



EXPLORERS ACTIVITY GUIDE

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020

INTRODUCTION

We start off the month in **Matthew 26:36-56**. Jesus had been with His disciples at a special Passover meal where He demonstrated service and humility as He washed their feet. Afterwards, Jesus lead them the garden to watch and pray. Jesus gave us an important lesson in humility as He prays to His Father, "Not my will, but Your will." Jesus was soon arrested and put on trial to humbly face the darkest moments of His life.

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BIBLE STORY

Easter — John 18:12 - 20:23 (John 16, Matthew 26 *supporting*)

MEMORY VERSE

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourself." — Philippians 2:3 NIRV

LIFE APP

Humility — putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I wanted to be treated.

UPSIDE DOWN

JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Parent Cue • K-3 • Week of April 12th



Use this guide to help your family learn how God can help us live with humility.

First, watch this video

bit.ly/KidsUpsideDownWeek2

Then follow up with the activity below!

MEMORY VERSE

“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourself.”
Philippians 2:3 (NIV)

LIFE APP

HUMILITY:
putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BIBLE STORY

Easter
John 18:12-20:23
(John 16, Matthew 26, supporting)

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus put us first.

ACTIVITY: EASTER EGG ROUNDUP

WHAT YOU NEED:

5-10 plastic Easter eggs per person (If you don’t have these already at home, work together as a family to draw the amount of eggs you need and cut them into cards, similar to how a matching game is set up.)

WHAT YOU DO:

Give each person 10 eggs and ask them to separate the halves. Everyone should keep the bottom half of each egg while putting the top halves in a big pile all together. Have someone call out “GO!” and then everyone races to be the first to find their matching egg halves and get all their eggs put back together. *If you have preschoolers, they can play too! Consider pairing them up with an older sibling or a grownup to make the competition fair.*

For an added twist, divide your family into two teams. Keep time on your phone as one team works as fast as they can to put all the eggs together. When they finish, it’s the other team’s turn to try to beat their time.

After that, if you haven’t already had an egg hunt today, do one now! Keep the teams the same as before and let one team hide the eggs. The other team tries to find all the eggs—while being timed, of course! Then the teams switch roles.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY:

- What’s your favorite part about celebrating Easter?
- Why do we celebrate Easter? (*Jesus put us first by dying on the cross and raising from the dead so we can have a relationship with God*)
- Who did Jesus give up His life for? (*Everybody!*)

If your kid is asking questions about salvation and starting a relationship with Jesus, that conversation can be exciting and intimidating at the same time! Check out the Salvation Conversation Guide for help as you navigate this milestone!
bit.ly/SalvationConversationGuide

PRAYER

Use this prayer as a guide, either after your discussion or right before bed tonight:

“God, we can’t even begin to thank You for Easter and how You put us first. Thank You that You loved us so much that You gave up Your only Son so that we can have a relationship with You. Please guide us as we learn more about You and how Jesus put us first. Be with us as we work on putting others first and become more like Jesus. Thank You for this day we get to spend celebrating that Jesus is alive. In His name we pray, amen.”



PARENT
CUE

Download the free Parent Cue App
AVAILABLE FOR IOS AND ANDROID DEVICES

HUMILITY

WEEK
TWO
2nd-3rd Grade

.....
**PUTTING OTHERS FIRST
BY GIVING UP WHAT
YOU THINK YOU
DESERVE**

READ MARK 10:45

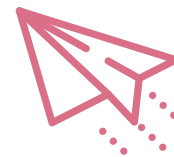
DAY 1

Imagine the wealthiest king, sitting on a tall throne, crowned with jewels, surrounded by servants bowing down at his feet. What might happen if that king stepped down from the throne, took off his royal robe and jewel covered crown, and lined up with the servants instead?

That's what Jesus did. He left the beauty and perfection of heaven behind to become like a servant. Jesus chose to enter our world as one of us, completely human, able to feel and experience all the things we experience so that we could know Him. Jesus chose to put you first.

Grab a piece of paper and draw a picture the night Jesus was born. Think about how Jesus left heaven for you, in order to put you first. Underneath your drawing write the words "Jesus put me first."

Spend some time today thanking Jesus for choosing to leave heaven and come to earth so that He could put you first. Ask Him to help you follow Him this week as you choose to put others first, too.



READ MATTHEW 11:29-30

DAY 2

Do you know what the word "pride" means? Pride says, "Look at me, I'm awesome. Everything I do is awesome. And you will be awesome too if you hang out around me."

That's the opposite of how Jesus acted while on earth. Instead of showing off who He was (the SON of God!) or what He could do (like healing the sick or giving sight to the blind), Jesus was humble. He was the most important person in every room He ever entered and yet He never asked for special treatment.

Following Jesus means that we do our best to act and live the way He did. Instead of constantly trying to get what we think we deserve, Jesus followers should be flipping that idea to give others what they deserve. Jesus put us first. And when we follow Him, we can do the same for others.

Grab some friends and play a game of follow the leader. Make sure you are never the leader, always the follower.

Thank God for sending His only Son, Jesus, to show us how to live. Ask Him to help you put others first, just as Jesus did.

