

“Christian family devotions—regular, simple, shared Bible times around the table—are a precious challenge throughout the seasons of family life. The what and how of starting (or re-starting!) can be the first hurdle. Ed Drew to the rescue! *The Wonder of Easter* makes it so easy for families to plunge together into the Bible, with a series of family devotions that are accessible (10 minutes, 5 per week), realistic (key studies highlighted for when you miss some), flexible (pre-school to teen options) and biblical (built around Luke’s Gospel.) Open this book after dinner tonight and head off with your family on a day-by-day shared Bible adventure of your own that will, by God’s grace, shape the hearts and lives of a generation.”

**COLIN BUCHANAN**, Singer/songwriter; Presenter; Author

“Without fuss or labor, *The Wonder of Easter* deftly guides families through Jesus’ last days, with both Old Testament and New Testament references. I’m grateful to Ed Drew for creating such a rich resource to help families like mine prepare our hearts for Easter and stay centered on the passion and resurrection of Jesus!”

**RANDALL GOODGAME**, Slugs & Bugs Family Music

“Ed Drew’s awe of King Jesus fuels *The Wonder of Easter* with transformational truth. Age-specific questions and engaging activities promise to captivate the minds and hearts of every generation in your home and church. It’s not just for Easter!”

**BARBARA REAOCH**, Director, Children’s Division, Bible Study Fellowship; Author, *A Jesus Christmas*; *Why Christmas?* and *Why Easter?*

“The death and resurrection of Jesus are the very heart of the Christian faith. This engaging new resource will help families hear the Easter story together from Luke’s Gospel. It is biblically faithful, easy for parents to use, and will enable the whole family to delight in the wonder of what God has done for us through Jesus. An ideal way to start, restart or refresh daily family devotions.”

**JOHN STEVENS**, National Director, Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches in the UK

“Ed Drew has written a highly readable, brilliantly accessible resource for families. The questions are on point; and the activities are fun and engaging, and illuminate the meaning of the text. If you are looking for a Bible study to help you do devotions with your family, look no further.”

**JOSH MOODY**, Senior Pastor, College Church, Wheaton, Illinois

"Wow! What a fantastic resource for any family who want to spend time together looking at the Easter narrative, and to help one another grow in understanding and love of their Saviour. Each session helpfully digs into Scripture and is interactive, creative and fun. The variety of questions and flexibility of the devotions mean that even the busiest family with the widest age-range of children will be able to get lots out of them. I'm totally going to be recommending this to families I know!"

**TAMAR POLLARD**, Author, *Epic Explorers* and *One Day Wonders Books 1 and 2*

"Christian families of all stages and sizes (including Christian adults living together) will benefit from Ed's help in re-living the Easter story together. I'll be buying copies for my godchildren and strongly recommending this fantastic resource to our church family."

**ED SHAW**, Pastor, Emmanuel City Centre, Bristol

"Clear, simple and full of top tips to make your family's experience of Easter all about Jesus!" Not only will this book help you unpack Luke's account of Jesus' death and resurrection; it will also equip you in knowing how to pray and read the Bible with your children for future family devotion times. Buy one for your family and another one for a friend!"

**JO-ANNE TAYLOR**, Children's Worker, St. Stephen's, Cape Town

"Family devotions are not easy, but Ed Drew has made them easier. This book is biblically faithful, creative, extendable for a wide age-range and time-saving! Buy it, use it and see your family transformed though God's word this Easter."

**GARETH CRISPIN**, Co-author, *Together With God*

"Biblical, practical, easy to use and fun. This will really help you and your kids to understand and apply the message of Easter."

**MURRAY ANDERSON**, Senior Pastor, St Peters Fish Hoek, Cape Town

"What an excellent resource. I will not only be buying this for family and friends and my godchildren but also encouraging Christ Church Kensington's families to buy it and use it. Although the studies are short, don't be fooled; each one gets to the main point of the passage in a way that will engage children and excite them about God's word. A great resource for families from 'Faith in Kids' to enable young and old alike to rejoice in Christ's death and resurrection. It deserves to be widely used."

**MARK O'DONOGHUE**, Vicar, Christ Church, Kensington

Ed Drew

# The Wonder of Easter

An Easter journey  
for the whole family

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# Before you begin

Easter can be the highlight of the year.

Better than Christmas.

Bigger than a birthday.

And about so much more than just chocolate.

We are going to walk through Luke's Gospel and parts of the Old Testament to discover why the story of Jesus' death and resurrection is the most amazing story ever told.

