



**10 Minute
Easter
Devotions
For Families**

10 Day Easter Family Devotional

Easter is just like any holiday. It can be a very busy time. There are egg hunts, candy to buy, eggs to dye, family to visit and new outfits to buy for those wonderful family photos. In the midst of all the activities and craziness, it can be easy for kids and adults to forget what it is we are celebrating during the Easter season.

However, two things: 1. Easter just isn't another holiday. 2. This Easter is anything but normal. Easter is all about Jesus and the power of His resurrection. May we never become too familiar with the work and person of Jesus Christ during this time. So, to help us focus our hearts and minds on Jesus Christ this Easter, I have written ten devotionals for your family. Each of these ten devotionals includes a small description, Scripture reading and questions for the whole family to discuss. Each devotional can be completed in ten minutes or less. The goal of this devotional is to have some family time together connecting and preparing your hearts for Easter.

Thank you and I pray that you and your family receive a blessing from these ten devotionals.

10 Day Easter Devotional

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Day 1: WHO IS JESUS?

Do you know who Jesus is? For some of you, you have heard of Him at church or maybe at school, or in Scripture. It can be easy to think of Him as just some character in a story from the Bible, but Jesus really lived on earth like us. You know all those feelings, questions, concerns, joy, sadness and misunderstandings you have had in your life? Well, Jesus had them too! Jesus was just as human as you and me... but He was also God!

TALK IT OUT:

Let's ask some questions to hear from each other. (Try to have everyone participate during this time.)

- *What makes you different from others in your family?*
- *What was something hard that happened this week?*
- *What was something fun that happened?*

Guess what? Jesus had those kinds of feelings too.

When we read about Jesus in the Bible, we see that He had thoughts and feelings, just like us. Let's take a look at what one of Jesus' good friends wrote about Him.

BIBLE TIME:

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

The Word is referring to Jesus. In fact, that is just another name for Jesus. So, if you've been paying attention, you can call Him Jesus, Friend or The Word.

Why? Because He came to dwell among us to reveal a new way to live, God's way. Jesus was full of grace and truth. Over the next nine days, we will discover that way of living. Each day we will answer questions and read Scripture pertaining to Jesus' life. We will also see why Easter is such an important part of Jesus' life on earth.

WRAP-UP:

Find comfort in knowing that you are not alone today. Jesus Christ is with you always, and He knows exactly how you feel. That is good news!

Day 2: Learning Is Growing

In order to learn, it's important to ask really good questions. By asking really good questions it helps us grow mentally and physically. When Jesus was a child, his parents traveled to the Temple to celebrate **Passover**. When it was time to return home, Mary and Joseph accidentally left Jesus behind. He wanted to learn more about God, so when they returned, they found him in the Temple, listening to the teachers and asking them questions.

TALK IT OUT:

What is Passover? (Passover is the remembrance of God freeing the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The Israelites took a spotless lamb and its blood and placed it on the doorposts of their houses, so that when the LORD sees the blood, He will passover that house with no plague or death coming upon the house.)

- Why is sometimes scary or hard to ask questions?
- What is a question you have about God?

BIBLE TIME:

Let's take a moment and read about Jesus in the Temple, turn in your bibles to Luke 2:41-46.

Parents, imagine if you had left your child somewhere for three days. As a parent, I can imagine the panic that must have went through them.

Three days of questions. That is a lot of information and all that information helped Jesus learn more about God.

What is something that you have learned about God this week?

WRAP-UP:

Close in prayer by thanking God that we can ask Him questions that help us grow closer to Him.

DAY 3: Temptation Is Hard

Have you ever had a moment when you know you shouldn't do something that you really want to do? Grabbing a snack right before dinner after your parents told you not to? Taking something that belonged to someone else? Adam and Eve had those same whispers when God told them to not eat from the Tree of Knowledge in Genesis. In fact, Jesus had the same experience... kind of. This whisper is Satan, and he wants you to consider yourself, and your needs before the needs of others. Satan wants you to think that what you want right now is the most important thing in the world. But, you know what? When we listen to that whisper or Satan, it always brings hurt to you or someone else. Jesus knew what it was like to be tempted, and He overcame that temptations by following God's Word.

TALK IT OUT:

- Have you ever been tempted?
- When you give in to temptation do usually feel better or worse about yourself?
- How hard is it to resist temptation and do the right thing?

