Dear Whimsical Friends,

Thank you for welcoming *Gabe the Little Lamb* into your home this Easter season! We created this **Interactive Easter Guide** to help bring the story to life in a meaningful and engaging way for your family.

Just as Christmas is filled with traditions that turn our hearts toward Jesus, Easter can, too! These activities are designed to deepen your child's understanding of the Easter story while creating hands-on traditions that leave a lasting impression. To fully experience the interactive elements, we encourage you to find a small stuffed animal to represent Gabe the Little Lamb. If you don't already have one, any little lamb will do! Gabe can journey alongside your child, helping them connect with the story in a tangible way.

This guide is completely flexible—mix and match activities, do them all or just a few, or simply use it as inspiration for your own family traditions. Whether through daily devotions, handson crafts, or meaningful object lessons, our hope is that these moments will draw your family closer to Jesus and to each other.

Thank you for allowing us to be a small part of your Easter celebration. May this season be filled with faith, joy, and a deeper understanding of Christ's love.

Blessings, The Whimsy Gals

Interactive Easter Elements

These activities are designed to bring the Easter story to life in your home, offering meaningful ways for your children to engage with Jesus' story and create faith-filled traditions. Feel free to do them all, mix and match, or simply choose what works best for your family!

1. Fillable Easter Eggs: A 12-day Bible hunt leading up to Easter!

This hands-on scavenger hunt helps your child discover Biblical truths in a fun and engaging way



- Each egg contains a riddle that encourages your child to search their Bible for the answer.
- Each riddle is printed with a feather—representing the dove in Gabe's story. Together, the feather and riddle, bring hope and truth to your children.
- To add an extra layer of joy, consider placing a small treat in some of the eggs.
- **How to Play**: Hide an egg each morning for your child to find, and let them search the Bible for the answers!

Suggested Eggs to Use:

Plastic eggs from the dollar store

<u>Hollow Wooden Eggs</u>

<u>Wooden Egg Stand</u> (a durable and beautiful keepsake for years to come!)

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2. Wreath & Toothpicks: A Visual Lesson on Sin & Forgiveness

A simple yet powerful way for your children to grasp the meaning of Jesus' sacrifice.

- Place a grapevine wreath in a central spot in your home, such as the dining table.
- Throughout the days leading up to Easter, whenever someone sins, needs to apologize, or feels the weight of something personal, they place a <u>toothpick</u> into the wreath.
- Over time, the wreath will begin to resemble a crown of thorns—a powerful, tangible reminder of how our sins burden Jesus. Good Friday, gather as a family and place your sins (toothpicks) inside the tomb (see the next section) and close the "stone" door. Then, on Easter Sunday, Before your children wake, remove all the toothpicks.





→ Watch their faces light up as they see the wreath restored—just as Jesus removes our sins completely!

3. The Empty Tomb: A hands-on way to illustrate the joy of the resurrection!

This activity provides a powerful visual representation of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

This does not have to be elaborate—your family can create a simple tomb using:

A small box

A plastic cup covered with a lid, stone, or rock A resurrection garden made of soil and small stones

◆ If you'd like a keepsake, you can <u>invest in a carved</u> wooden tomb—a beautiful heirloom piece to bring out every Easter.



On Good Friday, place the toothpicks from the wreath inside the tomb, sealing it with a stone. Then, on Easter morning, roll the stone away to reveal the empty tomb, symbolizing Christ's resurrection!

Family Activities for Easter

In addition to these interactive elements, here are other fun and faith-filled ways to celebrate Easter with your family:

- ★ Make Resurrection Rolls A delicious, hands-on way to illustrate Jesus' resurrection. (Recipe included at the bottom of this pdf)
- ★ Have an Easter Egg Hunt Hide eggs filled with Bible verses, truths, or small surprises.
- ★ Make Easter Treats for Neighbors Share the love and message of Easter with those around you.
- ★ Read the Easter Story Together Reinforce the meaning of Easter through scripture.
- ★ Dye Easter Eggs A fun, creative way to celebrate new life.
- ★ Create Your Own Empty Tomb Use recycled materials or plant a resurrection garden.
- ★ Fill Resurrection Eggs Use them to tell the Easter story interactively.
- ★ Make Cross Suncatchers Use tissue paper and contact paper to create beautiful crosses.
- ★ Do an Easter Craft from Pinterest Find creative ways
 to engage with the story.
- ★ Spend Time in Prayer or Worship Encourage reflection and gratitude as a family.



