

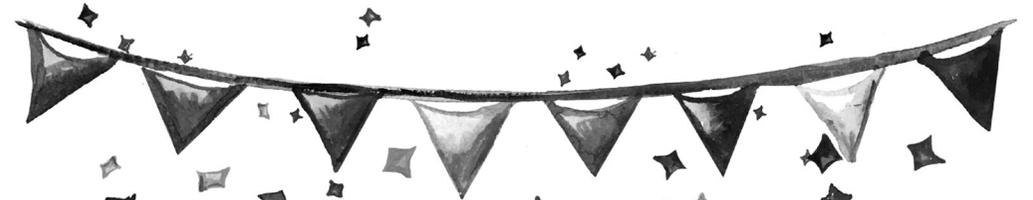
Celebrate

**A Family Easter Guide Through
7 Attributes of Jesus**



A FAMILY TIME TRAINING RESOURCE

CELEBRATE



Celebrate

**A Family Easter Guide Through
7 Attributes of Jesus**



A FAMILY TIME TRAINING RESOURCE

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Celebrate: A Family Easter Guide Through 7 Attributes of Jesus

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends,

There are two Biblical events on which the entire Christian calendar hinges: 1) the Incarnation (the birth of Jesus Christ) and 2) the Resurrection (the raising of Jesus from the grave). We observe the “waiting” for the Incarnation (both Christ’s first and second coming) with **Advent** which is the beginning of the Christian calendar. Family Time Training has three excellent Family Guides you can find at famtime.com/shop.

Lent is ushered in by **Ash Wednesday** 40 days before **Resurrection (Easter) Sunday**, not including Sundays. **Holy Week** is full of meaningful days of the Lenten season including: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. And of course, Resurrection Sunday: Easter!

Eastertide begins with Resurrection Sunday and continues until **Pentecost**, of which **Ascension Day** is a key element. You’ll learn more about “Celebrate.”

“Celebrate” is designed to help you grow in your understanding of the attributes of Christ and celebrate the gift of His life, death, and resurrection on behalf of all who would believe.

You can use this guide either weekly from Ash Wednesday to Resurrection Sunday OR daily from Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday.

Our prayer is that this time spent doing Family Time together as a family will grow each one of you in your amazement for the gift of Jesus Christ, in knowledge of His Holy Word, and passion for sharing the Good News with those who have not yet heard.

For the Glory of God,

Jenna Hallock
Executive Director
Family Time Training

SUGGESTED ORDER

Weekly Lenten Order:

1. Ash Wednesday - Eternal Son
2. Week 2 - Humble Savior
3. Week 3 - Compassionate Savior
4. Week 4 - Perfect Man
5. Week 5 - Joyful Leader
6. Week 6 - Risen Lord
7. Week 7 - Victorious King
8. Week 8 - Resurrection Day

Daily Holy Week Order:

1. Palm Sunday - Eternal Son
2. Monday - Humble Savior
3. Tuesday - Compassionate Savior
4. Wednesday - Perfect Man
5. Maundy Thursday - Joyful Leader
6. Good Friday - Risen Lord
7. Saturday - Victorious King
8. Easter Sunday - Resurrection Day

MATERIALS LIST & PREPARATION NOTES

Activity 1 Materials:

- Bread slices
- Cookie-cutter or knife
- Sprinkles
- Peanut butter/chocolate hazelnut spread
- Frosting
- Marshmallow creme or mini marshmallows
- Small candies

NOTE: You can use other food supplies you have on hand or that your family prefers.

Activity 2 Materials:

- One gallon zip-lock bag
- Travel sized toothpaste and toothbrush
- Small hand-sanitizer
- Lip-balm
- Travel-size deodorant
- Small package of band aids
- Trail mix
- Mission cards - printable download available at famtime.com/celebrate

IN ADVANCE

With older children, you could go shopping together and let them choose items to include in the care package.

Activity 3 Materials:

- Red, White, and Green Construction Paper (1 piece of each color per person)
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Pen or marker

Activity 4 Materials:

- 10 ping pong balls
- 10 5-ounce paper cups
- Black permanent marker

IN ADVANCE

Using a permanent marker, write the numbers 1-10 on each of the ping pong balls and the cups. (One ball and one cup will have #1; one ball and one cup will have #2 and so on.)

Activity 5 Materials:

- Hard-boiled eggs (at least one per person)
- Shaving cream
- Baking Sheet
- Tin foil
- Food coloring (purple & red)
- Wooden craft stick, straw or knife

IN ADVANCE

Hard boil your eggs and leave the shell on. Line your baking sheet with tin foil for easier clean up.

Activity 6 Materials:

- Assorted coins
- Aluminum foil
- Scissors
- Large bowl
- Water

IN ADVANCE

Fill a large bowl with water and gather about 20 coins (almost any assortment of pocket change will do). You'll need two sheets of aluminum foil. One will be smaller and cut/folded into the shape of a rectangle. The second will be large enough for the first to fit inside of it. See the video included at famtime.com/celebrate.

