

## Easter Egg Blessing Moment



Historically, eggs have been associated with new life, rebirth, and springtime. Many ancient cultures used eggs in their religious ceremonies. It was not long before the Christian church took up the tradition of decorating and giving eggs as gifts as part of the springtime festival of Easter to celebrate the resurrection. Decorating Easter eggs and hiding them for an Easter egg hunt has been a fun tradition for many a family gathering. Having an Easter egg hunt at one's home or at a community park can be a simple and effective way of celebrating the message of Christ's resurrection with family, friends, and neighbors.

Moments that cause us to pause and shift gears like the celebration of the resurrection and the beginning of a new season in the church provide for us opportunities to take a breath and find God's presence. This Easter Egg Blessings Moment has four steps – Caring conversation – Devotions – Service and Ritual.

1. Caring Conversation: Gather around a meal or snack take a moment to sit and chat. Chat using one or all of the following questions.
  - a) What are some memories you have about coloring Easter eggs?
  - b) Have you ever gone to an Easter egg hunt? Tell a story about that experience.
  - c) How do Easter eggs remind you of the message of Easter?
  
2. Devotion:
  - a) Read the Easter story from a children's book and talk about your favorite part of the story.
  - b) What question would you like to ask Jesus about the resurrection?  
(remember we don't need to answer these questions but rather we can hear them and wonder about the answers together)
  - c) Read Romans 8:37-39  
"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
  - d) Talk about how you feel God's love.

3. Service:

- a) Schedule a time to colour eggs together with family.
- b) Purchase some plastic eggs or better yet draw some Easter eggs on paper bags. Fill with a candy or a little note wishing a Happy Easter.
- c) Deliver eggs or bags to neighbours or to those who are home bound or in nursing and assisted living homes.

4. Ritual:

- a) Before delivering the eggs or bags place them in a bowl or baskets and offer a prayer.

“Dear God, we thank you for the gift of Easter eggs, a sign of new life and of Jesus love for us. May those who receive these eggs know they are special and important and that nothing can separate them from God’s love. Help us show the love of Jesus to all we meet not just at Easter but the whole year through. Alleluia and Amen. “

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