



THINK
ABOUT
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FAMILY MOMENT

Easter is a great time to teach our kids about Jesus' death and resurrection, but it can also be difficult to gauge their understanding and what is age appropriate. Here are some tips (gleaned from lifeway.com) about sharing the true and wonderful meaning of Easter:

- Tell the whole story! You might not share all the details, but your child should know that Jesus was judged unfairly, died on a cross, and rose from the dead again.
- Focus on Jesus! He's the hero of the story! Talk about how He lived a perfect life. Help your kids to know that Jesus came to earth knowing fully that his crucifixion and resurrection would happen. He died for you and me. If your child is interested in becoming a Christian, here's an easy way (with hand motions) to explain the gospel:
 - We sinned. (Make an X with your arms.) We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 3:23)
 - God provided. (Turn your X to create a cross.) God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. Jesus alone saves us. (John 3:16)
 - Jesus gives. (Extend your hands out like you're giving a gift.) Because Jesus gave up his life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! (1 Peter 3:18)
 - We respond. (Raise your hands up above your head – like you're worshipping!) Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turn away from your sin and turn toward Jesus. Pray to God and tell others of your faith in Jesus. (Romans 10:9-10, 13)
- If you lead your child in the salvation prayer, please email kids@newhopeleeward.org. We want to celebrate with you and we have a gift for your child!

TALK
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Have you ever wondered what the world would be like without Easter? The implications would be enormous! For Christians, besides being the largest religious group with two billion people, it would also mean that our sins are not forgiven. 1 Corinthians 15:17 says, "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." That would mean that the countless people who have died before us, still died in their sins.

But if the resurrection did happen, then our sin problem no longer exists because the Resurrection vindicates the events of Good Friday. Jesus was the only person ever to have died and be eternally risen from the dead. While other people in the Bible were raised from dead (e.g., Lazarus, Jairus' daughter), they came back in their same bodies and died again.

On the other hand, Jesus came back from death with an indestructible, glorious body and provided a way to eternal life. Philippians 3: 20-21 says, "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body." One day our own bodies will be transformed like his glorious body.

1. What have been your thoughts about Good Friday and the Resurrection this past week?
2. Why is the Resurrection so vital?

Pastor Josiah shared a beautiful story of Jairus and his daughter in Mark 5: 21-43. This passage is a gut-wrenching story about a father who is desperately trying to get Jesus to come to his house so that He can heal his dying daughter.

Along the way, they were distracted by a large crowd, a woman with severe bleeding and a loud commotion with people crying and wailing around Jairus' house. After sending everyone away, Jesus brings the girl's parents, Peter, James and John to the room where the girl was lying. There Jesus spoke the words, "Talitha Koum," which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up." And "immediately the girl stood up." Can you imagine the look on her parents face when their daughter not only woke up but actually stood up? The passage says, "they were completely astonished."

Pastor Josiah reminded us that "at the end of ourselves lies the beginning of our walk with Christ." He continued, "I have found most times when people come to faith, or back to faith, it isn't because life is so good, but rather when life has gotten so hard." Sometimes it is only when we are at our very bottom that we have nowhere to look but up. It is there where the new reality of walking with God has begun.

1. How would you feel if you were Jairus in this story? (Please read Mark 5:21-43)
 2. Why do you think it is when our "backs are against the wall" that God meets us?
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1. How can the resurrection impact you every day of your life?
 2. After this past weekend, is there someone you feel the burden to reach for Jesus?

LIVE
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