



The First Easter Story & Activities



Kids.

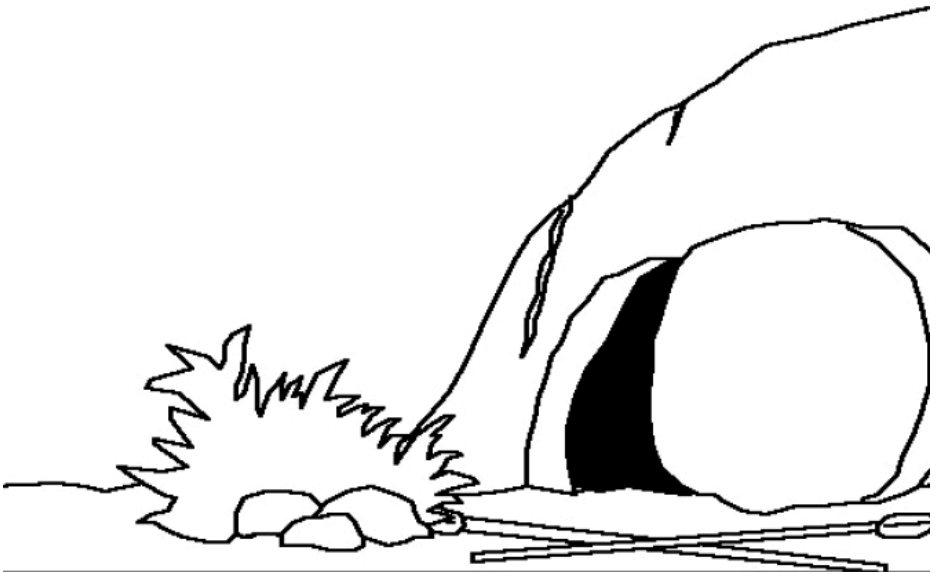


Story

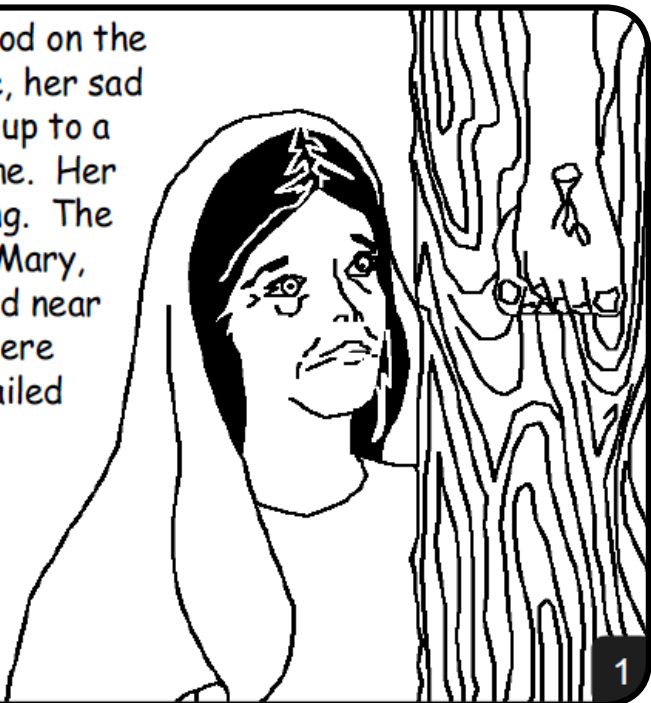


Read & Color

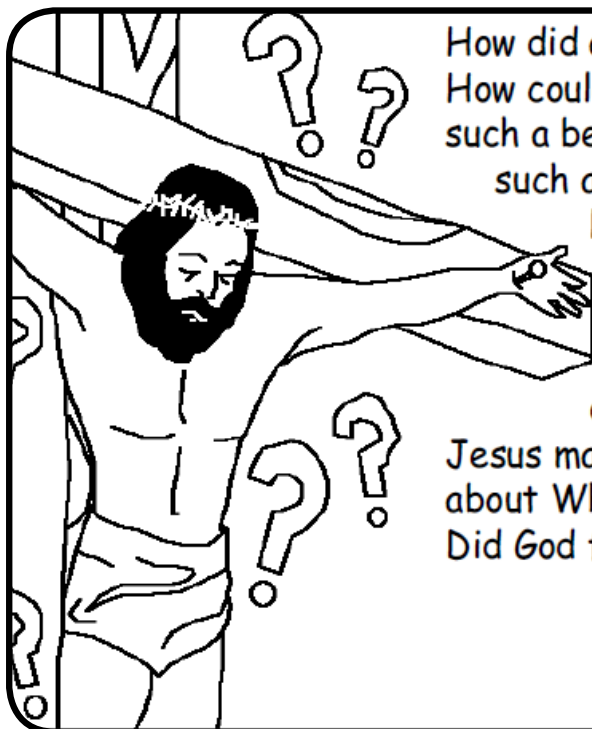
The First Easter



The lady stood on the noisy hillside, her sad eyes looking up to a terrible scene. Her Son was dying. The mother was Mary, and she stood near the place where Jesus was nailed to a cross.



1



How did all this happen?
How could Jesus end
such a beautiful life in
such an awful way?

How could God
allow His Son
to be nailed
to a cross to
die there? Did

Jesus make a mistake
