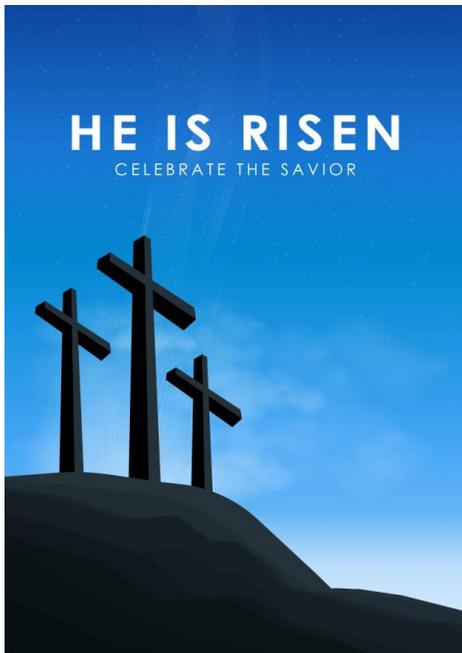


Thoughts for Busy Parents

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR 'BRINGING FAITH HOME'



JESUS IS ALIVE!

Wow, I can't believe it is already time for the next Thoughts for Busy Parents e-newsletter!

Now I know many of you are probably only just getting your head around the schools being back open and what you are going to do with all that free time you have now (HA!).

But 'bringing faith home' doesn't have to be hard work. It's simply about being intentional with everyday opportunities to talk with your children about what you believe and what the bible says. Something I know many of you are already doing. Here are some simple ideas to help you along the way.

Liam

JESUS IS ALIVE!

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures"

~ 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

At some point in the last year you've probably felt that life was out of control. That you're a passenger on this crazy roller coaster of ups and downs. And that's only natural.

However, let's make sure we don't project that feeling on to the Easter story. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Paul reminds us that Jesus death was not an accident and his return to life a divine do-over. Oh no, this was the plan all along. Every moment of Jesus' life led up to the cross and the empty



tomb. At Easter we are reminded that it was always the Father's plan to rescue us - me and you - from our sins. How do we know this? The Bible tells us on every page. The King will come. The King will die. The King will live.

Happy Easter. Jesus is alive!

Celebrate Easter With Us

Sun 28th March, 10:30 - Palm Sunday

Fri 2nd April, 19:00 - Good Friday

Sun 4th April, 10:30 - Easter Sunday

For more info see our website:
www.AboutACC.com

Easter - Roadmap to Life!

STEP 1: The King Arrives



STEP 2: The King Dies

STEP 3: The King Lives



Join us at Ashford Congregational Church (TW15 2QA)

Garden, Curtain and Cross

Perfect for 3-6 year olds
A journey from Eden to New Creation centering on how Jesus' curtain-tearing death and resurrection changes everything.

RRP £7.99



IDEAS: Bringing Easter Home

AN AUDIO EASTER: One struggle with reading the Easter story to the family is its length. Mark is the shortest, but it is still five chapters. That might feel too daunting to attempt in a structured family devotion time. If so, **why not opt for an audio bible?** Audio bibles are great - I use them ALL the time. They're portable, and many are free on the [YouVersion app](#) (inc. NIV). Try listening to a bit of the Easter story in the car with the kids on the way to/from school each day, or just before bed.

EASTER STORY STONES: For years my eldest was obsessed with [Rory's story cubes](#). Little picture dice that you roll and use to tell a story. Easter stones work a similar way. With the kids, **decorate stones with visual clues to the main events of the Easter story** (they don't need to be fancy). When they are dry, pop them in a bag or a box. Then before bed or during family time, ask someone to shut their eyes, select a stone, and describe the event. Or, lay them all out, mix them up, and put them in correct order. A great Easter Holiday's activity.



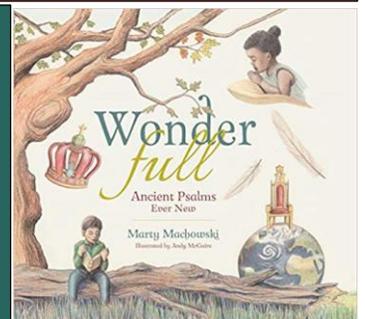
BUILD A LEGO EASTER SCENE

I love Lego! If like us you have a box of bits, why not put it to good use and build a Lego Easter scene with your family. A great weekend afternoon activity. It could be modelled on an Easter Garden or a scene from Holy Week like the Triumphal Entry, the Last Supper, or Good Friday. Remember, the goal is not accurate reconstruction. The Lego is a means to a conversation so remember to ask questions (who, what, when, where, why, how?). It is also supposed to be fun, so don't push you child(ren) to finish it in one go. When they get bored, tidy up, and come back to it later.

Resources: Books and Bits

Easter is a great time to invest in some books for your family. Here are my top picks:

- [Wonder Full - Marty Machowski](#). A child-friendly guide to the Psalms, helping children to pray, worship, and engage with God in all seasons of life. Perfect for ages 7+. RRP £22
- [The Beginners Gospel Story Bible - Jared Kennedy](#). A wonderfully illustrated gospel centered walk through the bible. Colourful pictures for little ones, but plenty for older ones to get their teeth into. RRP: £5 (3+)
- [Everyone a Child Should Know - Clare Heath-Whyte](#). Does your family know it's Augustine from it's Whitefield? Look no further! This Book is a delightful intro to "The saints of old, that lined the way". (4+)



Liam Maguire

Family Pioneer
Ashford Cong. Church

Get in touch:

Liam@Aboutacc.com
01784 240014

Good News: Sunday school and creche to restart on Sunday 18th April. Planning on coming? Let us know: info@aboutacc.com