

COLOURS OF EASTER



taking childhood spirituality seriously

Godly Play UK

You can use the pictures at the end of this document for telling the story.

You can show them on a tablet or a computer or you could print them out. Perhaps consider laminating them so that they can be wiped clean after each use (preferably with matt pouches to avoid the problem of reflected light). You could print out copies to leave with people to use in their own time (A4, A5 or A4) - perhaps kept in a pouch or joined together as a booklet. The story could be told one to one or with a group - depending on your circumstances – perhaps at the bedside or at a table.

If you want to use them with a larger group then perhaps print out the pictures on A3 or twice the size of A3. You can carefully stick the pictures together to make posters (glue the overlapping join to stick the halves together)

For each part of the story you can find some things to help the telling. These could be found by you or by the people you are sharing the story with. You can use what you have around you - in the lounge, in the bedroom, in the garden. You might like to find a coloured cloth (e.g. a piece of clothing or a tea towel) that goes with each part. Some suggestions are given here, but everyone can choose what they would like to bring. If you are not able to show the pictures then you can tell the story with the objects that you have found.

Each painting is revealed one at a time as the story is told. Perhaps others could help to narrate the story. People can use the script or make up their own words to go with the pictures.

IDEAS AND COLOURS TO HELP TELL EACH PART

Jesus enters Jerusalem

Some leaves or a branch, maybe a plant and something green

The children come to Jesus

Something that means love, perhaps something red

Jesus shares his Last Supper with his friends

Some bread, and perhaps something brown

Jesus washes the feet of his friends

A bowl of water and a cloth, and maybe something blue

Jesus prays

Something that reminds you of prayer, and something grey to show it was night

Jesus dies on a cross

The shape of a cross and something black

Jesus is risen

If you can get outside then something growing— maybe some flowers or leaves; and things to show joy – white or gold is often used in celebration

AND AFTER THE STORY IS TOLD

Easter is a story that can make us feel many different things. You might like to use these wondering questions.

I wonder which of these pictures you like the best?

I wonder which of these pictures is the most important?

I wonder which of these pictures is especially for you?

I wonder if we can leave out any of the story and still have all the story we need?

*A Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality —
providing training to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life*

I wonder if you would like to change any of these pictures?

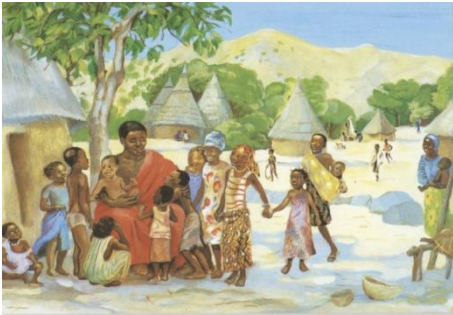
Jesus enters Jerusalem



On Sunday, Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem. It was the time of the Passover and the city was full of people from many different lands. They thought that Jesus was coming to be king, and they waved palm branches which was a sign of kings.

But they weren't expecting a king like Jesus. He wasn't riding on a great white horse and he wasn't being carried by soldiers. He was riding on a donkey – and it wasn't even his! He had borrowed it. Jesus was coming in peace. He was the king of a new kingdom.

The children come to Jesus

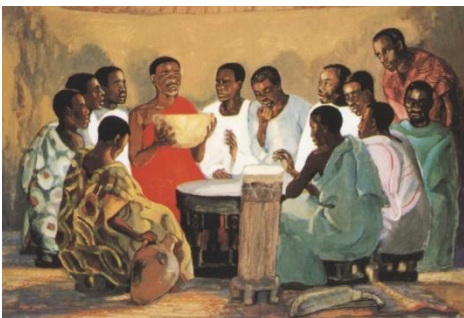


On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jesus went into the Temple to teach about this new kingdom.

One time, someone came to Jesus and asked: 'What is the most important thing in life?' Jesus replied 'Love God' and 'Love others'.

The Temple guards said, 'On Thursday we will take him'.

Jesus shares his Last Supper with his friends



On Thursday, the temple guards could not find him. That evening Jesus and his twelve friends hurried through the dark streets to a house. They climbed up the stairs to an upper room and shared their last meal together.

After they had everything they wanted to eat, Jesus shared the bread and the wine with them and said that he would always be with them, especially in the bread and the wine. They did not understand what he meant, but they did not forget.

Jesus washes the feet of his friends



Jesus told them to love one another and he showed them how to care for each other by washing their feet.

Jesus prays

Later that night Jesus went with his friends to the garden of Gethsemane.

He needed to pray. His friends slept.

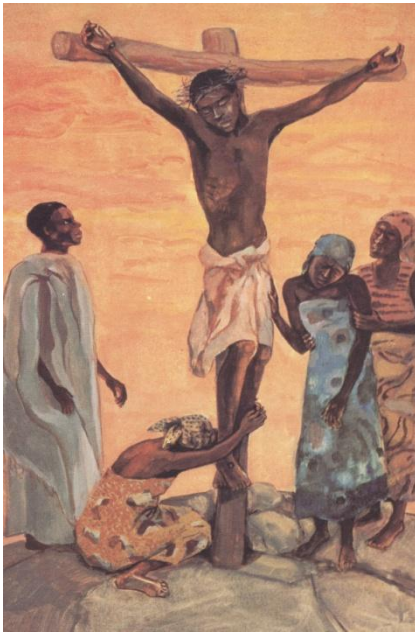
When he was finished praying, Jesus joined his friends. Then the Temple guards came out of the shadows and took Jesus away with them into the night. His twelve friends disappeared



*A Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality —
providing training to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life*

into the darkness as well.

Jesus dies on a cross

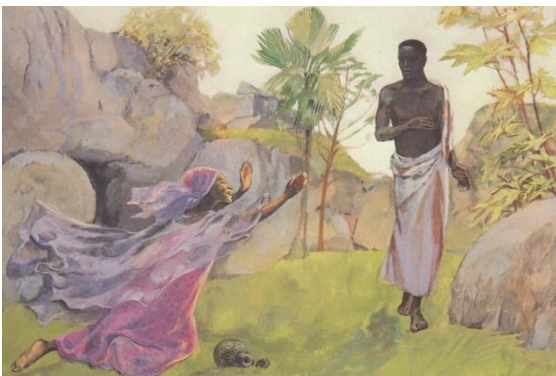


The night was a confusing one. The next day Jesus was taken outside the walls of the city. The Roman soldiers hung him on a cross and he died.

After Jesus died, his body was taken down from the cross and buried in a cave.

A great stone was rolled in front of the opening of the cave to close it like a locked door.

Jesus is risen



On Saturday everything was so quiet.

On Sunday, it was the women who had the courage to go to the tomb just to be close to Jesus. They wanted to remember, even if it was sad. When they came to the tomb they found that the stone had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty. They were frightened.

One of the women went to ask where the body had gone. She thought she had found the gardener, but then she saw it was Jesus. Jesus had died on the cross, but somehow he was still with them, as he is with us today.

The images are taken from the collection La Vie de Jesus Mafa, painted by artists in Cameroon. You can find the images to download from the Digital Library of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee in the USA. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

Based on Godly Play principles, and drawn in part from the Godly Play *Faces of Easter* presentations, this has been written by Kathryn Lord, on behalf of Godly Play UK. Use what you can and share generously!

www.godlyplay.uk
www.godlyplayfoundation.org
www.godlyplayscotland.co.uk
www.storiesforthesoul.org

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever.
Amen.



You can find the Easter stories in Volume 4 of *The Complete Guide to Godly Play* by Jerome Berryman.

*A Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality —
providing training to transform thinking and practice for the whole of life*