BIBLE TIME:

Matthew 4:1-4

See, temptations happens. It even happened to Jesus. Jesus resisted temptation by following God's Word. By putting aside His own "wants", Jesus gave us all hope that we can follow in His footsteps and overcome temptation just like He did.

WRAP-UP:

You are going to have times of temptation throughout this Easter season. Before you give into a questionable decision, remember that Jesus resisted temptation by quoting Scripture. Colossians 3:1-2 is a great place to start to help you fight temptation.

Day 4: Breaking Walls

In Jesus' time, almost everyone disliked the Samaritans, and Samaritans disliked Israelites (Jesus' people). It was a disagreement from a long time ago that spiraled into much more. Have you ever had that type of experience, maybe with a brother or a sister, maybe a friend or even a parent? Maybe there was time when something so small suddenly became something bigger and more complex. Suddenly, you find yourself not wanting to spend time with that person, or wanting to play with them and before long, you won't even remember why.

Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well and everyone knew that He shouldn't associate or talk with this woman. But guess what, He did! When He talked to the woman at the well, they started to break down walls of anger and resentment. Easter is all about hope and breaking down the walls.

TALK IT OUT:

- Have you ever been upset or mad at someone? Do you remember why you were upset with them?
- What did you do to help the situation?
- What was the outcome?

BIBLE TIME:

John 4:1-10

Because Jesus chose to break down the walls, this woman went to her village and shared with all her friends and family about Jesus Christ. More people got to hear about His love because she allowed the walls of anger, frustration and resentment come down.

WRAP-UP:

Is there someone that you feel upset with? Take a moment and pray for that person and that relationship together. Maybe by listening, hearing and praying, you can help break down some walls and start to spread the love of Jesus Christ!

Day 5: BESTIES

Do you have a best friend? Do you trust your best friend enough to share with home about your frustrations, fears, and feelings? Having a best friend is a blessing! Jesus had friends that trusted Him and confided in Him too.

TALK IT OUT:

- Why is so hard to talk about your feelings?
- What do you do to help explain how you're feeling?

There was a time when Jesus' best friend had passed away. He was so sad that He cried, even though, He knew He was going to bring his friend back to life.

BIBLE TIME:

John 11:32-36

Two things to notice: first, Jesus was truly sad and other people knew it, and that was ok. Second, it was actually more than ok, verse 36 shows us that Jesus' sadness brought comfort to others who were sad when they say how much Jesus cared for Lazarus. Jesus turned everyone's tears of sadness to tears of joy though, when He miraculously brought Lazarus back to life!

WRAP-UP:

Sometimes it's hard to explain how you're feeling. Sometimes we are happy, sad, scared, and even angry. Whatever you are feeling today, know that Jesus is our comfort and our rock! Jesus loves you and cares about you.

Day 6: The King Has Arrived!

Sometimes we can be blinded by our wants and miss out on something better, something that we actually need. Maybe you can relate? After all, has there ever been something you wanted so bad, that you missed out on something even better later on?

This is exactly what happened to the people that Jesus ministered to. They were so focused on the healing and the helping, that they missed out on the healer and the helper. Then, there were some who didn't like any of the things that Jesus was doing. They all wanted a king, but they were so blinded by their desire to have a king right "then and now", that they missed out on a different kind of King - a better king!

A week before the Passover celebration was to begin, Jesus went to Jerusalem where the people greeted Him with palm trees and sang HOSANNA, which means "SAVE US!" They praised Him, and Jesus came to save, but the salvation he came to offer was not just salvation from an earthly enemy. Jesus had come to bring us salvation from sin. A salvation that would make all the difference for all eternity!

TALK IT OUT:

- Have you ever wanted something so bad that you had to have it right then and now, with no waiting?
- What is so challenging about waiting?

Waiting and seeing is really hard. Sometimes the best things come from waiting! God has something better to offer us than anything we could ever wait for, eternity with Him!

BIBLE TIME:

Luke 19:28-44

WRAP-UP:

The next time you want something so badly, push pause and think for a moment if there might be something better down the road if you were to wait. Take a moment and thank God for the real freedom He offers you through the love Jesus showed.

Day 7: Do This In Remembrance of Me

After Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, He gathered together with His closest friends, the disciples, for one last meal. Although, the disciples did not realize this at the moment, days later Jesus would be put to death by people who falsely accused Him of doing wrong. I can only imagine how this would leave the disciples confused, scared and hurt. It was during this time, that Jesus ate with the disciples to prepare them for what was going to happen and asked them to remember how He loved others and to remember to always trust God.