about Who He was?
Did God fail?

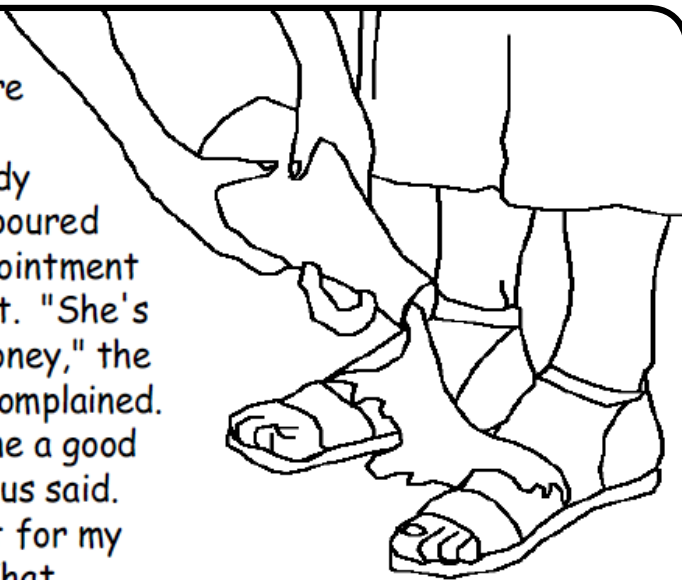
2



No! God didn't fail. Jesus hadn't made any mistake. Jesus always knew He would be put to death by wicked men. Even when Jesus was a baby, an old man named Simeon had told Mary that sadness lay ahead.

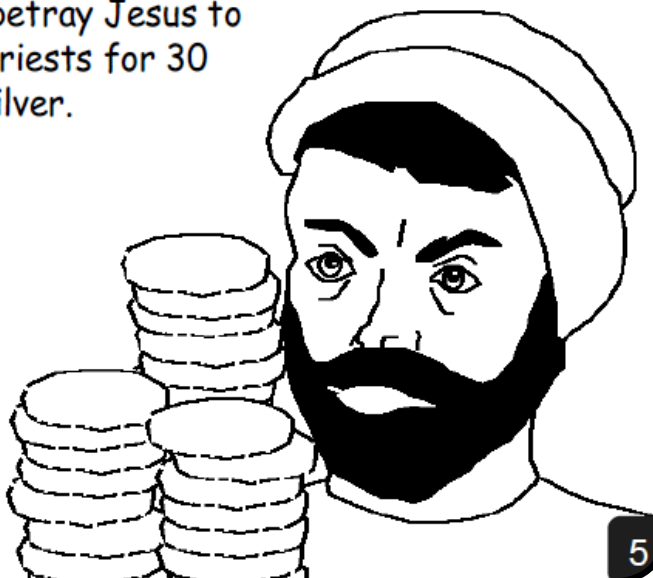
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A few days before Jesus was killed, a lady came and poured perfumed ointment on His feet. "She's wasting money," the disciples complained. "She's done a good work," Jesus said. "She did it for my burial." What strange words!