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

DAY 3

Fill in the blanks below (according to today's verse.)

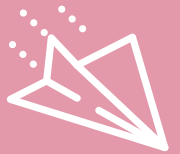
Jesus became poor to _____ you.

Because he became poor, you can become _____.

Jesus was rich in every way. But still He chose to leave heaven behind, to enter into our sinful, imperfect world. Jesus chose to come to earth as a baby, grow up to heal and help and serve others and then to give His life on the cross so that everyone who believes in Him could be forgiven.

Jesus became poor to help us. Not so that we could become millionaires in this life, but so that we could join Him in eternity one day and share in the riches of His love. Jesus came to show us that we are accepted and loved more than we could ever imagine.

This week, whenever you see a coin or a dollar bill, take a second to thank God for sending Jesus to put you first, so that you could become rich by knowing Him.



READ HEBREWS 12:2

DAY 4

Over two thousand years ago, Jesus suffered and died the worst kind of death. But that terrible Friday that Jesus died isn't the end of the story. Because on Sunday, when Jesus' friends went to the tomb, it was empty! The grave couldn't hold Jesus—He's alive!

That's why Easter is the best day ever. Jesus knew while He was on the cross that Sunday was coming. He suffered because of the joy He was looking forward to! If there were no Easter, no resurrection, then Jesus wouldn't be worth following. But because Jesus faced death and beat it, because He is alive, Jesus is worthy of all of our worship and honor and praise!

Grab six plastic Easter eggs. Write out each sentence of the verse onto a strip of paper, fold it up, and place one inside each egg. Ask a sibling or parent to hide the eggs. Search to find them then put all the sentences in order. Read the verse with your sibling or parent. Then spend some time thanking Jesus for what Easter really means.

JESUS PUT

US FIRST.

APRIL 2020

ELEMENTARY



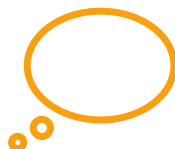
WEEK TWO

CRUCIFIED AND RISEN • JOHN 18:12-20:23



SAY THIS:

JESUS PUT US FIRST.



REMEMBER THIS:

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."

PHILIPPIANS 2:3, NIrV



DO THIS:



Q & A for kids: Who is a person who makes you feel important? How do they do that?

Q & A for parents: Do you find it easier or harder to be humble as an adult than it was as a kid?

HUMILITY:

PUTTING OTHERS FIRST BY GIVING UP
WHAT YOU THINK YOU DESERVE

HUMILIATION AND HUMILITY

By Carey Nieuwhof

We've all been humiliated—kids are no exception. I remember being in seventh grade when a classmate whispered across the aisle and called me an embarrassing name. I really didn't know how to respond. All I knew was that I was ashamed. And even though we hung out and were friends, my "dignity" couldn't stand a non-response.

So, I did what any insecure seventh grade boy would do in the middle of class. I got up, pushed my chair back, walked over to him and started punching. The next thing I knew, we were in the principal's office.

I can play that moment back in my mind like it happened yesterday. Underneath it all was a deep sense of insecurity. Was I accepted? Did people like me? Well, apparently not—not the way I hoped. And yet, I thought a moment of humiliation like that could somehow be overcome by more humiliation. Isn't that the way it works? If you've been humiliated by someone, humiliate them back.

So, what do you do when your child gets cut from the team, isn't recognized for her incredible performance, or gets laughed at during recess? I know that as a parent, I might want to do everything in my power to right that wrong. But I don't. Here's why. Humiliation can be a key to learning humility. As painful as humiliation is, pain is a great teacher. I can learn much about humility from humiliation.

Here's something that has helped me:

No one can knock you off a pedestal you're not standing on.

If you were never on the pedestal in the first place, the loss isn't humiliating. If you were, it can be a great reminder to get off.

In fact, what a wonderful opportunity to reflect on humility with your child or teen. Some of our greatest heroes were among the most humble and humiliated people of their day.

Ironically, *dignity comes from humility*. Mother Theresa found herself with people of no social standing and no pedestal. Her greatness came from her humility and her desire to work in very humiliating circumstances.

Humiliation has taught me much about humility. If I cultivate a humble spirit, it is hard to be humiliated. And if I have been humiliated, it is a sign that I need to work on greater humility.



For more blog posts
and parenting resources, visit:

ParentCue.org

SALVATION

PARENT CONVERSATION GUIDE ... for kids

This is an exciting time in a kid's life. They're starting to ask questions about their faith. They're wondering about God and His love for them. They may be asking a lot of questions about Jesus—questions that you may struggle with yourself, or questions that may not have a simple answer. But that's okay. This is a starting point for your kid to begin a life-long conversation about faith. That's why we want you to "Start Here" with John 3:16. It lays the foundation for God's love for us that sent Jesus to be our Savior.

"For God so LOVED the world that he GAVE his one and only Son. Anyone who BELIEVES in him will not die but will have eternal life" (John 3:16 NIV).

