

From Easter to Ascension

Story and where to find it	Story summary	Possible activities and resources
<p>The Report of the Roman Guards</p> <p>Matthew 28, v4 & v11-15</p>	<p>The chief priests had told the guards to make sure that nobody could get into Jesus's tomb, and the guards had rolled a massive stone across the entrance and sealed the tomb. But, of course, that wasn't enough to stop Jesus! The guards who were at the tomb shook with fear when Jesus appeared, dressed in white. After the Resurrection, the guards went back to tell the chief priests what had happened. The chief priests didn't want everyone to know the truth though, and they paid the guards lots of money to pretend that the disciples had stolen Jesus's body.</p>	<p>Imagine you were one of the guards who found Jesus's tomb empty, and had to tell the chief priests what had happened. Write a short report, telling them the facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The massive stone had been rolled away • Jesus's body was not in the tomb • Jesus appeared, clothed in white – he was not dead anymore! <p>Make a list of adjectives to describe how the guards felt when Jesus appeared.</p> <p>Colour this picture of a Roman guard: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/37550?album=roman-soldier-coloring-pages</p>
<p>On the Road to Emmaus</p> <p>Luke 24, v13-35</p>	<p>Cleopas and one of the other disciples were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus when they met a stranger on the way. They walked together and they told the stranger about how Jesus had been crucified and seemed to have risen from the dead. They didn't seem completely sure that Jesus really was alive again. The stranger explained how all of the things that had happened to Jesus had been predicted in the Old Testament of the Bible. The three then stopped to eat together – and when the stranger broke the bread the two disciples suddenly realised that he wasn't a stranger at all – it was Jesus!</p>	<p>The two disciples didn't recognise Jesus, even though they had known him really well before the crucifixion. Can you make a disguise for yourself so that it is hard for people to recognise you?</p> <p>Write a short description of someone that you know really well, without mentioning their name. Can your family work out who you are describing just by reading your description?</p> <p>Try this wordsearch about the story of the Road to Emmaus: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1677133?album=road-to-emmaus-coloring-page</p>

		<p>Colour this picture of the Emmaus story: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1677118?album=road-to-emmaus-coloring-page</p>
<p>Doubting Thomas John 20, v24-29</p>	<p>Soon after the Resurrection, a large group of the disciples were eating together when Jesus came and stood among them. They were delighted to see him, and now truly believed that Jesus had risen from the dead. However, Thomas (one of the disciples) was not there and he was still not sure. He wanted to see Jesus with his own eyes. A week later, the disciples were meeting again and this time Thomas was with them. Jesus appeared again, and this time Thomas saw him. He knew that it really was Jesus because he could see the wounds from the crucifixion in his hands and his sides. Now Thomas was as happy as the other disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.</p>	<p>Do some research to find out what kind of food the disciples would have been eating for their evening meal, and then draw or write a menu to show what you found out.</p> <p>Colour this picture about Doubting Thomas: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/49077?album=doubting-thomas-coloring-pages</p>
<p>The Miraculous Catch of Fish John 21, v1-14</p>	<p>A group of the disciples were fishing on the Sea of Tiberias. This was a large lake, and many of the disciples were fishermen – they didn't use fishing rods, but used big nets to catch fish. They fished all night and caught nothing. They were about to give up when a stranger on the shore saw them and told them to try one last time. This time their net was so full of fish they could hardly lift it up! At this point the disciples realised that the stranger on the shore was Jesus, because nobody else could perform miracles like that. The disciples all scrambled eagerly to shore so they could talk to their friend.</p>	<p>This is the last miracle that Jesus performs that is described in the Bible. Can you make a list of ten more miracles that Jesus performs?</p> <p>If you have any coloured paper or tissue paper at home, could you cut out a fish shape and make a mosaic picture of a fish, to remind you of the ones that Jesus helped the disciples catch?</p> 

		<p>Colour this picture of the disciples catching the fish: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/314517?album=jesus-miracles-coloring-pages</p>
<p>Ascension Day – Jesus is taken up into Heaven</p> <p>Matthew 28, v16-20 & Acts 1, v3-11</p>	<p>After forty days, the time came for Jesus to be taken up into Heaven. Jesus met with the disciples one last time on the Mount of Olives. He explained to them that he wanted them to continue with the work that he had started to do – to tell everyone about God's wishes. After that, Jesus was taken up into Heaven right before their eyes, until he was hidden from sight by a cloud.</p>	<p>How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus go up into Heaven? Were they <i>sad</i>, because they knew they would miss him? Were they <i>happy</i>, because they knew he was going to be with his Father? Were they <i>scared</i>, because Jesus had asked them to do a huge job and tell people all about him, or were they <i>excited</i> because they wanted to tell everyone the good news?</p> <p>Can you pretend you are one of the disciples and write a description of how you feel as Jesus is taken up into Heaven? Think about the different adjectives you can use to describe your feelings.</p> <p>Colour this picture of the Ascension: https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1693163?album=ascension-coloring-page</p>

How to use this resource:

This learning pack is meant to be used at home as a resource for home learning during the covid-19 lockdown period. It covers the events between Easter, when Jesus was crucified and then rose again, and Jesus's ascension into Heaven – which happened 40 days later.

There are lots of good online Bibles that you can use – the International Children's Bible is one good version to use with children: <https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/International-Childrens-Bible-ICB/> and the Message Bible is also easy to read: <https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Message-MSG-Bible/#vinfo>

A number of activities are suggested for each of the five Bible stories. These are intended for children of different ages and abilities, so may need some adapting to suit your family's needs.

Minimal resources are needed – other than access to the internet and (ideally) a printer.