Activity 7 Materials:

- 2 Chairs
- Tape
- A paper crown
- Purple fabric (a towel or sheet would work well)
- Red fabric (a towel or sheet would work well)
- Confetti

Optional for Bonus Activity:

- Blank party invitations
- Stamps
- Envelopes
- Pen
- Paper
- Ideas provided at famtime.com/celebrate

IN ADVANCE

Set up a chair at the end of a room to symbolize a throne. Lay out the red sheet to symbolize a red carpet. Have the crown and purple sheet (to represent a robe) ready for the activity. Have a second chair ready for the second half of the activity.



Activity One

ETERNAL SON

 **BIG IDEA** 

Jesus is God. He never had a beginning and will never have an end.

 **KEY SCRIPTURES** 

John 1:1-3 & 14 (CSB)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created...The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 1:15-20 (CSB)

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for

him. He is before all things, and by him all things hold together. He is also the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile everything to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

- Bread slices
- Cookie-cutter or knife
- Sprinkles
- Peanut butter/chocolate hazelnut spread
- Frosting
- Marshmallow creme or mini marshmallows
- Small candies

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

INTRODUCTION

We are going to prepare for Easter this year in a very special way. We are going to focus on who Jesus is and why Easter is such an important time for us to CELEBRATE!

Easter is a time to remember Jesus' life and death. It is sad to think about Jesus having to die, but we celebrate that this saves us from our sins! What an amazing thing to CELEBRATE!

DISCUSSION

The Bible tells us about Jesus being present at the beginning of all creation. In fact, Jesus is God and never had a beginning. When do most people think Jesus first showed up? Listen to answers. *The kids might answer when Jesus was born.* Jesus is the second person of the Trinity. **We serve one God that is made up of three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. While this is a BIG idea, it is important for us to realize that Jesus has always been and will always be God. You can see an example of this in the creation account.**

Have a family member read Genesis 1:26

God refers to Himself in the plural "Us" and "Our." This is one of many examples in the Bible that shows God as the Trinity.

Does anyone know what the word eternal means? Listen to answers. *Although this is a big idea, help the kids think about the word eternal by describing it as forever, never-ending, or anything else that illustrates the fact that it never has a beginning and never has an end.* **What do you think Jesus was like before He came to earth and was born in a manger?** Listen to answers. *Hear their responses with grace and then get ready to read Scripture with them.*

Invite a family member to read John 1:1-3 & 14

Who is the "Word" that John describes in these verses? Listen to answers. *Help your family to see that John is referring to Jesus.*

What does "became flesh and dwelt among us" refer to in verse 14? Listen to answers. *This phrase refers to what is called the Incarnation. This is the time when Jesus, 100% God, came to the earth to also become 100% man, lived a perfect life, died in our place, and rose to life again.*

BONUS Reading/Discussion: Invite a family member to read Colossians 1:15-20.

What are some of the ways that Paul describes Jesus in this passage? Listen to answers. *Help your family look for how Jesus is described and what He is described as doing, etc.* **Which one of these descriptions of Jesus is new to you?** Listen to answers. *Parents, be sure to give your answers as well. It is a great practice to show your kids that you are committed to growing and learning more about your faith in Christ too.* **When Jesus is described as the “firstborn from the dead” Paul is not suggesting that Jesus had a beginning. He is reminding believers of the truth that because Jesus rose from the dead, His followers will also one day rise from the grave.**

Jesus was present before Creation as the second Person of the Trinity, He was present at Creation, and He’s been involved all throughout human history. He came to the earth, was killed, resurrected from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and is ruling and reigning even now. His reign as King will never end!

ACTIVITY

What are some foods that are shaped like a circle? Listen for answers. *You may help the kids with things like pizza, tortillas, or donuts.* **A circle doesn’t have a beginning or an end; it just continues. This gives us a great picture of eternity. For our activity, we’re going to make a tasty snack in the shape of a circle to remind us that Jesus is eternal.**

NOTE: *You can use any food you prefer, but here is one idea that works well.*

Use one slice of bread per family member and cut it into the shape of a circle. (You can make it look like a donut by cutting a hole in the middle of the bread if you’d like.) **Since we celebrate the truth that Jesus will always be with us, we can add toppings to our circle that are extra special “celebration” foods.** *Ideas might include chocolate hazelnut spread, sprinkles, marshmallow crème or mini marshmallows, small candies, frosting, etc. Encourage your kids to include whatever toppings they love best.* **These snacks are fun to make, and the shape of a circle reminds us of our Eternal Savior.** *As you eat the snack, remind your family that enjoying this treat reminds us to celebrate Jesus!*

APPLICATION

Every other religious figure in the history of mankind had a beginning and had an end. Many claimed to be gods or the prophets of gods. None of them is eternal. Only Jesus proved His identity as God by living a perfect life, dying in our place, rising from the dead, ascending into Heaven, and ruling all Heaven and Earth now and forever. King Jesus is alive, and He loves us!

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, thank you for sending Jesus into the world to die for our sins and to rise again in victory. Help our family to understand our eternal God who we learn about in the Bible. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.