Discover a new story every day as you follow in Jesus' footsteps:

- *Shout* as Jesus rides on a donkey into Jerusalem as the returning King.
- *Listen* as an innocent man is sentenced to the ultimate punishment.
- *Mourn* as the King of the universe dies.
- *Share* the relief of knowing that Christ's pain brings us into his kingdom.
- *Watch* as the King rises again.
- *Imagine* the hill outside Jerusalem as the disciples watch their best friend rise to rule in heaven.
- *Discover* the greatest story of human history.

This is the wonder of Easter.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Take ten minutes with your family each day to prepare for Easter.

Whether your youngest is three years old or your oldest is eighteen, this flexible, easy-to-use resource will allow the whole family to celebrate the limitless wonder of Easter.

The devotions we've created are an achievable joy, not an unrealistic burden. No more than ten minutes are needed to complete a daily section. If you want to take longer, that's great!

There are five for each week. If you can't get to do this every day, that's alright. Stuff happens. We hope that if you miss one, you can pick it up again easily. You might discover that five a week is an unrealistic target. So to help you, some have been marked with "Key Story" to help you choose which ones to pick. You can also see the key stories on the chart opposite.

If you'd like a bit more help...

- there are some top tips on page 119 at the back of the book.
- there's also a Bible timeline on page 117 to help your family see how each Bible story fits into the big picture of Bible history.
- and if you would find it helpful, you can download an answer sheet to all of the questions from [www.thegoodbook.com/wonder-answers.pdf](http://www.thegoodbook.com/wonder-answers.pdf)



THE WONDER OF EASTER

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
WK 1		<b>Shrove Tuesday</b> Get started early over a pancake!	<b>Day 1</b> Lk 19 v 30, 35-40	<b>Day 2</b> Zech 9 v 9-10	<b>Day 3</b> Lk 19 v 45-48		
WK 2	<b>Day 4</b> Lk 22 v 1-6	<b>Day 5</b> Lk 22 v 7-16	<b>Day 6</b> Lk 22 v 19-20	<b>Day 7</b> Ex 12 v 21-28	<b>Day 8</b> Lk 22 v 31-34		
WK 3	<b>Day 9</b> Lk 22 v 39-42	<b>Day 10</b> Lk 22 v 47-54	<b>Day 11</b> Lk 22 v 54-62	<b>Day 12</b> Lk 22 v 63-65	<b>Day 13</b> Lk 22 v 66 – 23 v 1		
WK 4	<b>Day 14</b> Lk 23 v 1-4	<b>Day 15</b> Lk 23 v 13-14, 20-25	<b>Day 16</b> Lk 23 v 32-34	<b>Day 17</b> Is 53 v 5-7	<b>Day 18</b> Lk 23 v 35-39		
WK 5	<b>Day 19</b> Lk 23 v 39-43	<b>Day 20</b> Lk 23 v 44-45	<b>Day 21</b> Ps 22 v 6-8, 16-18, 27	<b>Day 22</b> Lk 23 v 46-49	<b>Day 23</b> Lk 23 v 50-56		
WK 6	<b>Day 24</b> Ps 31 v 5, 11-16	<b>Day 25</b> Lk 24 v 1-8	<b>Day 26</b> Lk 24 v 9-12	<b>Day 27</b> Lk 24 v 13-24	<b>Day 28</b> Lk 24 v 25-35		
WK 7	<b>Day 29</b> Dan 7 v 13-14	<b>Day 30</b> Lk 24 v 36-43	<b>Day 31</b> Lk 24 v 44-49	<b>Day 32</b> Lk 24 v 50-53	<b>Day 33</b> <b>Good Friday</b> Lk 23 v 36-38		<b>Day 34</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> Lk 24 v 1-8

Note: The **key stories** are the ones with a grey background.



## DAY 1

# The return of the King

### **Where are we going today?**

*Jesus arrived in Jerusalem as God's King coming home, but some people were angry because they thought Jesus was just an ordinary man.*

### **READY?**

- **Optional.** If you are going to act out today's story, grab a bunch of coats.
- Open your Bible to **Luke 19 v 30 and 35-40** (or read the passage from page 12).

### **LET'S GO!**

**Pray:** Dear Father, please help us to understand better who Jesus is so that we are most excited about him. Amen.

### **Passage**

- *Where are we in the Bible?* Jesus is arriving in Jerusalem as the King. Since he was last here, things have changed: everyone now knows about him. It's as if Jesus has returned to Jerusalem, the capital city, to be crowned as King.
- *Look out* for how people are feeling in this true story. Watch out—there's more than one answer!
- *Read* the passage.

## Luke 19 v 30 and 35-40

<sup>30</sup> He said, "Go into the town you can see there. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied there. No one has ever ridden this colt. Untie it, and bring it here to me.