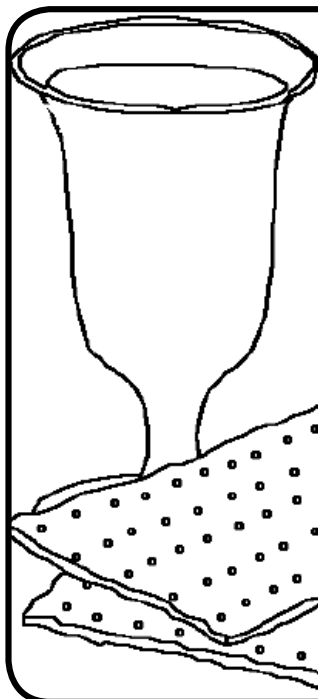


4

After this, Judas, one of Jesus' twelve disciples, agreed to betray Jesus to the chief priests for 30 pieces of silver.



5



At the Jewish Passover feast, Jesus had His last meal with His disciples. He told them wonderful things about God and His promises to those who love Him. Then Jesus gave bread and a cup for them to share. These were to remind

them that Jesus' body and blood were given to bring

forgiveness for sins.

6

Then Jesus told His friends that He would be betrayed, and they would run away. "I won't run away," Peter insisted. "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times," Jesus said.



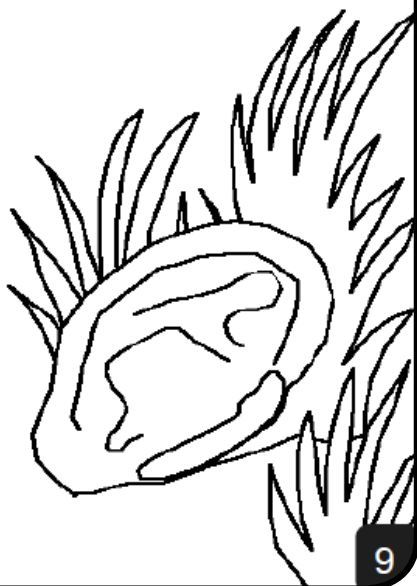
7



Later that night, Jesus went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. The disciples who were with Him fell asleep. "O My Father," Jesus prayed, "... Let this cup pass from Me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

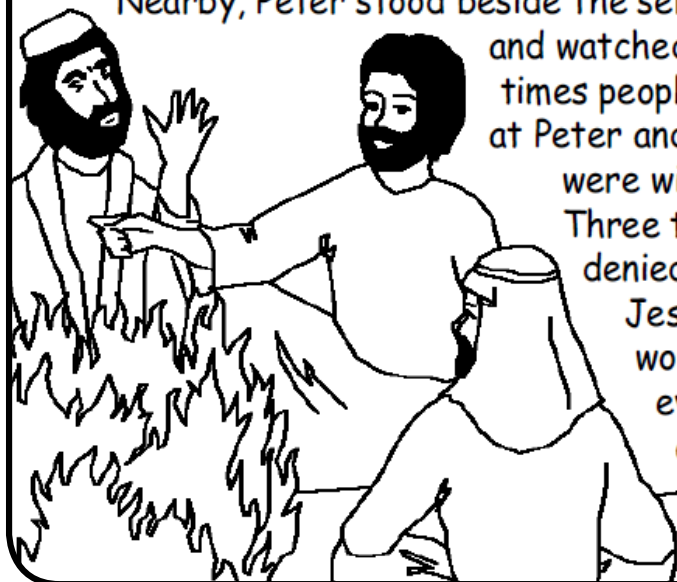
8

Suddenly a mob marched into the garden, led by Judas. Jesus did not resist, but Peter cut off a man's ear. Quietly, Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him. Jesus knew His arrest was part of God's will.



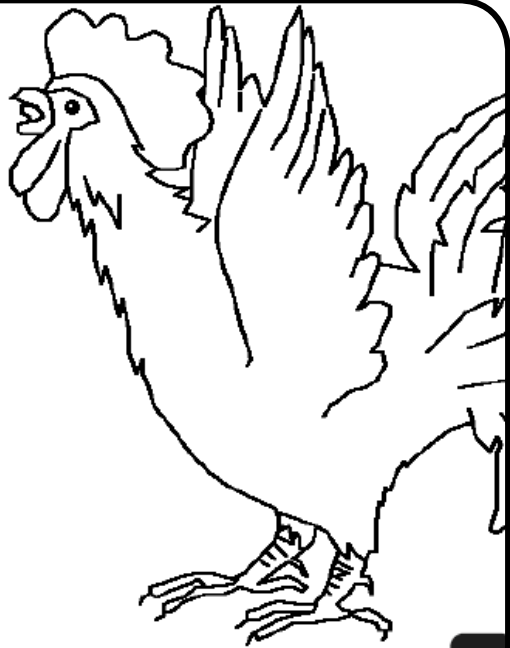
9

The mob took Jesus to the high priest's house. There, the Jewish leaders said Jesus should die. Nearby, Peter stood beside the servants' fire and watched. Three times people stared at Peter and said, "You were with Jesus!" Three times Peter denied it, just as Jesus said he would. Peter even cursed and swore.