Activity Two

HUMBLE SAVIOR

BIG IDEA

Jesus is God. Jesus is humble. He came to earth to serve and die. We learn to be humble from Jesus' example.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Philippians 2:3-11 (CSB)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others. Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. Instead, he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross. For this reason, God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow—in heaven and on earth and under the earth—and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 6:1-2 (CSB)

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven. So whenever you give to the poor, don't sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be applauded by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward.


SUGGESTED MATERIALS


- One gallon zip-lock bag
- Travel sized toothpaste and toothbrush
- Small hand-sanitizer
- Lip-balm
- Travel-size deodorant
- Small package of band aids
- Trail mix
- Mission cards - printable download available at famtime.com/celebrate

IN ADVANCE: With older children, you could go shopping together and let them choose items to include in the care package.

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


INTRODUCTION


In Jesus' time on earth, He gave us an example of how to live by always putting the needs of others first. The Apostle Paul teaches us to use the example of Jesus as a model for how we should treat people. Jesus describes the right motivation for helping others too. We're going to read what the Bible says about this in just a minute.


DISCUSSION


Tell me about a time when you needed help and someone helped you. Listen to their stories. **We've already learned that Jesus is God. He lived in heaven before He became a man. What would be some of the biggest differences between the Heaven that Jesus left and the Earth that He came to as a baby?** Listen to answers. *You can guide them by bringing up sickness, loss, bad weather, betrayal, death and/or any other effects of sin on the world.* **If you were in Heaven, would you want to come to the earth with all these problems?** Listen to answers.

Invite a family member to read Philippians 2:3-11.

Jesus, though 100% God, loved us so much that He left Heaven, came to earth, and lived with all the temptations and hardships that people deal with. He came to serve. Not only did He come to earth to serve, but to serve those that would eventually kill Him on the cross! Jesus knew what the people would do but came anyway because He loved them. This is the ultimate example of service to others.

Invite a family member to re-read Philippians 2:3-4.

What can we learn from Paul based on these verses? Listen for answers. **Paul is teaching us to treat others as more important than ourselves and to notice the needs of others.**

Invite a family member to read Matthew 6:1-2.

Who is your favorite cartoon character or actor in TV shows or movies? Listen for answers. **What do they do for a living?** Listen for answers. *Help them understand that actors play roles that are normally different from who they are in real life.* **Jesus is saying that when we help those in need, we should not do it as a performance for others to see. Instead, we are to do it out of a love for God and a love for the person we are serving. The only audience and opinion we care about is God's.**

ACTIVITY

We are going to make a care bag to keep in our car for when we see a homeless person or any person asking for help. *Use a zip lock bag and an assortment of basic care items to put together a care pack. Consider making more than one care pack to have in the car with you. Add other items to your bags such as grocery gift cards, water bottles, information about your church/outreach agency, socks, or other basic things that the Lord puts on your heart.*

NOTE: This is a great time to talk about safety and how the kids need to always be with you when ministering to people they do not know.

BONUS ACTIVITY: **Secret Agent Helpers**

Every secret agent has missions to accomplish, and you have a special mission to be a helping agent. *Show kids the 3 mission cards included with this activity.* **Your first mission is to think of something that a family member might need.** *This can be someone in your immediate family or you can help your children think of someone in your extended family that has a current need.* **Your second mission is to think of something that a church member**

might need. *There are people with needs within your church family. You may ask a pastor or staff member to identify some needs.* **Your third mission is to help someone in your community.** *Ideas might include helping your neighbor, school, non-profit organization, or public servant (police, fire, health care worker).*

Once the three missions have been accomplished, use the back of each mission card to write down what each need was and what mission was accomplished. Use the cards to pray for the people that you helped.

APPLICATION

There are people in need all around us, but it is much easier to focus on our own needs. It is good to take care of ourselves, but Jesus gives us an example and teaches us that we should put the needs of others first. Helping people should always be done for our humble God and not so others will see.

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, please help our family to see the needs of those around us, and give us the time, energy, and resources to live out your humble example of putting the needs of others first. Amen.



Activity Three

COMPASSIONATE SHEPHERD

 **BIG IDEA** 

Jesus has emotion toward His people. He showed that He cared with His compassion through words and actions. God created us with emotions to be used for His glory.

 **KEY SCRIPTURES** 

Matthew 9:36 (CSB)

When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 14:14 (CSB)

When he went ashore, he saw a large crowd, had compassion on them, and healed their sick.

Luke 19:41 (CSB)

As he approached and saw the city, he wept for it,

John 11:33 (CSB)

When Jesus saw her crying, and the Jews who had come with her crying, he was deeply moved in his spirit and troubled.

John 11:35 (CSB)

Jesus wept.


MATERIALS


- Red, White, and Green Construction Paper (1 piece of each color per person)
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Pen or marker

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


INTRODUCTION


What did we learn about the humility of Jesus in our last lesson? Listen to answers. *Though He was God, He humbled himself by coming to the earth and dying for us. **What were we encouraged to do in response to Jesus' humility?*** Listen to answers. *If Jesus can humble Himself for us, then we should humbly put the needs of others before our own.*


DISCUSSION


Some people think that because Jesus is God, He doesn't have feelings. Do you think that's true? Listen for answers.

