



# Revival Church Kids Sessions: April

April 2015

Date	Theme	Learning point: What is the lesson?	Bible & 21 ref
FRI 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Good Friday	To learn about the Last Supper and the link with communion To understand that Jesus dies, but that's not the end of the story	Luke 22 v 7 - 23 BBS: pg 200 - 205
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday	Jesus defeated death and rose again so that we can be with him forever	Luke 24 v 1 - 12 BBS: pg 206 - 210
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Joseph and his brothers	To understand the beginning of Joseph's story	Gen 37 v 1 - 11 BBS: pg 34 & 35
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Joseph goes to Egypt / Joseph's important job	To know that God had a plan for Joseph's life	Gen 37 & 41 BBS: pgs 36 & 37
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Joseph helps his family	To understand that God's plan involved his family too	Gen 42 v 1- 13 and 45 v 1 - 13 BBS: pg 38



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (3-6s)

## GOOD Friday

### Games you might play

#### **Washing feet**

Get the children to sit down with their shoes and socks off. They have to wet each other's feet with a flannel without getting their own feet wet by someone else!

#### **Pass the cup**

Like pass the parcel, with a cup of juice. Each child has their own straw. When the music stops they may have a drink of the juice with their straw.

### Crafty ideas:

Make a cross using various craft materials. Explain this is a symbol of our hope, not a symbol of death.

This subject needs to be covered delicately! Many children understand what death is about, but we don't want to frighten them. It's fine to gloss over the details like "Some people didn't like Jesus and wanted to get rid of him, they put him on a cross and he died" but be sincere and try to answer their questions gently!

### Possible Activities:

Lay out a Passover meal and have some of the foods to taste. Explain that this was part of Jewish tradition to remember being freed from slavery in Egypt.

Make an Easter garden (see below)

Why did Jesus wash his friends' feet? What could we do today to show our friends that we love them? Come up with some ideas.



### Prayer idea:

Have a child-friendly communion (Googling this will give you some great ideas)

### Things you might talk about:

Talk about special meals and how it's nice to share them with our friends. What do you think the friends felt like when Jesus said that sad things would happen?

### **Food ideas:**

Make bread - You can get quick-make packet mixes, or prep the dough before and just get the children to knead and shape it

Try and get hold of some of the items from a Passover meal - crackers, horseradish, mixed fruit etc to taste.



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (7-11s)

## GOOD Friday

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#### **Pass the cup**

Like pass the parcel, with a cup of juice. Each child has their own straw. When the music stops they may have a drink of the juice with their straw.

### Possible Activities:

Why not have a whole Passover meal (without the slaughtered lamb!) and explain what would happen - the way the story was re-told and the things that the food stands for. There are loads of good resources on line for this.

Make an Easter garden (see right) with soil, grass seed, stones and crosses

Why did Jesus wash his friends' feet? What would be today's equivalent? Come up with some ideas, write down the ones you think you could do this week.

Make a cross from beads / iron-beads / wood / wool / crochet / paper

### **Food ideas:**

Make bread - You can get quick-make packet mixes, or prep the dough before and just get the children to knead and shape it

Get a few of the items from a Seder / Passover meal to taste - crackers, fruit, horseradish etc.

### Easter Garden:



### Things you might talk about:

What would it have been like at that Passover meal? Jesus said some very confusing things about being betrayed and dying. What do you think the disciples would have been thinking?

Why is the cross the symbol of our hope, even though it was the place where Jesus died?



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (3-6s)

## Easter Sunday

### Games you might play

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Hide some empty plastic eggs around the room and get the children to find them. When we open them and we're disappointed, explain that once the disciples found something empty where they were expecting something (tomb) but that wasn't disappointing at all!

#### **Chocolate game**

Children take it in turns to throw a dice. When they throw a six, they get to go into the middle, put on hat, scarf and (thick) gloves and try to eat a bar of chocolate with a knife and fork. They have only got until the next person throws a 6 though!

### Possible Activities:

Explain that this is the biggest celebration day for Christians! Jesus rising again means we can be with him in heaven for ever!

Explain the reason for Easter eggs - the new life idea.

Have a party! Make today a real celebration for the children so they understand the joy of the day.

Make Easter gardens (if they didn't do it last week!)

### Crafty ideas:

Make Easter cards

Make chick / eggs pictures or a moving picture with an egg that opens with a split pin to reveal a chick inside!

