

# FAMILY EASTER DEVOTIONAL

# Easter

at Prestonwood

**KIDZ**  
PRESTONWOOD

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**PRETEENS**  
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# SERVICE FOR SIX

## ELEMENTARY DEVOTIONALS

### DAY 1: ONE THING YOU'D NEVER DO RED EGG

#### **TODAY'S BIBLE READING: MATTHEW 20:25-28**

*But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Easter is coming! This week, we are going to look at Jesus' mission here on earth. He summed up His mission in the words above. Even though Jesus is the Son of God, He didn't come to be served; He came to serve. Ultimately, He gave His own life to serve others and to win us back to God.

What are some things that you don't mind doing to serve others?

Sometimes serving other people can be easy, such as when serving them makes them happy or when they show appreciation. But, sometimes it can be hard to serve people. Maybe it's easy for you to do your chores because you know that helping out at home is important. But, you would never do your brother's chores for him. Or, maybe it's easy for you to make a card for someone who is sick, but you wouldn't want to go to a homeless shelter and serve a meal.

*(Hold up the RED EGG.)*

Right now, we are all going to take a moment and ask ourselves:  
What is the one thing you would never consider doing to serve others?

*(Lead your students to write their answers on the tear-off sheet, and then tear off each strip, fold them and put them in the RED EGG.)*

**PRAY:** "Lord Jesus, as we get ready to celebrate Easter this week, help us to serve others the way You came to serve us. Amen."

### DAY 2: SERVING THOSE WHO HELP US GROW GREEN EGG

**BEFORE TODAY'S ACTIVITY BEGINS:** *Tear off the Day 2 strip with your staff member's name and place it in the GREEN EGG.*

#### **TODAY'S BIBLE READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-13**

*We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.*

Did you know this week is one of the busiest weeks of the year for church staff members? Easter is one of the times each year when a lot of visitors attend our church. The staff will work extra hours to prepare for this weekend for all God is going to do.

Can you think of things that have to be done to get ready for Easter at our church? Maybe you thought about all the windows that have to be washed or all the flowers that

will be planted out front. Maybe you thought about the extra volunteers needed to serve in the nursery and preschool or about the special music that is being planned. This week, let's serve our church.

*(Open the GREEN EGG.)*

Our staff member is (read the name of your assigned staff member). The church has given us (his or her) e-mail address. Let's take a moment right now to send a note of encouragement to (him or her) and let (him or her) know we are grateful for (his or her) service this weekend—and every weekend—!

**PRAY:** "Lord Jesus, please be with (assigned staff member) today. Please help (him or her) think through all of the work that needs to be done and give (him or her) energy to do it. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for our church home; we can't wait to see what You will do this weekend as we celebrate Easter."

## DAY 3: SERVING SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE PINK EGG

### TODAY'S BIBLE READING: LUKE 10:30-37

*Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."*

Let's face it! We all have people we just *do not like*. Maybe it's that know-it-all kid at school or someone on your soccer team. They just bother us. The Jews in Jesus' day had a group of people they really *did not like*. This group of people were Samaritans. The Jews believed there was no such thing as a good Samaritan. When Jesus told this story, it was really hard to imagine a Samaritan taking time to help a Jew.

What do you think God wants us to do when someone we don't like needs help?

Of course! God wants us to help that person! Do you know how we know this? Because Jesus came to rescue us while we were still God's enemies. He came to die for us so we could go from being God's enemies to being His friends.

Today, I want you to write down the name of someone you don't like.

*(Hand out the Day 3 tear-off strips to your family and guide each person to put a name in the blank. Put your strips into the PINK EGG.)*

How can we serve (name one of the people your family listed)?

Even when we don't like someone, we can still serve that person! Just as Jesus did!

*(Keep the PINK EGG in a visible place this week as a reminder that Jesus came to serve everyone, and we can serve even those we don't like.)*

**PRAY:** "Lord, I have a hard time liking \_\_\_\_\_. Help me to love (him or her) the way You love (him or her). Help me to look for a way to serve (him or her). Thanks for serving me, even when I was Your enemy. Amen."

