The story of Easter

**You’ll Need:**

**Twelve plastic eggs:** Label the outside of each egg with the numbers 1-12, one number on each egg.

**Small Props**—place each prop in the coordinating egg along with the scripture verse:

#1 - Sacrament or communion cup

#2 - Three nickels

#3 - Knotted twine

#4 - Chunk of hard soap

#5 – Small piece of red or purple cloth

#6 - Small nail (optional, let the kids press this nail into their hand to feel how it must have hurt.)

#7 - Three different length sticks

#8 - Piece of jagged rock or several small pebbles

#9 - Strip of white cloth

#10 - Round smooth stone

#11 - Cloves and/or nutmeg and/or allspice

#12 - This egg is empty left empty to symbolize the empty tomb

**Bible Verses** – See below. Print these and cut into strips. Place each verse in the coordinating egg:

**Pictures of Christ if possible** - We bought a package of Bible pictures when our first son was a baby, and we have used them hundreds of times over the years. (Great investment to have in the home.) For this activity, I pull out all the pictures of Christ we have, beginning with His birth and going all the way through His resurrection. Set asideany pictures that coordinate with the Easter story, and keep the rest in a separate pile.

**Lesson Outline –** See below. This willto help you everything in order… the eggs with the coordinating props, pictures, and verses.

**Bible Verses**

Egg #1

And he went a little further,and fell on his face, and he prayed saying, “O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.” (Matthew 26:39) [Sacrament cup]

Egg #2

The one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went into the chief priests, and said unto them “what will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you?” And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver, (Matthew 26:14-15) This fulfilled the prophecy in Zachariah 11:12-14 that Jesus would be sold for 30 pieces of silver. [3 nickels]

Egg #3 When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor (Matthew 27:1-2) [knotted twine]

Egg #4 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this just person; See ye to it.” Then answered all the people, and said, “His blood be on us, and on our children.” Then released he Barabbas unto them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. (Matthew 27:24-26) [chunk of hard soap]

Egg #5 And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand, and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying “Hail, King of the Jews.” And they spit upon him, and took the reed and smote him on the head. (Matthew 27:28-30) [piece of red cloth]

Egg #6 And after they had mocked him, they took the robe off fom him, and put his own raiment on him and led him away to crucify him. And as they came out, they found a man Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. (Matthew 27:31-32) And He was crucified…nailed to the cross. [small nail-press this nail into your hand…feel how it must have hurt.]

Egg #7 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets. They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. (Matthew 27:35) [3 different length sticks]

Egg #8 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; … Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying “Truly this was the Son of God.” (Matthew 27:50-51, 54) [piece of jagged rock]

Egg #9 Then Joseph, a rich man, went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock (Matthew 27:58-60) [strip of cloth]

Egg #10 And he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. Pilate said unto them (the chief priests and pharisees). “Ye have a watch, go your way, make it as sure as ye can.” So they went and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone and setting a watch (Matthew 27:60, 65-66) [a round smooth stone]

Egg #11 And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had brought sweet spices, that they might come and annoint him. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it. And the angel..said unto the women, “Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.” (Mark 16:1, Matthew 28:2,5) [cloves and/or nutmeg and/or allspice]

Egg #12 “HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN, AS I SAID” (Matthew 28:6) [This egg is empty

**Lesson Outline**

**Preparation:**

- Fill each egg with the bible verse and small prop. Put all the eggs in an easter basket.

- Set a stack or coordinating pictures near the easter basket

- Spread all your other pictures of Christ on the floor in a small pile

**Intro:**

- Let each person choose a picture of Christ and hold it in their lap. They can choose a picture because they like the story behind it, because they are curious about it, or simply because the like it.

- Go in a circle, letting each person share their picture and tell why they chose about it. Together, share your favorite stories of Christ and take a moment to rejoice in his wonderful life.

**Egg Activity:**

Now that we have talked about Christ’s life and are filled with affection for all He did on this earth, let’s take a moment to remember the last moments of His earthly life.

Let the kids each draw an egg. In order, let the child open their egg, hold out the prop for all to see, and read the bible verse.

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