Invite a family member to read Matthew 9:36 and Matthew 14:14.

What word do both verses use to describe Jesus' emotion? Listen to answers. *Compassionate.*

Invite family members to read Luke 19:41, John 11:33, and John 11:35.

What do all these verses tell us about the emotion of Jesus? Listen to answers. *In all these verses Jesus is deeply moved. Sometimes He was even moved to tears! We know that being sad or crying is not a bad thing. When Jesus wept over Jerusalem in Luke 19:41 He was weeping because He knew that their unbelief in Him would eventually result in the city being destroyed (See Luke 19:41-44). As He rode in on a donkey, He saw Jerusalem and the sight of it caused Him to cry. **Why would the destruction of Jerusalem make Jesus sad?*** Listen to answers. *Because Jerusalem was the most important city to the people of God. It represented God's people. The destruction of Jerusalem was because of the sin of the people Jesus loved so much. **What caused Jesus to cry in John 11:33-35?*** Listen to answers. *Jesus cried because of the death of His friend, the sadness people were enduring because of the death, and seeing the effects of sin in the death of His friend.*

BONUS Reading/Discussion: Jesus also noticed the emotions of other people and helped them. Let's look at one example where Jesus helped guide people to use their emotions in a way that honored Him.

Read Matthew 14:22-33.

What were the disciples feeling when they saw Jesus walking on the water? Listen to answers. *The disciples were experiencing fear because they didn't know it was Jesus. They thought He was a ghost!* **How did Jesus respond to their fear?** Listen to answers. *Jesus responded by saying, "Have courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."* **Peter, after realizing it was Jesus, wanted to walk to Jesus on the water, but he started to sink! Why did he start to sink?** Listen to answers. *Because he took his eyes off Jesus and was afraid of the power of the wind.* **How did Jesus address Peter's fear?** Listen to answers. *He rescued Peter from drowning and reminded him to have faith.* **When He said to Peter, "You of little faith, why did you doubt? He was reminding Peter that He could be trusted no matter what was going on in Peter's life.**

ACTIVITY

What are some emotions we normally feel and how can they be used to glorify God? *Give some time to brainstorm a list. Use the red construction paper to cut out a large heart (one per kid). One you've made the heart, write "My Heart" in the center. Now take the white paper and cut out short strips (about 2-3 inch long and ½ to 1" wide). Tape/glue them to the edge of the heart as if they are all coming out of the heart. Now, on each white strip, write an emotion (use your list or suggestions below). Next, take the green paper and cut small circles. On these circles, write the reference to a Bible verse(s) that addresses that emotion (see suggestions below), and attach each one to the end of a white strip with tape/glue. This is a great opportunity to show your kids what Scripture has to say about the day-to-day emotions that we feel and how they can be used to glorify God. Any time our emotions are overwhelming us, we can look at what we've made today and be reminded that Jesus is compassionate and gives us His example in the Bible to know how to use our emotions for His glory!*

VERSE SUGGESTIONS

Happy – Psalm 139:14
 Sad – James 5:16
 Surprised – Proverbs 3:5-6
 Anxious – Philippians 4:6
 Fear – Isaiah 12:2
 Confident – John 16:33
 Tired – Matthew 11:28
 Joy – Isaiah 49:13
 Courage – Joshua 1:9
 Patience – John 14:6
 Caution – Jeremiah 29:11
 Love – 1 Corinthians 13:4
 Hope – John 14:6
 Confusion – 1 Corinthians 16:13
 Stress – Isaiah 41:10
 Anger – James 1:19-20

APPLICATION

Jesus understands our feelings. We see that from His time on earth. Our compassionate Savior, who uses His emotion in a holy way, reminds us that we have a Savior that knows what it is like to be human (see Hebrews 4:15). It should also show us that we can have emotions without sinning.

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, please protect our family from allowing our emotions to cause us to sin. Instead, please give us the wisdom and courage to give all our emotions to You today. Help us remember, God, that You are compassionate toward Your people and that one day You will wipe every tear from our eyes. Help us to be compassionate toward the emotions of others. Amen.



Activity Four

PERFECT MAN

BIG IDEA

Jesus is fully God and fully man. He obeyed God's law perfectly.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Matthew 5:17-18

Don't think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,


MATERIALS


- 10 ping pong balls
- 10 5-ounce paper cups
- Black permanent marker

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


IN ADVANCE


Using a permanent marker, write the numbers 1-10 on each of the ping pong balls and the cups. (One ball and one cup will have #1; one ball and one cup will have #2 and so on.)