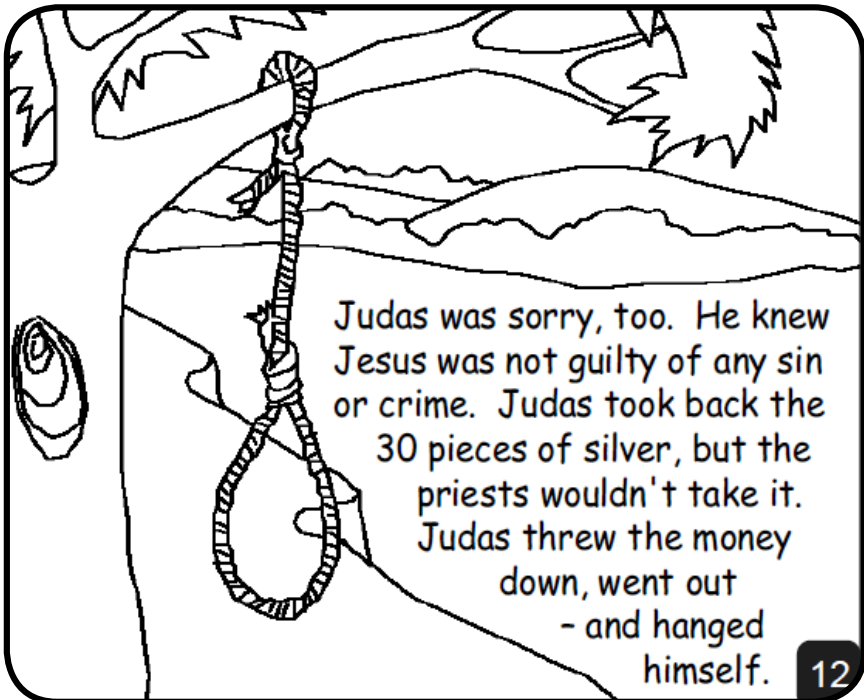
10

COCK-A-
DOODLE-
DOO



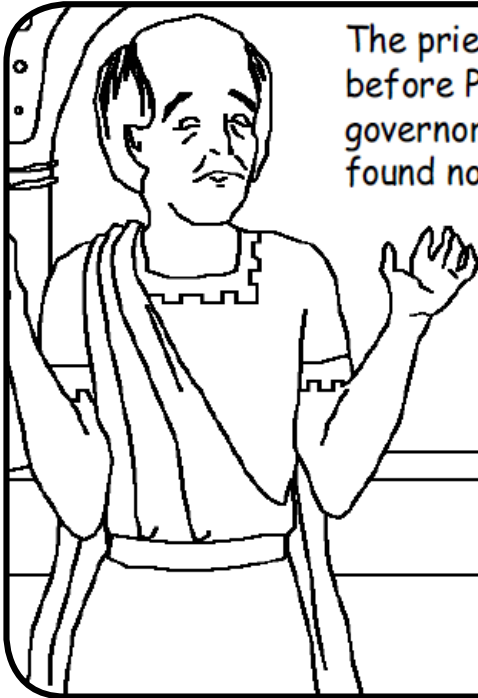
Just then, a rooster crowed. It was like God's voice to Peter. Remembering Jesus' words, Peter wept bitterly.

11



Judas was sorry, too. He knew Jesus was not guilty of any sin or crime. Judas took back the 30 pieces of silver, but the priests wouldn't take it. Judas threw the money down, went out - and hanged himself.

