<u>John 20 1-10</u>

The Resurrection

20 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Introduction

First of all, Happy Easter to you all! I hope that despite staying at home that you have had a lovely Easter and can enjoy time with your families.

In today's story several of Jesus' friends get a big surprise!

Have you ever had a surprise?

Maybe your mum and dad surprised you with a fun trip or gift?

Maybe you've been to a surprise party?

Surprises are something you don't expect but make you happy.

Let's find out what the surprise is in today's story.

<u>Story</u>

It's early on the morning of the third day. Three days ago Jesus was crucified, died on a cross and his body was placed in a tomb.

On the morning of the third day one of his friends Mary Magdalene, goes to visit the tomb.

But when she gets there, she gets a big surprise! The stone at the front of the tomb has been rolled away! How could this have happened?

Mary runs back and gets two of Jesus' disciples Peter and John and they al run back to the tomb.

When Peter and John got there, they found the cloths that Jesus body had been wrapped in sitting there, his face cloth folded up but no body! They were surprised too!

Where was Jesus' body?

Well we know that Jesus had risen from the dead hadn't he?

Jesus had risen from the dead, defeating sin and death!

Jesus defeated sin and death so we can have a relationship with Him, serving Him as our Lord and King, then our sins will be forgiven and we will spend forever in heaven with Him!

How wonderful!

Today we celebrate this victory, that our Lord Jesus defeated sin and death and is in heaven now with God.

So when you look at your Easter eggs today, remember the stone that Mary found rolled away at the tomb and how surprised she and the disciples were when they didn't find Jesus body.

And remember the new life we can have with Jesus, our sins forgiven, life forever with Him. Let's thank Him now.

<u>Prayer</u>

Father God, this Easter Sunday we thank you for the gift of your son Jesus. We thank you that he died and rose again, defeating sin and death. We thank you that we can have a relationship with Him, serving Him. We thank you that we can have our sins forgiven and have eternal life with you in heaven.

Please bless each one of us and our families today and this week.

Amen

<u>Questions</u>

- 1. From what book in the Bible was our passage from today?
- 2. How many days after Jesus died did he rise again?
- 3. What was the name of the woman who went to the tomb first?
- 4. What time of day did she visit?
- 5. What did she find when she got there?
- 6. Who did she go and get next?
- 7. What did they find when they went into the tomb?
- 8. What did Jesus defeat by dying and rising again ?

Children's Activities

- 1. <u>Maze puzzle</u>
- 2. Wordsearch
- 3. <u>Colouring Page</u>