<sup>35</sup> So they brought it to Jesus. They threw their coats on the colt's back and put Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> As Jesus rode toward Jerusalem, the followers spread their coats on the road before him.

<sup>37</sup> Jesus was coming close to Jerusalem. He was already near the bottom of the Mount of Olives. The whole crowd of followers was very happy. They began shouting praise to God for all the powerful works they had seen. They said,

<sup>38</sup> "God bless the king who comes in the name of the Lord!  
There is peace in heaven and glory to God!"

<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell your followers not to say these things!"

<sup>40</sup> But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if my followers don't say these things, then the stones will cry out."

### Perhaps try...

- Act out the scene. (For under-5s, open up a pre-school Bible such as *The Beginner's Bible* for this story instead.)
- Can one of you be Jesus? Throw a coat over a chair, a buggy, a scooter or anything that can be sat on. One of you can be Jesus, sitting, as he arrives in Jerusalem—or just leave the chair empty, imagining that Jesus is there.

The rest of you can throw your coats on the floor in front of Jesus. Praise God with the words from verse 38. Can you put these shouts into your own words? There is real joy here. God's King has finally arrived—home with his people! What would you have shouted if you were this excited?

### Questions for us all

1. How did the crowd feel as Jesus arrived? Why did they feel like that? (See verses 37-38.)
2. How did the Pharisees feel? (See verse 39.) Why was that, do you think?

#### Know the word?

A **Pharisee** was a religious leader. They were very well-known, and respected for their knowledge and love of God. But perhaps they didn't love God as much as they thought...

### **Question for 3s and 4s**

Did you spot what Jesus was riding on?

### **Question for 5-7s**

Imagine being so excited about a man that you shout, sing and dance in the street as he rides past! Is there anything you know about Jesus that would make you shout and sing and dance?

### **Question for over-7s**

In verse 40, Jesus says that if the Pharisees silence the crowds, "then the stones will cry out". Was he serious? Could anything make stones cry out?

### **Question for teens**

What were the Pharisees feeling? (It's quite complex.) Can you suggest two or three different things that are going on in their heads? Why might people today want to shut down those who are talking about how great Jesus is?

### **Prayer suggestion**

If you were in the crowd shouting praises to God with total joy for Jesus, what would you love to shout? If shouting out a prayer is too strange, then just say it as a quiet prayer.

### **Got time to chat?**

Do you ever see others wanting to silence talk of Jesus—refusing to let him be mentioned in a conversation? Talking as if he's really awkward or different? Even if no one in the world was talking about Jesus, the stones could cry out in praise! Knowing this, when people don't want you to talk about Jesus, how does that change how you feel about him?

### **Something more for the adults?**

Read Luke 19 v 41-44. How was Jesus feeling? What caused that? But the crowd had just been praising God for his arrival... so what did Jesus want for Jerusalem? And us?

## DAY 2

# Promised: The donkey-riding King

### Where are we going today?

500 years earlier, God had promised Zechariah that he was going to send a King. Jesus is that promised King, who rode on a donkey.

### READY?

- Before you start, turn to the timeline on page 117 to see where Zechariah fits in. We're jumping into the Old Testament to understand why Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.
- Open up your Bible to **Zechariah 9 v 9-10** (or read the passage from page 15).
- **Optional!** Write these two verses on a piece of paper to scribble notes on with a felt-tip pen. For under-7s, just stick to verse 9. Or you can write on the passage in this book opposite.

### LET'S GO!

**Pray:** Dear Father, please help us to understand how the Bible fits together and shows us Jesus. Amen.

### Passage

- *Where are we in the Bible?* This is the prophet Zechariah—we can call him Zek. Prophets were like God's postmen. When God had a message for his people, he gave it to his prophet to deliver to his people. Zek was God's postman 500 years before Jesus was born. He lived at a time when God's people had been allowed back to Jerusalem, after 70 years of being kept

away. When Zek and God's people came back, Jerusalem was in ruins. There was no wall to protect them, no roofs on their houses and no temple to worship God. How do you think they felt? What do you think they would have said to God in prayer, through their tears?

We're now going to read part of God's message to his people that Zek delivered. It's a promise from God—about a time when they wouldn't feel so alone and hopeless.

- Look out for what this message from God reminds you of.
- Read the passage. For under-7s, just read verse 9.

