

simply

THE ORIGINAL EASTER

The Original Easter

outline

Luke 23:44 - 24:12

Breakfast

Check-In: *Give this section to the adult who was chosen last week to facilitate Check-In this week.*

1. What is your first name?
2. What is a high-light or a low-light (a headline) from your week?
3. *Choose one rotation question from the list.*
 - A. How would you like to simplify your life?
 - B. How would you like to re-prioritize your life?
 - C. How would you like to cultivate a deeper relationship with God?

Children's Check-In Questions: How did you help Mommy or Daddy this week? (Or they can answer the adult questions.)

✂ -----

The Quiz: *Give this section to the child who was chosen last week to facilitate our Quiz this week.*

A child asks three questions. They randomly chose from the check-in questions people just answered. Ask everyone to raise their hands, and the child picks someone to answer the questions.

✂ -----

Singing depends on the make-up of your group. Some groups do not sing, but singing can be an excellent opportunity for children to learn how to play instruments. Keep it organic. Avoid video music that focuses people on a screen or "digital stage."

✂ -----

Short Break: Restroom, drinks of water, etc.

The Bible Story: The story and questions are on the next page.

Give this page to the adult who was chosen last week to facilitate our story today.

1. **Talk as little as possible**, encourage others to share, and avoid a monologue.
2. **Cut** on the dotted lines (✂ -----). Distribute questions around the circle.
3. **Keep** the **top part** and the **bottom part** of this page.
4. **Reassure** people they do not have to answer the questions; just read it for us to talk about.

Kick-off Question: *60-second answers. You go first, then go around the circle.* What are some of the more significant events that have taken place in earth's history?

Bridge: Today, we will explore one of the more significant events on our planet. It happened about 2000 years ago. Some think it is a fairy tale. Some disregard it as a myth. But notice what the commanding officer on duty concludes. It changes his life. Our story is called *The Original Easter Story*.

We need two volunteers to read our story in Luke 23:44 - 24:12 from different translations. Who would volunteer?

✂ -----

Story Questions:

1. Why do you think this story initially sounded like unbelievable tales of nonsense?
✂ -----
2. Let's reread verse 47. [*pause and read now*] What do you think was most convincing to this Roman soldier who oversaw Jesus' execution?
✂ -----
3. Similar to the Roman soldier, what do you find most convincing about this story?
✂ -----
- A. If you had been the soldier, how do you think this experience would have changed your belief about Jesus?
✂ -----
- B. What is an invitation, a promise, a command, or a warning that you needed to hear today?
✂ -----
- C. What is something you would like us to talk with God about as we wrap up?

✂ -----

Group Prayer: Put **Empty Chairs** in the middle of your circle.

- Pray for the people who will be invited, the miracles people would like to see in their life, and conviction to obey what we have learned today.
- Say the **Blessing Board** blessing together at the end of your prayer time.

Lunch: Taco Salad sign-up sheet.