

CITY LG – March 28th- 29th, 2026

Bible Story: Easter (Crucified and Risen) • *John 18–20:23*

Bottom Line: You can have joy because Jesus is alive.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • *Philippians 4:4 NIV*

LG SUPPLIES:

- 2 Easter baskets
- 2 large tubs to hold the Easter eggs and Easter grass
- 40- Easter eggs (20- per tub)
- 20 bags of fake Easter grass (10 per tub)

WORSHIP

Live Differently

He Has Won

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! Welcome to The City! I'm so glad you're here today. Give me a big wave if you're excited to be here! This month, we're celebrating Jesus and the joy that never, ever ends. Can you say, "joy?"

And today, we get to celebrate Easter! Who loves Easter? Easter is when Jesus gave His life to rescue us, but then He came back to life. And now we can be God's friend forever! Jesus is alive! Jesus is our friend forever! That's so awesome, and the biggest reason to have joy! Yay!

Before we celebrate all of that, we're going to play a super-fun Easter game. Wow, look at these huge Easter baskets!

(Gesture to the tubs.)

I bet there are tons of Easter eggs hiding in there! And you know what, it's time to play one big Easter egg game! Today, we're playing a game called 'Egg Rush!'

SLIDE: Egg Rush! Title

Inside these big tubs are LOTS of hidden Easter eggs. They're sneaky eggs, and they're hiding way down deep in the grass. I think I even saw one trying to peek out at me!

Here's how the game works: we're going to have two teams of four, and both teams are going to line up at the start line. When it's your turn, you'll run all the way down to your team's tub, dig through the Easter grass, find ONE egg, and bring it back to your team's basket. Then tag the next person on your team, and they'll take their turn. We'll play for two minutes, and when the time is up, we'll count the eggs to see which team found the most.

Let's go ahead and pick our teams! These friends will be our runners. If you'd like to volunteer, raise your hand!

(Choose eight kids from the ones who have their hands raised, split them into two teams of four, and line them up at the start line.)

Woo-hoo, we have our teams! And everyone else, you get to be our cheering squad!

Okay, cheering squad, are YOU ready?

Team One and Team Two, are YOU ready?

On your mark ... get set ... GO!

Video: 2-Minute Countdown

(Start timer—. One kid from each team is to run to the tub, search the tub for an egg, grab ONE egg, run back to the start line, return the egg to the team's Easter basket, and tag the next kid on their team.)

(Encourage each team as they race and involve the audience. Make sure the runners from each team are only bringing back ONE Easter egg at a time.)

Look at those fast feet! Wow, they found a shiny egg! Let's hear some joyful cheers from the audience!

(When two-minute timer is up ...)

And FREEZE! Time is up! Wow! You guys were FAST! Okay, everyone, help me count Team One's eggs!

(Count eggs together with kids and announce the final number.)

Okay, now let's count Team Two's eggs.

(Count eggs together with kids and announce the final number.)

Our winner today is ... [Name of Team]!

(Repeat the game for as many rounds as time allows. Ask for new volunteers at the start of each round.)

Everyone did such a great job, and you were all so joyful during our game! But do you know what gives us the MOST joy? Jesus! Jesus is alive—at He can be our friend forever—and that means we can have joy every day.

This month, we're celebrating the joy we have because Jesus is alive. Our Memory Verse helps us remember that joy comes from knowing Jesus. I'll say our Memory Verse first, then we'll say it together. It's Philippians 4:4!

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! —Philippians 4:4 (NirV).

Today is a very special day. Does anybody like to smile? Let me see a big smile! Does anybody like to have parties? Who likes having fun? Well, you're in the right place because today, we're celebrating Easter! It's the best party ever!

Easter is when we celebrate that Jesus is alive! Jesus loves us so much that He gave His life to rescue us! And then, He rose back to life! Jesus beat death! And Jesus did all of that so we could be His friends forever! Hooray! That's what we're going to talk about today!

But before we get into one of the most amazing events in the entire Bible, let me tell you about something awesome we're doing this year!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

Today, we're continuing our journey through the Bible. And we're at one of the most important events in the whole entire Bible—Easter! Let's check it out!

VIDEO: Bible Story

This is the best news in the whole world. Jesus gave His life to pay for our sins so we could be close to God! Then Jesus came back to life! Jesus beat death! He is alive, and He will be alive forever. And now we can be God's friend forever! Hooray!

This is why we celebrate Easter. This is why we have joy that never ends. Jesus is alive! Let's say our Bottom Line together.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

You can have joy because Jesus is alive!

What Jesus' friends didn't know those few days, but that we know now, is that when Jesus gave His life, He paid for all the wrong things anyone has ever done or ever will do. With sin paid for, we could be close to God! That's what He wants more than anything—to be your close, close friend!

You can be friends with the God of the universe because of what Jesus did on Easter!

And that friendship is better than any friendship. Jesus is alive, even today, and as your forever friend, He goes with you through every single thing you face. When you wake up in the morning, Jesus, your forever friend, is with you. When you go to school, Jesus, your forever friend, is with you. When you play with your friends, Jesus, your forever friend, is with you. When you go to bed at night, Jesus, your forever friend, is still with you.

You are loved, so loved, by the God of the universe! He gave His life to make a way so you could be close to Him, and then He rose again! That's the most exciting news ever!

Happy Easter, everybody! Jesus loves you!

Let's pray and thank Jesus for what He's done.

Jesus, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You for dying on the cross for us to rescue us. And thank You for rising again on Easter morning. Help us make our whole lives about growing our forever friendship with You that You bought for us on Easter. We love You so much, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

In Parkview Kids, we want to have fun but also be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping others who are in need. This year we are collecting our offering money to help kids all the way on the other side of the world in a country in Africa called Malawi. Did you know that in this area many communities don't have access to clean water?

Slides: 1-4

We are helping a ministry called E3 which helps put in freshwater wells. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water, and they don't have to walk with heavy containers of water.

Help us raise money to provide wells in the communities in Malawi. We want you to go home and ask what YOU can do to raise money for these families in Africa!