were you? Who were you with?

The Praying Hands represent Jesus Praying in the Garden

Mark 14:32-36

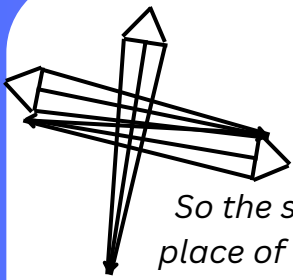


"They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,' he said to them. 'Stay here and keep watch.'

Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. 'Abba, Father,' he said, 'everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.'"

Jesus takes His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He leaves them to go pray by Himself. He is deeply "distressed and troubled." He prays to God to remove the trial before Him but ends with submitting to God's plan.

Questions: When do you usually pray, at the beginning of the day or at night before bed? Did you know you can pray all day?



Nails in the Cross represent the Crucifixion of Jesus

John 19:16-18

"Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle."

Jesus was beaten and mocked. He had a crown of thorns placed on His head. The soldiers took Jesus to Golgotha and crucified Him on the cross: a nail in either hand and one in His feet. Then the soldiers divided His belongings and threw dice for His robe.



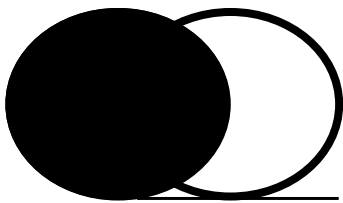
The Linen Cloth is representative of the Burial of Jesus

Matthew 27:57-60

"As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. "

Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for Jesus' body, and Pilate gave it to him. Joseph wrapped Jesus' body in a long piece of white linen and placed Him in a new tomb. Then a large stone was rolled in front of the tomb.

Question: How big do you think the stone was? It says large.



The Empty Tomb represents the Resurrection of Jesus

Matthew 28: 5-6

"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. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you.'"

Jesus died on the cross. He was buried in a borrowed grave. He went to Hell to take back the keys of death, grave, and sin. He rose from the grave and is now sitting at the right hand of God.

Question: Did you know that Jesus endured all of this so we could be welcomed in to God's family?