WHAT TO SAY

1. GOD LOVED

- God loved you before you were even born. He created you in His image. And He loves you right now.
- But there is something that separates us from Him, something that keeps us from being with Him forever. It's called sin. It's the stuff we do wrong. Sin keeps us from living out the story that God wants for us.
- And on our own, we can't do anything about this. We need God to step in and help. But because God loved us, He made a way for all of us to live with Him forever.

ASK . . .

What is sin?
Have you ever sinned? When?
What is the problem with sin?

2. GOD GAVE

- God gave the most important, valuable, and perfect thing He had for you. He knew that our sin would keep us from living with Him forever.
- We're apart from God and would stay that way, but because God loved us, He gave His son to fix that relationship. Jesus came to make a way for you to be in God's story.
- And Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sin. Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead! His resurrection defeated death and makes a relationship with God possible again.

ASK . . .

What did God give us?
Why did God give this gift?
What did Jesus do for us?

3. WHOEVER BELIEVES IN JESUS

- When you receive a gift what do you do? You open it. God said you could open His gift by believing.
- Believing simply means to trust. It's a lot like sitting in a chair. When you sit in a chair, you put all your weight in it. You trust that it will hold you up. That's what it's like to believe in or to trust in this gift.
- To open the gift that God gave you, you trust Jesus with your whole life and rest in the fact that He died and rose again for you.

ASK . . .

How can you take part in God's Big Story?
What does it mean to trust in something?
How do you know God loves you?

WHAT NOT TO SAY

1. "INVITE JESUS IN YOUR HEART ..."

For kids, the phrase "inviting Jesus into my heart" can be confusing. They're such concrete thinkers that it can worry them to think that someone is living inside their actual heart.

2. "YOU HAVE TO PRAY LIKE THIS ..."

Kids are going to express their faith with how they understand it at their age. Don't get hung up on the "right words" but rather the heart with which they pray.

3. MADE UP ANSWERS

Don't make up answers to questions you don't know yourself. "I don't know" is a legitimate answer to questions your kid has about faith. There's so much that we don't understand about how God works and how the Holy Spirit enters our life. And that's okay.



EGG PRAYER

Prepare your eggs in a carton or basket in advance (*see page below*) Encourage you kiddos to each take a plastic egg in any color from the basket or carton. Explain that each color of egg represents a different type of prayer. Tell them to open the egg and take out the card inside. Encourage kids to pray out loud, if they're willing. For those who prefer to pray silently, have them indicate they are finished by placing their egg on the floor in front of them.

When finished, invite kids to trade or choose another egg in a different color and repeat as time allows before closing the group in prayer yourself. If you've chosen to add candy or prizes to the eggs, let kids take the eggs home.

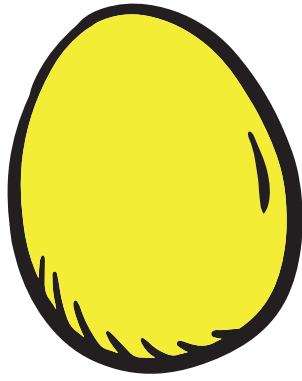
"Dear God, we are so grateful that Jesus put us first. We celebrate Easter because we know that Jesus is alive. Thank you for the gift of a Savior who died in our place so that we could live forever with You in heaven. Amen."

*** SALVATION GUIDE NOTE**

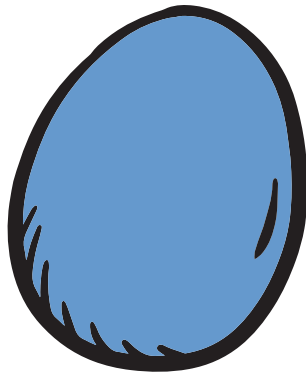
This salvation guide is simply a tool. If your child is asking questions that make you feeling like they are ready to make a commitment of faith, this is can be a helpful guide. Remember that all kids will come to understand their own need for a Savior differently. There is no perfect age. It's all about understanding that we are separated from God because of our Sin and we need Jesus to connect us again. This is a step into a life long relationship with him, not a finish line we are waiting for them to cross.

QUESTIONS?

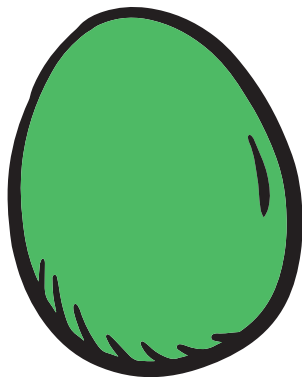
Contact us with any questions you have about this activity guide. Please note, we can best support you during the week (Monday thru Friday). No question is too big or too small. We're here to help! With love, Elisa Booker and Danielle Swink



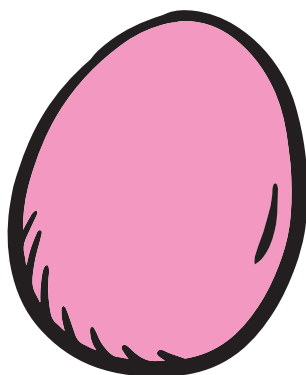
**Thank
God for
Jesus.**



**Ask God
to help
you put
others
first.**



**Pray for
someone
else.**



**Ask God
to teach
you more
about
Him.**