Hello, friend, it's me, Gabe!

Spring is here, and I'm back to say,
I have a new story to share today!
I followed a path, quiet and still,
Up to a garden, over a hill.
The tomb was open, the stone rolled
away—

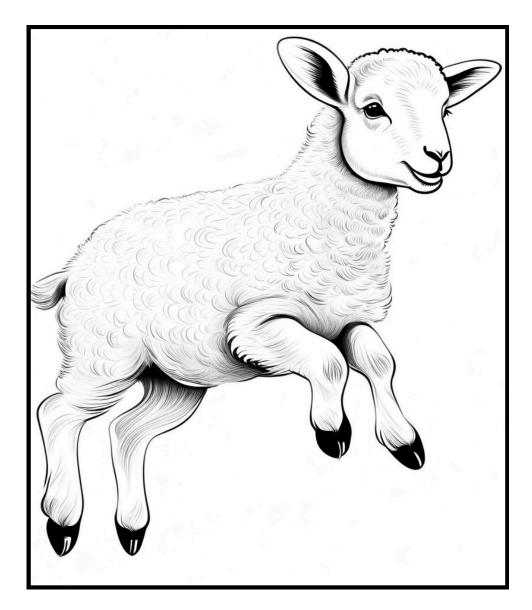
Jesus is risen! Oh, what a day!
So come along, let's search and see,
The joy of Easter for you and me.
Each day, as you find my hiding place,
Remember His love, His hope, and His
grace!

Unscramble the words below to complete the Bible verse:

Write the verse in the blank space.

Color the picture of Gabe celebrating the good news!

Talk about what this verse means

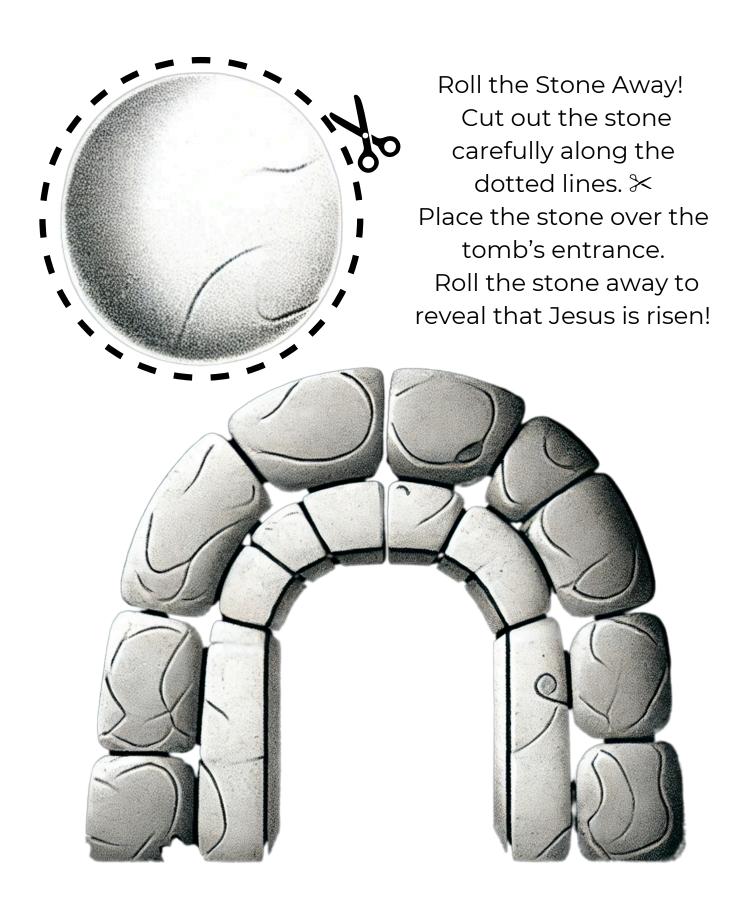


"risen He not is He, as has here He said!"

