

Front Door

At Home Storytelling

The Empty Tomb

Mark 16: 1-8

Review:

Our Easter story, the tomb is empty. He is not there. For the women who went to tend to Jesus, after his death this presents a huge question. Where is he? Astounding, really if you think about it. How? I imagine I would have run away scared.

The angel, seated inside the tomb tell them “Go tell the others. You can find him in Galilee.” Back to Galilee where it all started. Do you think now the people will be able to understand Jesus’ message. Do you think they will know God does many unexpected things?

Tell the Story:

Prepare for the new story. Remind your children this is our time to listen for God. They will use their imagination to help listen and hear what they story is saying.

Tell the story: Keeping true to the narrative, tell the story with elements of emotion and excitement. Be careful not to edit the text too much. Favorite options for storytelling is read from scripture, summarize from scripture, view storytelling video from, visualize story sequence on a white board.

Retell:

Take the time to have the children re-tell the story they have just heard. Many options exist for this activity, it should remain a child’s free choice. Use story props, white boards, puppets or blocks. Ask your kids to name characters, sequence events and explore notable concepts on their terms.

Words to Know

Gospel Story - The Gospels are 4 books in the bible that tell about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Each gospel tells the story a different way. And that is ok. If we were all to tell a story each account would probably be different depending on what we remember and what we think is most important.

Crucifixion - A very public, common and painful punishment of death the Romans used.

Tomb - A vault or room where a dead body is placed. Used instead of a grave.

Resurrection - A word that means bring back to life. At Easter we celebrate and remember God’s love and life in Jesus could not be dead. It is bigger and stronger than death and will live and grow. That is why we tell the Easter story each year.

Notable Take Aways:

The story of Jesus’ death can be scary and difficult to share with children. Let them know it is sad, but God is still at work, even at scary and sad times.

Easter is different this year for sure. But we also have a perfect example of God still alive in hard and scary times. And... things will be made new.