12

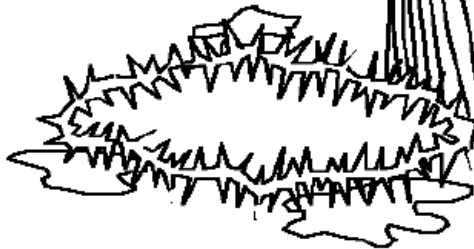


The priests brought Jesus before Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate said, "I have found no fault in this Man."

But the mob kept crying, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

13

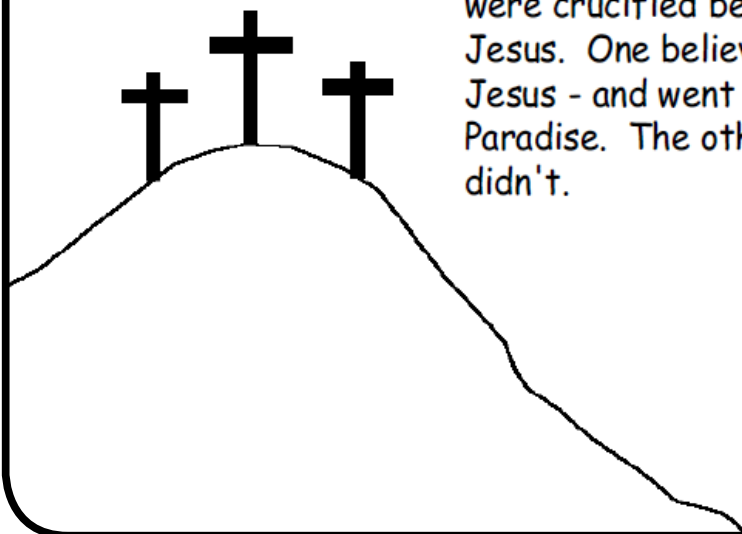
Finally Pilate gave in, and sentenced Jesus to die on a cross. The soldiers punched Jesus, spit in His face, and whipped Him. They made a cruel crown of long sharp thorns and pressed it onto His head. Then they nailed Him to a wooden cross to die.



14

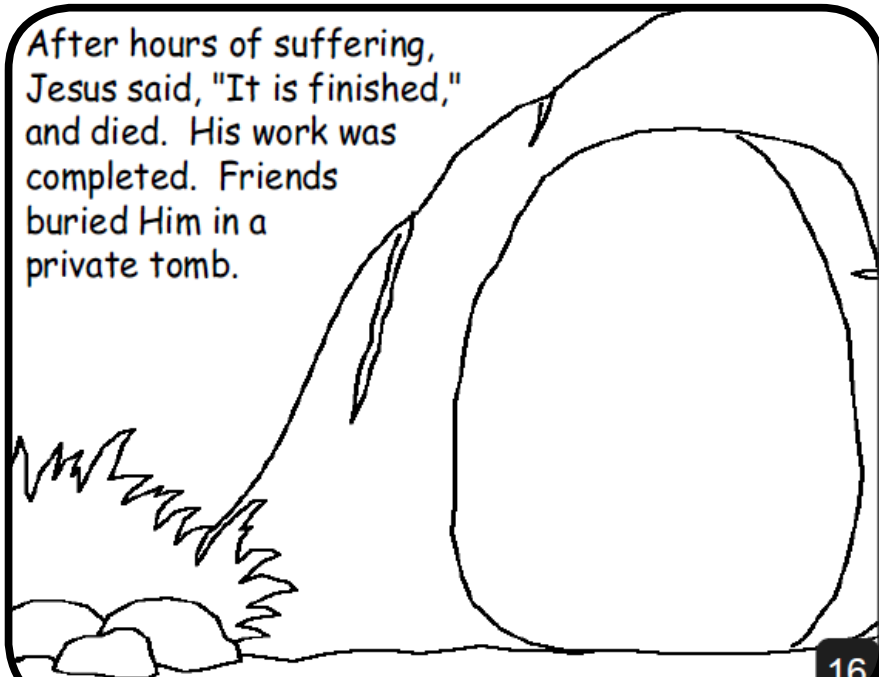
Jesus always knew He would die that way. He also knew that His death would bring forgiveness for sinners who put their trust in Him. Two criminals

were crucified beside Jesus. One believed on Jesus - and went to Paradise. The other didn't.



15

After hours of suffering, Jesus said, "It is finished," and died. His work was completed. Friends buried Him in a private tomb.