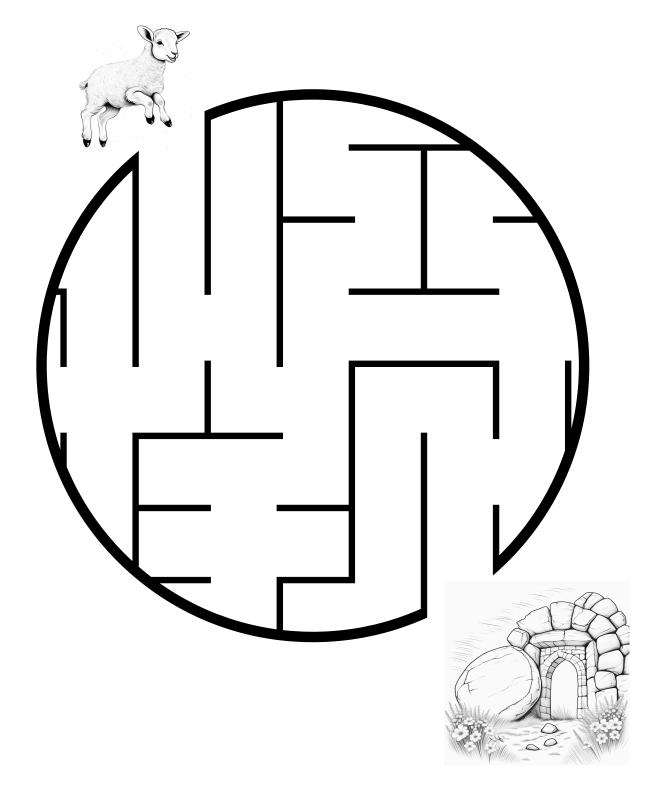
(Answer: "He is not here; He has risen, as He said!" – Matthew 28:6)

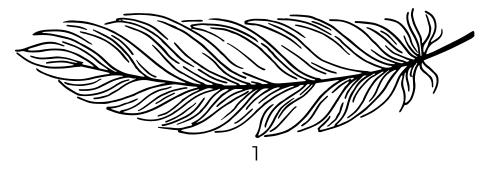
The stone has been rolled away! Color this picture of the empty tomb and think about the joy of that first Easter morning. What colors will you use to show the light and hope of this special day?



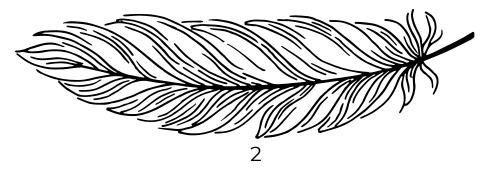


Help Gabe get through the garden to the Empty Tomb

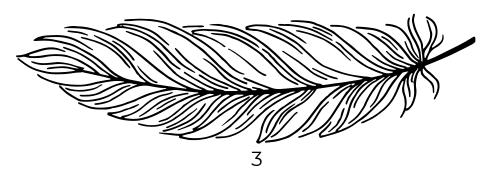




The people waved these and laid them down in the street. When Jesus entered Jerusalem many bowed at His feet (Matthew 21:1-11)

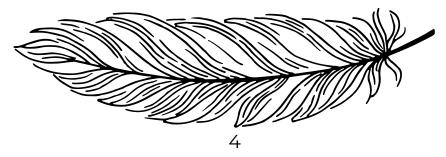


Mary poured this on Jesus' feet. It is expensive and smells very sweet. (John 12:2-8)



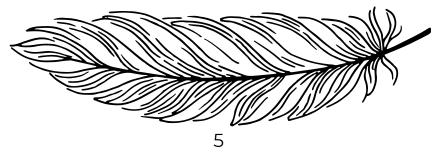
Jesus broke this and shared it with his disciples. He encouraged them to abandon all other idols.