### **Zechariah 9 v 9-10**

<sup>9</sup> *Rejoice, people of Jerusalem.*

*Shout for joy, people of Jerusalem.*

*Your king is coming to you.*

*He does what is right, and he saves.*

*He is gentle and riding on a donkey.*

*He is on the colt of a donkey.*

<sup>10</sup> *I will take away the chariots from Ephraim*

*and the horses from Jerusalem.*

*The bows used in war will be broken.*

*The king will talk to the nations about peace.*

*His kingdom will go from sea to sea,*

*and from the Euphrates River to the ends of the earth.*

### **Perhaps try...**

- You can circle the words as you talk about them, or write brief notes next to key phrases.

### **Questions for us all**

1. This promise is about a King. What do we learn about this King? For each answer, can you explain what it means or put it into your own words?
2. What does this promise remind you of? Do you remember what we saw on Day 1?

### **Question for 3s and 4s**

Imagine if you came home after a holiday and your house had no roof, and everything in your house was broken or missing. How would you feel?

### **Question for 5-7s**

Jesus is this King in Zek's message. What do you think is the best thing about this promised King from Zek's message: that he does what is right, that he saves, or that he is gentle? Do you think Jesus is like that?

### **Question for over-7s**

So the crowd in Jerusalem have waited 500 years for this promise to happen. As Jesus arrives on a colt, he is showing that he is the King from Zek's promise. What was there in this promise that you think they would have most looked forward to?

### **Question for teens**

If an ordinary guy arrived in your local town riding on a donkey and saying he's the King, people in the streets would laugh him out of town. We don't expect people with real power to ride on a donkey! But the people who saw Jesus arrive that way knew Zek's prophecy. How do you think that impacted how the crowd felt about Jesus?

### **Prayer suggestion**

What is the best news in Zek's prophecy? Thank God that *Jesus* is that best news.

### **Got time to chat?**

When Zek looked at Jerusalem, God seemed to be a million miles away because he didn't appear to be looking after his people. Isn't God in charge of every moment of every day of every year? But he didn't appear to have been busy looking after their capital city. Does Zek's prophecy (and Jesus arriving to fulfil it) help us when we can't see God at work? How?

### **Something more for the adults?**

There's a lot to celebrate in these two verses! Go through them one sentence at a time, and turn them into prayers of praise for Jesus Christ, who fulfils each and every one of these attributes. Pick one attribute or verse and meditate on it. When in Christ's life did he fulfil it? How does he fulfil it today? Celebrate him.



## DAY 3

# Clearing out the temple

### **Where are we going today?**

*Jesus did a good thing by clearing the temple of traders—but the religious leaders hated him for it.*

### **READY?**

- **Optional!** You could collect some unbreakable objects that can be swept off a table. Have you got a children's table or a chair that can be thrown over? Or could you get hold of a parent's small change?
- Open your Bible to **Luke 19 v 45-48** (or read the passage from page 18).

### **LET'S GO!**

**Pray:** *The prayer is deliberately further down today.*

### **Passage**

- *Where are we in the Bible?* In Luke's Gospel, this comes right after Jesus arrived in Jerusalem on a donkey as King. It's as if he got off his donkey and walked straight into the temple...
- *Look out* for what Jesus did, for what the religious leaders thought, and for how the people felt.
- *Read* the passage.

## Luke 19 v 45-48

<sup>45</sup> Jesus went into the Temple. He began to throw out the people who were selling things there. <sup>46</sup> He said, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'My Temple will be a house where people will pray.' But you have changed it into a 'hideout for robbers!'"

<sup>47</sup> Jesus taught in the Temple every day. The leading priests, the teachers of the law, and some of the leaders of the people wanted to kill Jesus.

<sup>48</sup> But all the people were listening closely to him and were interested in all the things he said. So the leading priests, the teachers of the law, and the leaders did not know how they could kill him.

### Is it ever right to be angry?

This is a rare moment when we see Jesus angry. Sometimes it is right to be angry. Jesus wasn't losing his temper. Jesus was rightfully angry about how his Father's house was being used.

### Perhaps try...

- To bring the event to life, a child could clear the room of everyone else.
- Say, with anger, "Get out! This should be a place where anyone can talk to God, but you're using it to take people's money!" Throw over a chair, sweep some unbreakable objects off a table and send some coins flying. Those being driven out can try to grab their money and possessions on their way, in a fluster.

**Pray:** (*Praying now might help to restore calm!*) Dear Father, please help us to understand why Jesus was so angry. Amen.

### Questions for us all

1. Why was Jesus so angry? (See verse 46.)
2. What did the religious leaders think? When they saw Jesus clearing the temple, what did they want to do to him? (Look for the answer in verses 47-48.)

### Question for 3s and 4s

Did you hear what Jesus did? What happened?