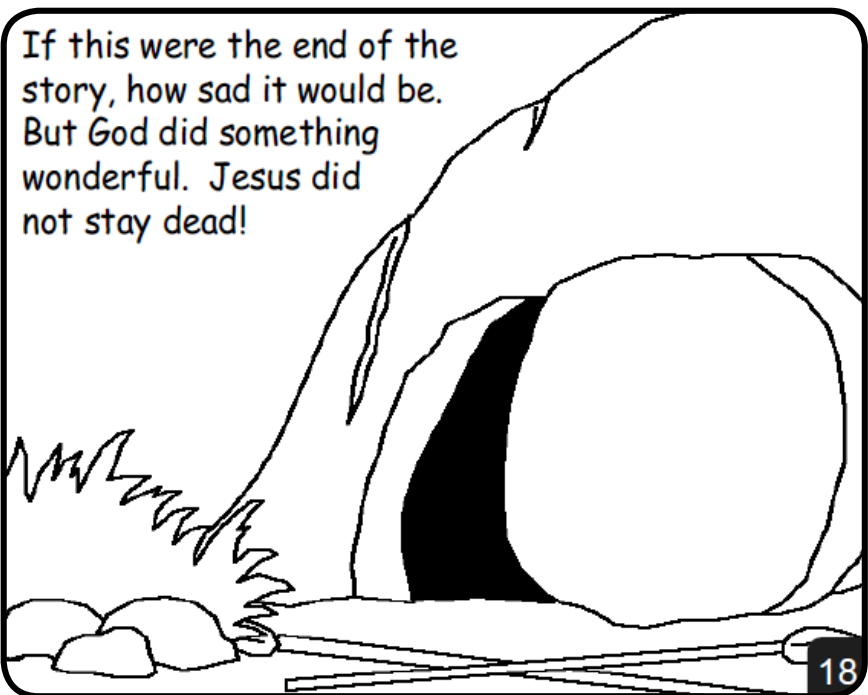


16

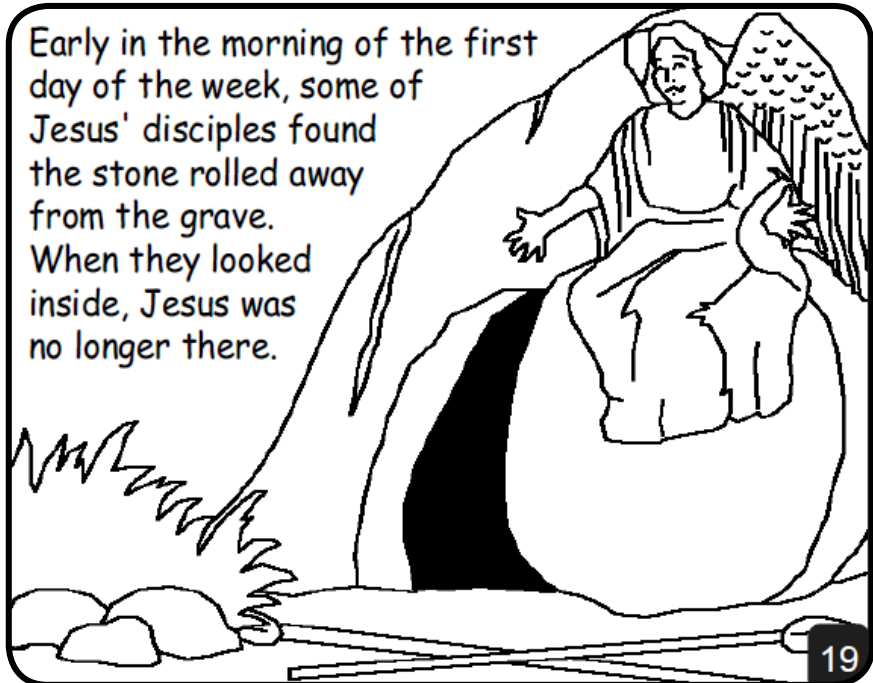
Then Roman soldiers sealed
and guarded the tomb.
Now nobody could
get in - or out.



If this were the end of the
story, how sad it would be.
But God did something
wonderful. Jesus did
not stay dead!