Paint hard boiled eggs

### Book idea:

Books about caterpillars (Especially The Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle – Judith has a big copy to borrow) are great for explaining how Jesus died in his body, was wrapped and then rose again gloriously!

### Things you might talk about:

How the friends felt to think that Jesus had gone forever, then to see him again!

### Food ideas:

Eat hot cross buns! Use them to explain the symbolism of the cross.

Make Easter nests using chocolate, shredded wheat and mini eggs



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (7-11s)

## Easter Sunday

### Games you might play

#### **Fluffy bunnies**

Children have to put a marshmallow in their mouth and say "fluffy bunnies" without swallowing / choking / chewing. Repeat until they can't fit any more marshmallows in. Winner is the one who can get the most in and still say "fluffy bunnies"

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### Possible Activities:

Explain that this is the biggest celebration day for Christians! Jesus rising again means we can be with him in heaven for ever!

Explain the reason for Easter eggs - the new life idea.

Have a party! Make today a real celebration for the children so they understand the joy of the day.

Make Easter gardens (if they didn't do it last week!)

Spend some time looking at the sequence of events and try to put it in order with a time frame around it. Why do we say Jesus died for 3 days?

### Crafty ideas:

Make Easter cards

Make traditional Easter eggs (paint hard boiled eggs with patterns and pictures)

### Things you might talk about:

How did the disciples feel after Good Friday? What about when they first heard reports that Jesus was alive again?

You might want to make the link between them and us – we are waiting for the coming back of Jesus – a bit like Easter Saturday!

### Food ideas:

Eat hot cross buns! Use them to explain the symbolism of the cross.

Make Easter nests using chocolate, shredded wheat and mini eggs

What were tombs really like in those days? Look into the etiquette / traditions and design of tombs – you'll find some good resources on the internet.



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (3-6s)

## Joseph and his brothers

### Games you might play

#### **Odd one out**

Get one child to stand outside the room while someone in the room changes something about themselves – change a hair slide, wear a hat, swap shoes with someone. The child comes in and spots who has changed. Take it in turns to do the changing and the spotting.

### Possible Activities:

Make a chain of paper men - the middle person, decorate with bright colours and a smiley face. The rest of the people are the brothers - decorate with plain clothes and grumpy faces.

Joseph was the favourite - what's your favourite... Make a display of your favourite things

Cut 2 large heart shapes out - one saying "jealous heart" and one saying "thankful heart". Explain to the children what these hearts look like and give examples of both jealousy and thankfulness. Get the children to stick a happy face or a sad face on the heart they think is good or not.

### Prayer idea:

Think about dreams and ask God to give us good dreams for our future.

### Crafty ideas:

Create a large collage of Joseph by drawing around one of the children on large paper and sticking lots of colourful bits of paper etc. on it.

Create individual collages by drawing Joseph and his brothers. Make one of the people Joseph by sticking coloured paper on his coat.

### Things you might talk about:

How does it feel when a brother / sister / friend gets something really great and you get nothing?  
How would God want us to respond?

### Food ideas:

Decorate gingerbread men with brightly coloured icing

Make rainbow cupcakes - make a few different coloured cupcakes (using food colouring) then slice them into 3 horizontally. Layer them in clear plastic cups with frosting / buttercream between the layers.



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (7-11s)

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### Possible Activities:

Make a chain of paper men - the middle person, decorate with bright colours and a smiley face. The rest of the people are the brothers - decorate with plain clothes and grumpy faces.

Cut 2 large heart shapes out - one saying "jealous heart" and one saying "thankful heart". Ask the children for examples of these then stick the examples around the appropriate heart. Which would you rather have?

See how many words you can make out of the letters for the words "Joseph's brothers"

### Crafty ideas:

Create a large collage of Joseph by drawing around one of the children on large paper and sticking lots of colourful bits of paper etc. on it.

### Things you might talk about:

Sibling rivalry! What can we do to get on better with our siblings (or friends if they are only children)

Both the brothers and Joseph acted unwisely – what did they do (Joseph boasting, brothers jealous). Do you ever do those things? What can we do to make sure our thoughts are Godly?

### Food ideas:

Decorate gingerbread men with brightly coloured icing

Make rainbow cupcakes - make a few different coloured cupcakes (using food colouring) then slice them into 3 horizontally. Layer them in clear plastic cups with buttercream between the layers.