(Matthew 26:26)

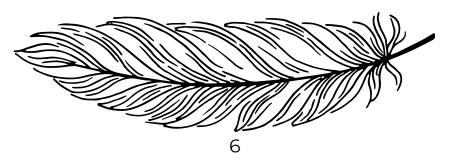


What did Judas betray Jesus for? Our sin causes us to always want more.

(Matthew 26:14-15)

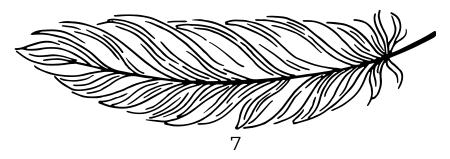


They made Jesus wear this on his head. It was very sharp and so he bled. (John 19:2)



The soldiers cast lots or gambled with these. The winner took Jesus clothes like terrible thieves.

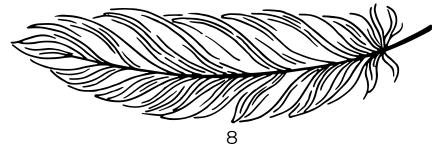
(John 19:23)



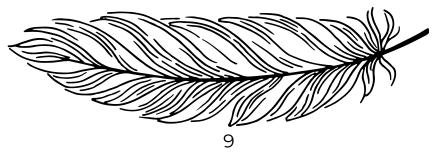
The path that Jesus took was an uphill climb.

Still He carried this all by Himself for some of the time.

(John 19:17)

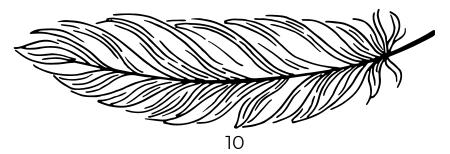


These made marks in Jesus hand and feet. Which Thomas used to recognize Him when they did meet. (John 20:25)

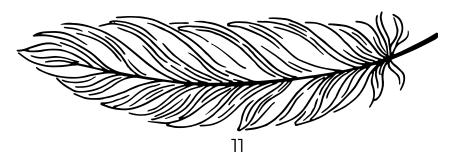


Jesus was thirsty. But instead of water to drink, they gave Him something bitter, what was it, think?

(John 20:25)

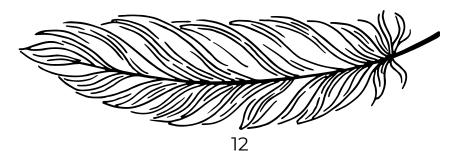


They rolled this away and found the tomb to be empty. For Jesus had risen and we are set free! (John 20:1)



Jesus family and friends used these to prepare His body for burial. They loved Him so much they must have felt terrible.

(John 19:40)



After Jesus rose up from the grave, there was only this left where His body once laid.

(John 20:6-7)



Feathers Answer Key

Palm Branches

Perfume

Bread

Money (Coins)

Thorns

Dice

Cross

Nails

Vinegar

Stone

Spices

Clothing (Garments, or Linens)

Ingredients

- Canned Crescent Rolls
- 3 Tbs of Butter
- 3 Tbs sugar + 1 Tbs cinnamon in a small bowl.
- 8 Large Marshmallows

Directions

- 1. Melt butter in a small bowl. In another bowl, mix cinnamon and sugar. Separate out your crescent rolls and set aside.
- 2. Dip a marshmallow first in the melted butter, and then roll it around in the cinnamon sugar.
- 3. Wrap the marshmallow in a crescent roll, being sure to seal all cracks.
- 4. Place on a parchment-lined backing sheet.
- 5. Repeat
- 6. Bake at 350 for 10-12 minutes

<u>Symbolism</u>

Resurrection: The Resurrection Rolls represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb on Easter, leaving it empty as the rolls come out empty.

Preparation: Dipping the marshmallow in butter, rolling it in the spices, and wrapping it with the crescent roll is representative of preparing Jesus' body for burial.

Transformation: The marshmallow's change during baking mirrors the transformative power of Jesus' resurrection.









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