

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS

APRIL 12, 2020

Today is the day we celebrate Easter! Mary and Mary Magdalene were the very first people to tell the others about Jesus' resurrection. Easter is the happiest day of the year! This is my personal favorite time of year. I love seeing all the flowers blooming and the grass getting green again and the sunshine. It reminds me that after the dreary, cold winter, spring comes and new life is born again.

Let's crack this coded message to see what Mary and Mary Magdalene told the disciples.

Each number in the message stands for a letter. For example, every time you see the number 9 it stands for the letter D.

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6 12 2 8 12 12 10 4 7 3 2 12 9 13 4 11 1 5 6 12 9 12 7 9

6=H; 12=E; 2=S; 8=B; 10=N; 4=R; 7=A; 3=I; 9=D; 13=F; 11=O; 1=M; 5=T

When we stopped reading our Bible story last week, Jesus' body was in the tomb and Mary and Mary Magdalene were sitting outside the tomb. Today we are going to turn in our Bible to Matthew 28. Mary and Mary Magdalene have returned to the tomb. They are in for a surprise! Read Matthew 28:1-10.

How do you think Mary and Mary Magdalene felt when they first got to the tomb? How do you think they felt when the angel appeared? What do you think they thought about the angel's message?

Mary and Mary Magdalene were the first people to preach the good news that Jesus had been raised from the dead. God overpowered death! If you were going to tell a story about Easter, what would you say?

Think about the main points of your story. What is the most important thing to tell people about this story?

What happened, and why does it matter?

What else would you add to this story?

Today we are going to make a snack to help us remember the surprise in today's Bible story. You will need your parents to help you with this. We are going to start with a package of refrigerated crescent roll dough, some large marshmallows, melted butter (not hot, but still melted) and mixture of sugar and cinnamon. Dip the marshmallow in melted butter then roll in cinnamon sugar mixture. Place the coated marshmallow in the center of the crescent roll triangle. Wrap the crescent roll around the marshmallow. Make sure to pinch all the edges together. (If not sealed completely the marshmallow will make a gooey sticky mess on the baking sheet) Place the sealed crescent rolls on a cookie sheet coated with non-stick spray. Bake in the oven according to the package directions.

The marshmallow represents Jesus' body. After he died, his body was wrapped in linen, similar to the way our marshmallows were wrapped in butter and cinnamon sugar. The crescent roll dough represents the tomb. Once they have cooled, break open your crescent rolls, what do you see? The marshmallow has disappeared and the tomb is empty! Enjoy your resurrection rolls!

Let's end with a prayer. Thank you God for showing us your love and power by making Jesus alive again. Be with us as we continue in these troubling times. Help us remember the meaning of this very special time. Keep us safe and protected in the palm of your hand. Amen.