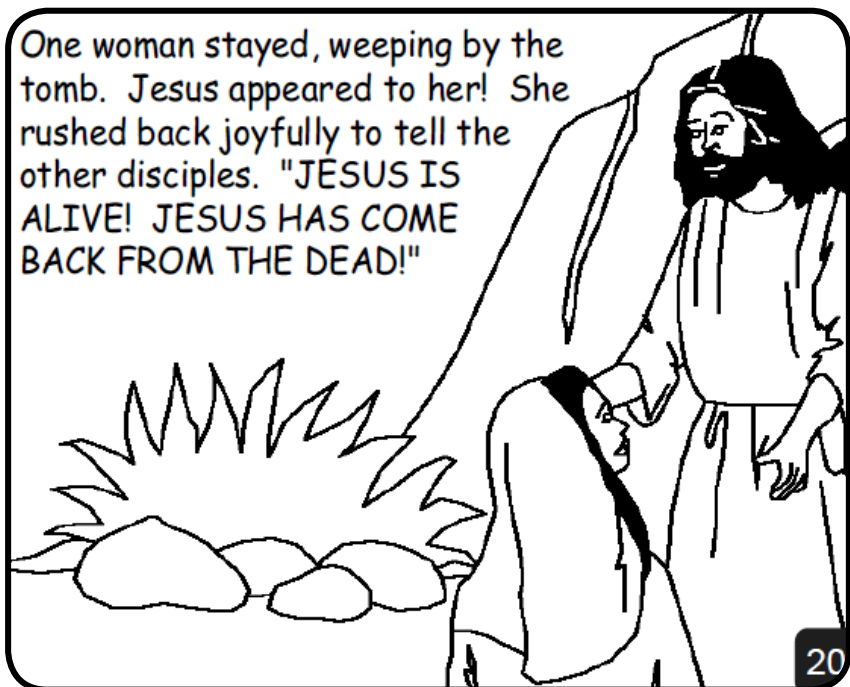


Early in the morning of the first day of the week, some of Jesus' disciples found the stone rolled away from the grave. When they looked inside, Jesus was no longer there.



19

One woman stayed, weeping by the tomb. Jesus appeared to her! She rushed back joyfully to tell the other disciples. "JESUS IS ALIVE! JESUS HAS COME BACK FROM THE DEAD!"



20

Soon Jesus came to the disciples, and showed them His nail-scarred hands. It was true. **JESUS WAS ALIVE AGAIN!** He forgave Peter for denying Him, and told His disciples to tell everybody about Him. Then He went back to heaven where He had come from that first Christmas.

21

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The penalty for sin is death.

God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and pay our penalty.

Jesus came alive and went back to Heaven!
Now God can forgive our sins.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God: Dear God, I believe Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so I can have new life now, and then be with You forever. Help me live for You as Your child. Amen. John 3:16

Read the Bible and talk to God every day!

Activites



Jesus Is Alive!

Jesus Dies and Lives Again

—John 18, 20

Who am I? Draw a line from each sentence to the person or persons who did it.

