

Church at Home Pack – 11th April 2021

Join us in church for our 10:30am service on Sunday or watch live at home on

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/service-type/sunday-service-online/>

If you like, join in with the discussion on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family or life group than others. We're not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!) Choose the ones which best suit you.

Our verse for the year is the same as last year's verse as we think about the difference being with Jesus makes to our lives

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:13

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

Risen Jesus, we come to you.

Holy Jesus, we worship you.

As Mary came to see you, we come too.

As Mary shared the news, we share it too.

Good news of the resurrected Lord.

Come to us, Lord, as we come to you.

Be with us today in our worship and for ever in our lives.

Amen.

Action reminder –

From the top of my head

(Touch head)

to the tips of my toes;

(Touch toes)

from the lobes of my ears

(Touch ear lobes)

to the end of my nose;

(Touch nose)

from my back, to my front

(Turn round)

to my wiggly fingers,

(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)

God loves me!

(jump up and down)

READ TOGETHER

John 20: 11-18



International Children's Bible (ICB)



¹¹ But Mary stood outside the tomb, crying. While she was still crying, she bent down and looked inside the tomb. ¹² She saw two angels dressed in white. They were sitting where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and one at the feet.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

She answered, "They have taken away my Lord. I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ When Mary said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. But she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Whom are you looking for?" Mary thought he was the gardener. So she said to him, "Did you take him away, sir? Tell me where you put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." Mary turned toward Jesus and said in the Jewish language, "Rabboni." (This means Teacher.) ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Don't hold me. I have not yet gone up to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them this: 'I am going back to my Father and your Father. I am going back to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and said to the followers, "I saw the Lord!" And she told them what Jesus had said to her.



New International Version (NIV)

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Bible story retold for younger children:

Practise together different facial expressions to use in the story.



Mary was **sad**. Jesus had died on the cross and was buried in a tomb.
Mary was **shocked**. When she got to the tomb the stone had been moved and Jesus was gone.

Mary was **frightened** and ran to tell Peter.
Peter and John, another of Jesus' friends, ran to the tomb and they were **puzzled**.

Peter and John went away but Mary stayed.
A man spoke to Mary. She thought it was the gardener.
'Where is Jesus?' she said.

Mary was **surprised**. It was Jesus. He was alive!
Mary was **excited**. She ran quickly to tell Jesus' friends.

WATCH TOGETHER



Mary's Story – John 20: 1-18 (Simon Camilleri)

<https://youtu.be/noBYj9bOMQO>

TALK TOGETHER

- Have you ever arrived somewhere and it's not been as you expected?
- Have you ever been surprised by someone you weren't expecting to see?

STUDY TOGETHER

Re-read the passage we looked at last week – John 20:1-18

v. 8-10 – In v. 9 we read that John (the other disciple) 'saw and believed'. The disciples then returned home.

v. 11 Mary is left at the tomb entrance.

- Why do you think that Mary is crying? What do you think she is feeling?

v. 12-15 We see Mary's confusion as she looks inside the tomb and meets with angels and then with Jesus, who all ask why she is crying. Mary doesn't recognise Jesus at first and it's only in v.16 when Jesus calls her by name that she sees who he is.

- Why do you think she didn't recognise him?

We don't know much about Mary Magdalene (her name presumably means that she came from the village of Magdala in Galilee).

- Read Luke 8:1-3. What do we learn about Mary from these verses?
- Read Matthew 27:55-56. The next time we read about her, where is she?

Even though Mary has lived very closely with Jesus, been healed by him, heard his teaching and witnessed his death, she is confused and overcome with grief. She couldn't see him because she didn't expect to see him.

- Do you expect to meet with Jesus? How might we meet with Jesus every day?

Mary is the first person to see the resurrected Jesus.

- Why do you think she was chosen and not one of the twelve disciples?

Mary was given the task of telling the disciples that she had seen the Lord and to give them the message in v.17.

- Has Jesus given us a message to tell others? What is it?