INTRODUCTION


In our last lesson, we learned that Jesus had emotions including compassion toward people. He lived in a perfect and holy way. Do you remember any reasons why Jesus was troubled in His spirit or any reasons why He cried? Listen to answers. *Refer back to lesson 3, if needed.* **What did we learn about allowing our emotions to be used by God?** Listen to answers. *Instead of letting our emotions rule us, we can give our emotions to God who will use them for His glory.*


DISCUSSION


Jesus is 100% God and 100% man. Why is it important to know that He is 100% man? Listen to answers. *Jesus came to the earth as a human, lived a sinless life though tempted, and died on the cross in our place. Because of His life, burial, and resurrection, He fulfilled God's plan.*

Invite a family member to read Matthew 5:17-18

What does Jesus say about God's law in Matthew 5:17-18? Listen to answers. **We cannot obey the law of God perfectly, but Jesus did. We cannot resist temptation perfectly, but Jesus did. We needed someone to obey the Law perfectly because we couldn't do it. Jesus fulfilled what the Old Testament required.**

Invite a family member to read 1 Peter 3:8

Who does Peter say is unrighteous in this verse? Listen to answers. *All people are unrighteous (see Rom. 3:23).* **Who does Peter say is righteous? Listen to answers. Jesus is righteous. Righteous Jesus lived a perfect life because He knew we couldn't. Righteous Jesus died for us because He knew that we were unrighteous. When anyone puts their faith in Jesus, the righteousness of Jesus belongs to them. His righteousness replaces our unrighteousness.**


ACTIVITY


We are going to play a game to help us understand that only Jesus could fulfill the commandments of God perfectly. *Gather the ten ping pong balls and cups you've prepared. The numbers on the balls and cups represent the 10 Commandments from Exodus 20:3-17 that Jesus obeyed perfectly during His time on earth. The object of this game is to toss the ping pong ball into the cups with the same number. Line up the cups in a straight line against a wall in numerical order. Depending on the age of your kids, adjust the distance away from the cups accordingly. If your kids are particularly competitive, you may suggest moving one step back for each toss. Feel free to have more than one round for kids to try more than once. NOTE: Have fun! Show kids you can't do it either. Kids, was that hard? Listen for answers. This is a fun way for us to be reminded of the fact that we cannot obey the law perfectly. We can't "make the shot" perfectly every time even though we try very hard. That is why we are so thankful that Jesus lived a perfect life in obedience to His Father. He was tempted to sin, but He never did! Because of that we trust in His perfect life to cover our imperfect, sinful life.*


APPLICATION


As we prepare for Easter, let's remember that Jesus lived on this sinful earth and endured temptation without giving in to those temptations. He lived the perfect life that we cannot live. Because of His perfect obedience to His Father, He is a perfect sacrifice for our sins. When we put our faith in Him, God sees this perfect righteousness instead of our sin. It is not our goodness that gets us into Heaven, it is faith in the goodness of Jesus.


CLOSING PRAYER


God, thank you for the perfect life of your Son. Though we cannot live perfect lives, Jesus fulfilled the demands of the law for us. Please continue to grow us closer to you through your Son Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. Continue to make us more like your Son. Thank you for working in our family. In the name of Jesus, Amen.



Activity Five

JOYFUL LEADER

 **BIG IDEA** 

God gave Jesus joy for the job He had on earth to give His life for us.

 **KEY SCRIPTURES** 

Hebrews 12:1-2 (CSB)

Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Romans 5:6-8 (CSB)

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.


MATERIALS


- Hard-boiled eggs (at least one per person)
- Shaving cream
- Baking Sheet
- Tin foil
- Food coloring (purple & red)
- Wooden craft stick, straw or knife

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


IN ADVANCE


Hard boil your eggs and leave the shell on. Line your baking sheet with tin foil for easier clean up.


INTRODUCTION


What is one thing you've learned about Jesus from our Easter activities? Listen to answers.


DISCUSSION


Why did Jesus leave heaven and come to earth? Listen to answers.

Have a family member read Hebrews 12:1-2.

In the race of life, the author of Hebrews encourages Christians to keep their eyes on Jesus. What does the author call Jesus? Listen for answers. He calls Him the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Christians are called to focus on Jesus as we live our lives here on the earth. He went before us by living life in perfect obedience to God the Father and never sinned. He is our leader. He is our model. If we don't focus on Jesus, we will let the sin in our lives keep us from what He wants us to do.

Have a family member re-read Hebrews 12:2.

What does verse 2 reveal to us about what led Jesus to the cross? Listen for answers. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross. Jesus knew what would happen after the cross. He knew that the shame and the pain would lead to the greatest moment in human history: victory over sin and death. He knew that the cross would lead to His resurrection which would lead to grace being made available to the world. Jesus had joy in obeying His Father and He had joy knowing that through His resurrection, you and I could be in right relationship with God the Father.

Read Romans 5:6-8 together.

How did God show us that He loves us based on verse 8? Listen for answers. You can know that the one true God is a loving God because he proved that on the Cross (see John 3:16).