Memory game: Have a look at the names of Joseph's brothers. Who can remember them? This is good to do as it will help the names of the tribes of Israel become more familiar





# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (3-6s)

## JOSEPH GOES TO EGYPT / IMPORTANT JOB

### Games you might play

#### **Buckaroo**

This is a great game if you can get hold of it – load up the camel before it bucks!

#### **Gather the corn (rice)**

Put some rice into a bowl (unless you have a supply of corn!) and have a relay – how much rice can you get to a bowl at the other side of the room using just one hand?

### Possible Activities:

Talk about how Joseph had been given his special gift (dreams and knowing what they mean) early in his life, God had something in mind for him for when he grew up!

Draw out a time-line of the sequence of events or make a little book of the story!

### Books to read:

Try getting some books about Egypt and let the children explore that land!

### Things you might talk about:

Dreams – can you remember any dreams that you have? What are your favourite kind of dreams?

### Crafty ideas:

Make a “God keeps me safe” craft – bookmark, badge, keyring, bracelet etc.

### Food ideas:

Make 2 pizzas or decorate 2 biscuits – one with lots of topping on to stand for the 7 years of plenty, and one with very little on for the 7 years of famine.





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### Possible Activities:

Think of people who do an important job, locally and nationally. Why not write a letter to them thanking them for working hard and for everything they do (even if you don't agree with them!)

Have a look in a grown-up Bible at the dreams Joseph interprets for the king - arty children might be able to draw them out!

### Crafty ideas:

Make a “God keeps me safe” craft – bookmark, badge, keyring, bracelet etc.

### Things you might talk about:

Think about dreams – what sort of dreams are your favourite? God gave Joseph a special gift of hearing God through dreams, but he didn't know how important it would be until he got older. God had a plan!

### Food ideas:

Make 2 pizzas or decorate 2 biscuits – one with lots of topping on to stand for the 7 years of plenty, and one with very little on for the 7 years of famine.

Why not try looking at Joseph's journey – how did he get to Egypt? How far was it? How long would it have taken?



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (3-6s)

## Joseph helps his family

### Games you might play

#### **Gather corn**

Draw out 12 sheaves of wheat. Put them in the middle of three chairs. 3 children are "on" at the same time – they have to get 6 sheaves onto their chair but can only take one at a time. Once the ones from the middle are gone, they can take from the other chairs. Adjust the numbers to make it harder / easier.

### Possible Activities:

Think of some ways you can help your family this week. Draw round your hand and write in the palm "My helping hand". Write on each finger each time you helped your family this week and bring it back full!

Think of people who help you. Why not make a card to say thank you for their help.

Make a "wonderful meal" from playdough - what would you have?

### Prayer ideas:

Ask God to help you see when you can help others. Do handprints to offer your hands to God for Him to use to help others.

### Crafty ideas:

Make split-pin men that stand up against Joseph with his special coat on, but bow down when you turn Joseph over and he's wearing his special Egyptian robes.

### Things you might talk about:

This is the point where we see that God really had a plan, not just for Joseph, but his family too! Point this out when recapping the story

### Food ideas:

Make some bread or have a "wonderful meal"



# Revival Church Kids sessions: ideas (7-11s)

## JOSEPH HELPS HIS FAMILY

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#### **Gather corn**

Draw out 12 sheaves of wheat. Put them in the middle of three chairs. 3 children are "on" at the same time – they have to get 6 sheaves onto their chair but can only take one at a time. Once the ones from the middle are gone, they can take from the other chairs. Adjust the numbers to make it harder / easier.

### Possible Activities:

Think of some ways you can help your family this week. Draw round your hand and write in the palm "My helping hand". Write on each finger each time you helped your family this week and bring it back full!

Think of people who help you. Why not make a card to say thank you for their help.

Design a menu for a "wonderful meal" and ask someone at home if you can make it!

### Crafty ideas:

Make split-pin men that stand up against Joseph with his special coat on, but bow down when you turn Joseph over and he's wearing his special Egyptian robes.

### Things you might talk about:

Would the brothers have been happy or not to see Joseph? How does this story help us when we consider being mean to someone?

Do you think it was just an accident that Joseph's brothers happened to see him? God had a plan!

### Food ideas:

Make some bread or have a "wonderful meal"

Ask God to help you see when you can help others. Do handprints to offer your hands to God for Him to use to help others.