1. Early Sunday morning, I came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been moved.



JOSEPH AND
NICODEMUS

2. I saw Mary crying in the garden and called her by name.



MARY
MAGDALENE

3. I ran to tell Peter that I didn't know where Jesus' body was.



PETER AND
JOHN

4. We ran to the tomb to see what had happened.



JESUS

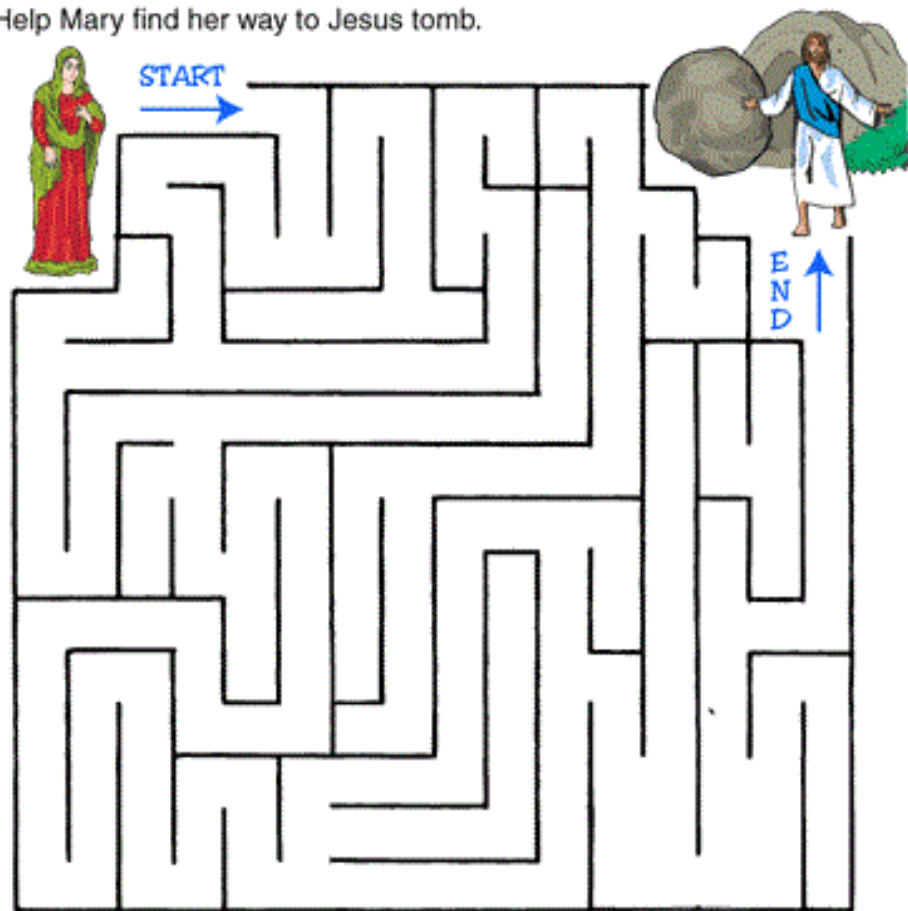
5. We asked Pilate for permission to bury Jesus.

Jesus is Alive Maze

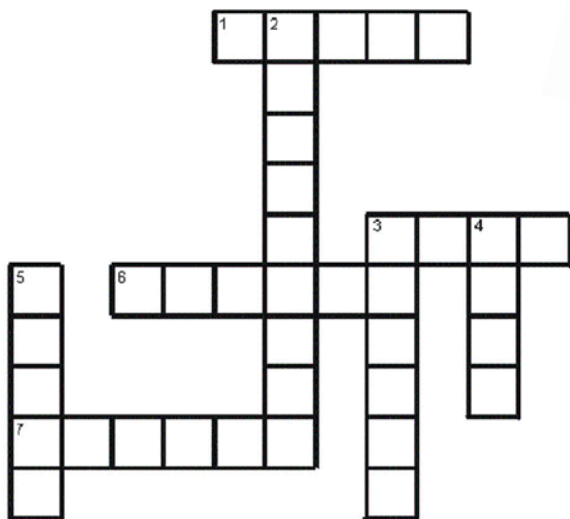
Early Easter morning, Mary Magdalene visited Jesus' tomb. The stone had been rolled away, and Jesus was not in the tomb. She was very sad because she thought someone had taken Jesus' body.

Then Mary saw a man she thought was the gardener. She was so happy to see the man was Jesus! She ran to tell the disciples Jesus was alive.

Help Mary find her way to Jesus tomb.



The Resurrection of Christ



Across

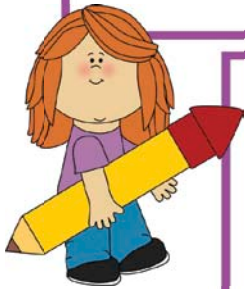
1. Who told the women that Christ had risen. Matt. 28:2
6. The man who gave his own tomb for Jesus. John 19:38
7. Village the disciples that met Jesus were headed toward. Luke 24:13

Down

2. This man helped Joseph bury Jesus. John 19:39
3. Jesus showed this disciple his wounds. John 20:24
4. One of the first women to see the tomb and Jesus. Last name Magdalene. Matt. 28:1
5. The first disciple to enter the tomb and see the graveclothes. Luke 24:12

Easter Word Search Puzzle

Circle the words that you find.



Alive
Angels
Cross
Dead
Disciples
Easter
Father
Gardener

God
Holy Ghost
Jesus
Joanna
John
Mary
Peter
Rabboni

Resurrection
Sepulchre
Tomb



Connect the dots by using the given Bible Verse (Matt 28:6)

He is
said. Matt 28:6 not here:
He as He For
risen, is

Kids.