ACTIVITY


We are going to decorate an easter egg in a fun way that will remind us of the joy of Jesus. First, we're going to spread some shaving cream on our baking sheet. *Spread the shaving cream evenly (about one inch thick) over the tin foil-lined baking sheet.* **The shaving cream represents Jesus.** Next we will add some color to the shaving cream. *First, use the red food coloring to make the shape of a cross on the top of the smoothed out shaving cream.* **In Hebrews 12:2 we learned that Jesus knew about the pain and shame of the cross that was coming. The red cross represents our sin and shame that led Jesus to the cross.** *Second, use the purple food coloring to draw a circle around the cross.* **Purple is the color of royalty, and the circle that we've made represents the work of Jesus on the cross.** *Use the wooden craft stick to swirl the red and the purple together in the shaving cream.* **Because of what Jesus went through on the cross, which led to his death and resurrection, we can be reconciled to Him. The egg represents us. When we put our faith in Jesus, His righteousness becomes ours** (See 2 Corinthians 5:21). *Gently roll one egg through the swirled shaving cream until it is completely covered. Let it sit for 1-3 minutes then gently wipe off the excess with a paper towel or cloth rag.* **Looking at these beautiful eggs helps us to remember that Jesus died for us because of His joy and love for us.** *Consider displaying your newly decorated eggs until Easter to remind your family that Jesus went joyfully to the cross so that we could be saved.*


APPLICATION


Because Jesus gave His life for us joyfully, we can look to Him at every point of our lives. His joy is ours when we trust in Him. We can praise God that His love and joy is ours because of Jesus. This is a beautiful truth that we can rejoice in!


CLOSING PRAYER


Father, thank you for loving us. Thank you for sending your Son to joyfully make a way for us to know you. Thank you, God, that we can look to King Jesus even in our sin and He offers forgiveness. Give us the grace to throw off the sin that so easily drags us down so that we can focus on following you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



Activity Six

RISEN LORD

BIG IDEA

Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have no hope, BUT Jesus DID raise from the dead. This gives us hope and causes us to celebrate!

KEY SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 15:17-20 (CSB)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Those, then, who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished. If we have put our hope in Christ for this life only, we should be pitied more than anyone. But as it is, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.


MATERIALS


- Assorted coins
- Aluminum foil
- Scissors
- Large bowl
- Water


IN ADVANCE


Fill a large bowl with water and gather about 20 coins (almost any assortment of pocket change will do). You'll need two sheets of aluminum foil. One will be smaller and cut/folded into the shape of a rectangle. The second will be large enough for the first to fit inside of it. See the video included at famtime.com/celebrate.

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


INTRODUCTION


Jesus died on the cross, but He didn't stay dead. Jesus is alive and active today! This really changes everything. It doesn't just change everything for our family or for our church. This truth is something that every person on the planet needs to hear and believe.


DISCUSSION


When Paul wrote 1 Corinthians, there were people who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead at all. They had no hope. They didn't just believe that Jesus had not raised, they believed that it was impossible for anyone to raise from the dead. Can you think of another story from the life of Jesus when someone was raised from the dead? Listen to answers. *This is a good opportunity to remind them of Jesus calling Lazarus out of the tomb.*

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:17-20 that if Jesus hasn't been raised from the dead, Christians should be pitied. We would be without hope. But we know that Jesus DID raise from the dead! Why should Jesus' resurrection give us hope? Listen to answers. Christians have hope because Jesus is alive and is in charge of everything. He defeated death and the grave and proved that He truly was the Savior of the world. Since He rose from the grave, Christians will one day rise as well! **Resurrection is real, Jesus rose from the grave, and because Jesus rose from the grave, Christians know that even death won't separate us from God. One day we will see Him in Heaven.**


ACTIVITY


Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we have hope! For our activity today we're going to see how hope can win the war against the troubles and stress of this life. Have you ever seen a boat sink before? Listen for answers. **How does a boat sink?** Listen for answers. *Ultimately, a boat sinks because water gets inside.* **We're going to make a boat today out of aluminum foil. First, have the large bowl with water and only have the smaller rectangular piece of foil out for them to see. Now that we've folded the edges of the boat, let's see if it floats.** Gently lay the rectangular boat in

the water. **This boat represents us. Sometimes, we're floating along fine in life but sometimes we start to get weighed down by troubles and stress.** *When you begin talking about trouble and stress, begin laying coins into the boat. With each one, you can list something that is stressful or causes people to be sad. As bad things continue to happen to us it is easy to feel hopeless. If we only have hope when good things happen, we begin to trust ourselves instead of God.* *Continue to add coins until the boat gets weighed down enough to sink. Once the boat sinks, lift it out of the water, drain it, and remove the coins. Then grab the larger piece of tin foil. If we only have faith in ourselves or when things are going well, we'll be overwhelmed with hopelessness. Instead, we need to put our faith and hope in the God that raised Jesus from the dead!* *As you say this, begin reinforcing the original boat with the larger piece of tin foil. This will give it a wider and more secure base. When we remind ourselves of the hope that the resurrection of Jesus brings, we can endure the troubles of this world without sinking.* *Place the new "boat" in the water and repeat the process of placing coins in the boat. Because of the reinforcement, the boat will stay afloat. Now that we have the sure foundation of hope in Jesus, we're secure no matter what comes our way.*

APPLICATION

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, we can have hope. Just imagine what it was like for the disciples, and many others, to see the empty tomb and eventually the resurrected Savior! Imagine the excitement of the women who first saw Him. Imagine the hope that the early Church had because of the resurrected Lord. Jesus is alive and we can live with hope and excitement for what He is doing in the world and in our lives no matter what troubles come our way!