## DAY 4: SERVING YOUR FAMILY ORANGE EGG

**BEFORE TODAY'S ACTIVITY BEGINS:** *Tear off the Day 4 strips and write a family member's name on each strip. Place all the strips in the ORANGE EGG.*

**YOU WILL NEED:** 1 bowl, warm water, 1 towel

### **TODAY'S BIBLE READING: JOHN 13:1-5**

*Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

On Thursday night, Jesus and the disciples celebrated a last meal together. During this time, Jesus set an example for us by washing His disciples' dirty, dusty feet. He even washed the feet of the man (Judas Iscariot) who would betray him in just a few short hours.

Today, we are going to follow Jesus' example.

*(Hold up the ORANGE EGG.)*

I've written the name of each member in our family on paper and put the papers inside this egg. You are going to draw a family member's name out of the egg and wash his or her feet and then pray for him or her today. As we do this to serve others, we can remember that Jesus came to serve.

*(Your family may have a hard time doing this activity, but we encourage you to take time to do this together; you will be blessed by following Christ's example.)*

*(Allow each family member to wash the feet of another family member and pray for him or her.)*

**PRAY:** "Lord Jesus, thank You for the example You set for us when You knelt to wash the feet of Your disciples. Help us to serve others with the same humility and love You showed that night."

## DAY 5: THE ONE THING YOU'D NEVER DO, PART 2 RED EGG

### **TODAY'S BIBLE READING: LUKE 22:42**

*"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."*

Today, we remember Jesus' Crucifixion. Although, we know that Jesus won over sin and death and we will celebrate on Sunday; today, we remember that Jesus died. The night before He died, Jesus prayed the prayer written above. He was asking God, the Father, for another way that man's sins might be taken away. But, He was ready to obey, even though it meant going to the Cross.

*(Hold up the RED EGG.)*

Remember, our **RED EGG**? On Monday, each of us wrote down something we would never do to serve others. Let's look at those again...

*(Read each family member's response to Monday's question.)*

Some of these would be really tough. I can see why you didn't want to do them. As a family, let's choose one of these activities to do today to serve others. As we do this activity together, we can remember that Jesus chose to do something He didn't want to do either, He died on the Cross so we could be free.

**PRAY:** "Lord Jesus, as we go out today to serve others, help us to remember Your sacrifice. Help us to remember that You came to serve and to give your life. Help us to have a heart for serving others, just as You do. Amen."

## **DAY 6: SERVING SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP BLUE EGG**

### **TODAY'S BIBLE READING: JOHN 19:38-42**

*After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.*

There are two men whom we hardly ever mention when we tell the story of Jesus' death and Resurrection: Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Both men followed Jesus quietly. But, both men came to help when Jesus needed help. Jesus died on the Cross in the afternoon, and the Jewish Sabbath would begin at sundown. Joseph and Nicodemus did not want Jesus' body to be mistreated, so they came and prepared His body for burial and laid it in a new tomb.

What a wonderful act of service and love for the Savior! Today, as we await Easter together, let's take one last opportunity to serve someone who needs help today.

*(As a family, brainstorm ways you can serve someone today. Maybe there's a sick neighbor who could use some groceries; maybe you can baby-sit for a new mom in your neighborhood. Tear off the Day 6 card and take it with you when you serve today. Give the card to the person/people you serve.)*

**PRAY:** "Lord Jesus, thank You so much that You came to serve us and to buy us back from sin and death. As we serve someone today, help us to remember that You are our risen Savior!"

Tomorrow, we celebrate our victorious, risen Savior!

Make plans to join us for Easter Worship Services!



# Easter

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## GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICES

Friday, April 19 | 6:30 p.m.  
Plano & North Campuses

En Español | 6:30 p.m.  
Plano Campus

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## EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, April 20 & Sunday, April 21

### PLANO & NORTH CAMPUSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

### PLANO & LEWISVILLE CAMPUSES

(EN ESPAÑOL)

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

For childcare availability,  
please visit [prestonwood.org/easter](https://prestonwood.org/easter).