Maybe you're like the disciples. Maybe you've had a moment where you were confused, hurt or scared. I know that I have! It easy to get lost in these moments, but remember how Jesus trusted God no matter what, you will be able to get through even the scariest moments. Jesus is ALWAYS with you!

TALK IT OUT:

- Has there ever been a time you have been scared?
- How did you handle that moment?
- What aspect of Jesus is important to remember in those moments?
- What are some ways that we can remained focus on Jesus during our day?

Jesus ate a meal with the disciples and asked them to remember Him. He challenged them to carry on the mission that He started. Can you carry on His mission today, even when you are scared?

BIBLE TIME:

Luke 22:14-20

WRAP-UP:

When it seems dark, when you're scared, take a moment and remember Jesus. The Gospels- Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are great places to start to see how Jesus lived. Take a moment and share one thing you are grateful for about Jesus.

Day 8: Last Is First

Kickball is one of the greatest games ever! However, what isn't fun is being picked dead last. It can be hurtful when people overlook you. (Trust me, I know this all too well!)

Jesus knew what it felt like to have people be mean to him. After all, the religious leaders were the ones in charge, who had him arrested because they were scared that He was leading an uprising, so that He would be the one in charge. Technically, He was leading an uprising, one against Sin! It's safe to say that Jesus was not the most popular person at this moment.

It's really hard not to be liked. It can feel like you are all alone. But you're not, Jesus is with you! Whether you are picked last or people say mean and hurtful things, you have an opportunity to show them Jesus! It's better to show grace, even to those that cause you pain and hurt. When everyone was screaming for Jesus to be put to death, He didn't turn around and hurt them back, He gave His life for them!

TALK IT OUT:

- What was a moment recently when you felt hurt?
- How might you be able to show the people hurting you, Jesus' love through your actions?

Jesus was eventually put to death. But here is the good news: He was put to death so that everyone else might live. His death on the cross was a symbol for all people that pain and hurt will not win. Jesus' love will win in the end!

BIBLE TIME:

Matthew 27:38-44

WRAP-UP:

We will never understand the pain that Jesus went through on His way to the cross. But, we do have the opportunity to show the love He displayed on the cross to those who have hurt us and caused us pain. Jesus was willing to die to show people how much He loved them, the least we can do is display His love through our words and actions.

Day 9: Live > Death

EASTER! (Well, not quite yet, we still have one more day.) But can you believe it? This is what Easter is all about. It's easy to get lost in the all the beautiful colors and candy during Easter. It can even be a bit confusing as to why we celebrate it. We celebrate Easter because death has been defeated. Jesus died, but He didn't stay that way. In three days, He arose from the dead and came back to life. What a sight that must have been for the disciples and His close friends.

Hurt, pain and death didn't have the final say. Jesus gave His life, He took the hurt and pain so that you may be able to live a life full of joy... forever! If you put your faith in Jesus and believe that He died on the cross to pay for your sins, came back to life, you too can have this joy for all eternity! That what we celebrate at Easter!

Not only that, but everyone you encounter can also see what it means to follow Jesus. The good news is this: Jesus was raised from the dead so you can have eternal life.

TALK IT OUT:

- How can you believe in Jesus?
- What happens when you put your faith in Jesus?

BIBLE TIME:

Luke 24:1-8

WRAP-UP:

Who will you share the good news of Jesus' resurrection with today? Celebrate with your friends and family, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Take a moment and thank Him for His sacrifice and for what Easter truly means.

Day 10: A New Day, A New Way

Thank you for joining me on this journey this Easter. We've learned a lot together the last few days, however, the good news is that it's not over. When Jesus rose from the grave, He empowered you, me and all Christ-followers with the Holy Spirit. That means you can do the very things He did! The purpose of His Spirit is to give you the very same strength and resolve that Jesus had. That means there is no task too small or too big, no opportunity out of reach. All you have to do is depend on Jesus and His way, and you will accomplish big things for Him and the Kingdom.

After Jesus died, the disciples were scared. They locked themselves in a room, until that day when He appeared to them and told them that He was going to send them the Holy Spirit.

BIBLE TIME:

Luke 24:36-49

FINAL WRAP:

Take a moment to pray for strength in those moments you feel weak, unloved, worthless or powerless. Don't forget that Jesus is with you always, ready to help, all you have to do is ask.

Happy Resurrection Day, my friends!