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, thank you that Jesus rose from the dead. Thank you for sending Him to die for our sins and defeat death by raising to life. Thank you for the hope we get to celebrate today. Thank you that we get to worship with Joy knowing that we who have faith in Jesus will one day rise and live in Heaven forever! Amen.



Activity Seven

VICTORIOUS KING

BIG IDEA

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to many people, gave instruction to His disciples, and ascended into Heaven.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 1:3 (CSB)

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Psalms 110:1-2 (CSB)

This is the declaration of the Lord to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool." The Lord will extend your mighty scepter from Zion. Rule over your surrounding enemies.


MATERIALS


- 2 Chairs
- Tape
- A paper crown
- Purple fabric (a towel or sheet would work well)
- Red fabric (a towel or sheet would work well)
- Confetti

Optional for Bonus Activity:

- Blank party invitations
- Stamps
- Envelopes
- Pen
- Paper
- Ideas provided at famtime.com/celebrate

Words written in **BOLD** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.


IN ADVANCE


Set up a chair at the end of a room to symbolize a throne. Lay out the red sheet to symbolize a red carpet. Have the crown and purple sheet (to represent a robe) ready for the activity. Have a second chair ready for the second half of the activity.


INTRODUCTION


What do you think happened after Jesus ascended into Heaven? Listen to answers. *It's okay to let your family members think for a minute and give opinions about what happened in heaven after the ascension.* **When a person becomes a king or queen, they go through a ceremony called a coronation where they are given a crown and officially become royalty. Can you remember any movies or stories where someone was crowned a king or a queen in a ceremony?** Listen to answers. *Help them think of stories that involve a prince or books/movies like Return of the King, Disney princesses that become queens, or watch a portion of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on YouTube.*


DISCUSSION


Jesus accomplished something very important and new when He came to the earth. The Eternal Son became the Humble Savior and victoriously raised from the dead. He had a mission from His Father, and He accomplished that mission perfectly. Have you ever had a mission to complete? Listen to answers. **Jesus was tempted but never sinned and then died on our behalf. Death was officially defeated. He then appeared to many people over the course of 40 days, gave the Great Commission (see Matthew 28:18-20) to His disciples, and then ascended into Heaven for His coronation.**

Psalm 110 is written as God the Father talking to God the Son after He ascended into Heaven during His coronation. The Father tells Him to sit at His right hand. This is a picture of Jesus taking His place of power in the seat of power and ruling. In The Great Commission, Jesus tells His disciples that all authority had been given to Him in Heaven and on earth. Jesus is in charge of all things.


ACTIVITY


Let's imagine what it would be like to be crowned as royalty. If you have a daughter, you'll have a coronation for a new queen. If you have a boy, you'll have a coronation for a new king. Have fun together! Pretend to blow invisible trumpets to welcome the new monarch. Have each child walk up the red carpet, and take a seat on the throne. Place the crown on their head and say, "I crown you (your child's name) as the new ruler of the basement (fill in the blank)! All hail the king (or queen)!" Have other family members cheer. Give every child a turn.

Now we are going to honor Jesus as the true King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (See Revelation 19:16) Bring in the second chair and place it to the right of the original chair. As you do this, remind your children that after Jesus ascended into Heaven, His Father called Him to sit at his right hand (a symbol for power). Then, lead your kids to take the crown and the purple robe and lay it at the feet of the right chair. This can serve as a great illustration that no one is as powerful as King Jesus. Then, as a family, kneel in front of the throne and have the entire family close their eyes and picture the throne room of Heaven. Pray the closing prayer below or your own prayer thanking the Father for the victorious Son.

¹Inspired by Dr. Richard Ross' curriculum entitled "Reign: Awakening a Young Generation to King Jesus"


BONUS ACTIVITY:


Ascension Day Celebration

Begin your party planning for Ascension Day which takes place 40 days after Easter Sunday. For ease, you could plan your party approximately 40 days after Easter, on or around Memorial Day. This day provides a great opportunity to CELEBRATE the coronation of Jesus Christ, to remind

Christians of His current authority, and to share the Good News with your friends and neighbors that Jesus is King.

Decide on a date, time, theme, food menu, and guest list. Make invitations, activities, and/or games for the party. Choose someone in the family to Read Psalm 110 at the party. Choose someone in the family to pray for the food.