MAKE TOGETHER

Empty Tomb Biscuits



For each one you will need:

- 1 x Jam sandwich biscuit
- 1 x Digestive biscuit
- 1 x mini chocolate egg
- Green icing (made up from icing sugar, water and green food colouring to a thick paste)
- Sprinkles/Hundreds and Thousands

Instructions:

- Take the Digestive biscuit and spread with the green icing. This is the 'garden' and the base for your 'tomb'.
- Cut off the bottom of the jam sandwich biscuit so that it can stand upright in the icing and place it near the back of your garden biscuit. This is the 'tomb' and the jam arch in the middle is the entrance.
- Now stand the mini egg to the side of the 'tomb' entrance. This is the stone that was rolled away.
- Finally, decorate the green icing with sprinkles to look like flowers in the garden.

Have a look at the ***Do Together*** section for another idea....

PLAY TOGETHER

You will need: A blindfold (scarf)



Mary recognised Jesus when he called her name. Play a game together – take it in turns to wear a blindfold. Members of your family should say your name but should try to disguise their voice, can you still recognise who they are?

If you are feeling brave why not see if the person in the blindfold can be guided round the house just by following a voice calling their name.

SING TOGETHER

Jesus is alive – Lifetree Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpZl-39IT1k>

He is risen – Paul Baloche (written with Graham Kendrick):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDko8F4Uyrg>

Why have you chosen me – Jeramie Sanico: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqQP_8DFQVg

I'm gonna live so God can use me – Cedarhurst Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCVBKjuouKs>

REFLECT TOGETHER



Mary went to the tomb very early....

Find out what time dawn breaks (not the same as sunrise, which is a little later) and go to a place where you can see the sun rise. You could go out or just sit at an east-facing window. If you are unable to be up that early, then choose to begin your day sitting quietly.

A new perspective is often found early in the morning. Ask God to meet with you as he did with Mary on that resurrection morning, to enable you to experience something new about God's love and power. Pray that you will find ways to share God's kindness and love with others.

PRAY TOGETHER

Lord Jesus, Son of God,

Early on the Sunday Mary came to see you. Help me to come to see you.

Mary gave her time to learn more. Help us to offer our time to you.

Mary saw that you were not in the grave. Help us to know you have risen.

Mary went to others for help. Help us to get help when we don't understand.

Mary was sad at your death. Help us to understand your pain.

Mary was looking for you. Help us to search for you in our lives.
Mary met you and was changed. Help us to be changed by meeting you.
Mary left you, but knew you were with her. Help us to know you with us all the time.
Mary told others about the good news. Help us to share your good news.
Amen.

Lord of all,
we have come to the tomb,
and we have seen you in the garden.
Send us away as new people,
happy and brave, and in the light of God.
Amen.

If you have an Easter Egg left, try these ***Easter Egg Prayers***



Hold the unopened egg in your hand

The egg is like the tomb where Jesus' body was placed after he had died. What does it feel like when we are left alone, or when we can't see someone we love?

Ask God to help everyone who is sad, upset or lonely. Ask God to help anyone who has lost someone that they love.

Break the egg into pieces to reveal the hollow inside

When Jesus died it was not the end of the story- he rose to new life and was no longer inside the tomb. Something amazing had happened! Think about where, in your life, you would like a chance to start again. Silently tell God anything you are sorry about and ask Him to give you a new start. Thank God for chances to start again and ask Him to help people who are scared or worried or ashamed to have hope of a new start too.



Eat the chocolate



When Jesus rose to new life, it was amazing and we can be part of this amazing story too! God loves us so much and wants us to love Him. He wants good things for us because he loves us. Taste the sweetness of the chocolate and think about all of the people we love and why we love them. Thank God for those people and ask that he will bless them in the coming year.

DO TOGETHER

Now we can meet others outside, why not have a go at making the ***Empty Tomb Biscuits*** and share them with friends and neighbours. When you explain what they are you can tell them the Easter Story and about your faith in Jesus.





The empty tomb and the folded grave clothes were a sign to Mary, a sign of **New Life**!
Look around you this week – what signs of **New Life** can you see.
Thank God for these signs!

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*Action Reminder, Prayers, Bible Story re-told and Play Together and Reflect Together ideas taken or adapted from
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