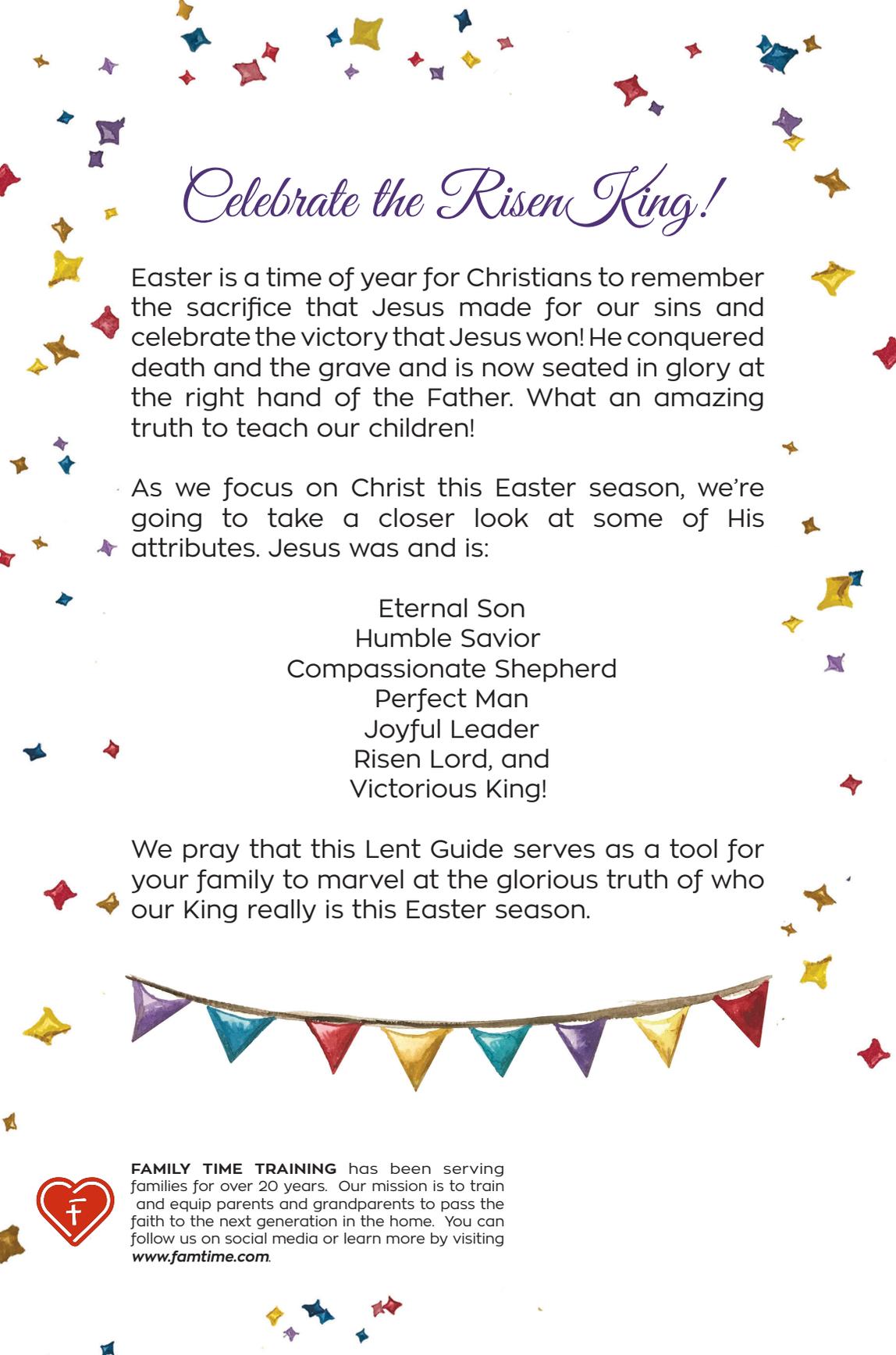
Send print or digital invitations 2 weeks in advance. See more ideas for planning your party at famtime.com/celebrate.


APPLICATION


Although the world is troubled and full of sin, Jesus isn't anxious or scared. Jesus also doesn't get surprised by anything. Jesus is in complete control as He sits on the throne until death is finally done away with when He returns. Jesus won and Jesus will win again. He is our King and will continue to reign throughout all eternity. Many people view Jesus as He was during the incarnation as a poor, basically homeless, sandal-wearing, and humble servant. He is currently the radiant King that Psalm 110, Hebrews 1, John 1, Colossians 1, and Revelation 19 describe and that is the form in which He will return. Jesus isn't begging people to make Him their King. He is the true King whether they believe it or not.


CLOSING PRAYER


Father, thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you that all authority has been given to Him. Thank you that we can take confidence in the fact that Jesus is our King and in control of everything. Help us to remember this truth even when things are difficult. Amen.



Celebrate the Risen King!

Easter is a time of year for Christians to remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for our sins and celebrate the victory that Jesus won! He conquered death and the grave and is now seated in glory at the right hand of the Father. What an amazing truth to teach our children!

As we focus on Christ this Easter season, we're going to take a closer look at some of His attributes. Jesus was and is:

Eternal Son
Humble Savior
Compassionate Shepherd
Perfect Man
Joyful Leader
Risen Lord, and
Victorious King!

We pray that this Lent Guide serves as a tool for your family to marvel at the glorious truth of who our King really is this Easter season.



FAMILY TIME TRAINING has been serving families for over 20 years. Our mission is to train and equip parents and grandparents to pass the faith to the next generation in the home. You can follow us on social media or learn more by visiting www.famtime.com.