### Question for 5-7s

If you had been standing there, seeing Jesus throw tables around, driving animals out, and shouting at people, what do you think you would have said about Jesus?

**Question for over-7s**

Why do you think the religious leaders hated Jesus so much for clearing the temple? (That's a hard question!)

**Question for teens**

Jesus only did good things. So clearing the temple must have been a good thing to do because he was always perfect, like his Father God. How could doing a good thing cause the leaders to want to kill Jesus?

**Prayer suggestion**

Pray that we would be people who love everything that Jesus says and does, just as the crowd did.

**Got time to chat?**

This passage reminds us that Jesus Christ makes some people absolutely furious. They want to stop anyone from hearing his words. Have you ever seen anyone behave like that? Can you imagine what it would look like if they did? What would they say? Why would they feel like that?

**Something more for the adults?**

Jesus is prompting the crowd to answer the question: what is real worship? The crowd thought that buying and selling animals in the temple for sacrifice was real worship. Jesus passionately disagrees with that answer! What does real worship of Jesus Christ look like for us? Does this passage help you to answer the question?



## DAY 4

# All against Jesus

### **Where are we going today?**

*Jesus knew that he was in the middle of a fight between good and evil, but he carried on.*

### **READY?**

- **Do it if you can!** Grab a packet of pasta. It would be great to have a couple of dozen objects that could be used to represent people. Pasta works well for this, or you can use Lego people or anything else you can find!
- Open your Bible to **Luke 22 v 1-6** (or read the passage from page 21).

### **LET'S GO!**

**Pray:** Dear Father, please help us to listen carefully to what you are saying to us in the Bible. We really want to understand it, but please help us when we find that difficult. Amen.

### **Passage**

- *Where are we in the Bible?* Jesus had been teaching at the temple every day. The crowd flocked to listen to Jesus, but the religious leaders hated him and wanted to get rid of him.
- *Look out* for who is *against* Jesus in this passage.
- *Read* the passage.

## Luke 22 v 1-6

<sup>1</sup> It was almost time for the Jewish Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover Feast. <sup>2</sup> The leading priests and teachers of the law were trying to find a way to kill Jesus. But they were afraid of the people.

<sup>3</sup> One of Jesus' 12 apostles was named Judas Iscariot. Satan entered Judas, and he went to <sup>4</sup> the leading priests and some of the soldiers who guarded the Temple. He talked to them about a way to give Jesus to them. <sup>5</sup> They were pleased and promised to give Judas money. <sup>6</sup> Judas agreed. Then he waited for the best time to turn Jesus over to them without the crowd knowing it.

## Perhaps try...

- On your table split your pasta pieces or toy people into two groups. One group will be Jesus and those who followed him; we'll call this group "those for Jesus". The other group will be those who hated him and wanted him dead; we'll call this group "those against Jesus".
- Place "Jesus" at the head of "those for Jesus". Then there were Jesus' twelve disciples, whom Jesus had chosen, who followed him everywhere as his closest friends. Place this group just behind Jesus.
- Place "those against Jesus" separate from "those for Jesus" on the table.

## Questions for us all

1. Who were the people who were against Jesus? (If you're using pasta/toy people, point to some in the group of "those against Jesus" as you answer this question.)
2. What group did Judas belong in? What did he decide to do? (If you're using pasta/toys, move one of your "people" from one group to the other.)

## Question for 3s and 4s

Jesus looked after his followers. They were his friends. Do you want Jesus to look after you? (Note: This passage calls Jesus' closest followers his apostles, but do say "disciples" if your children would find that easier.)

## Question for 5-7s

What was Judas given to make him want to change sides?

## Question for over-7s

Those against Jesus were powerful and rich and there were a lot of them. But Jesus wasn't worried or scared. Why do you think that was?

## Question for teens

Why is the devil getting involved? What does that tell you about Jesus, the religious leaders and these particular events?

## Prayer suggestion

Thank God that Jesus wasn't surprised or worried by the enemies he had. Thank God for who Jesus is—the one with all power, all control, and all goodness, who can stand against all evil.

## Got time to chat?

It helps us to understand how important the first Easter was when we see the gathering enemies against Jesus. It was a real-life cosmic war—one never to be repeated. How does that help us when we come across evil or hatred that scare us today?

## Something more for the adults?

None of us enjoy having enemies or being isolated by others. Jesus knew that plans for his murder were developing and that his friend was betraying him. So why would Jesus carry on, without changing his plans, without seeking to compromise, without running away? It's because of his love for me and you.

### A note about Satan

We don't usually talk to children about the devil/Satan, so it may feel strange or awkward hearing about him in this passage. Here are a few pointers that might help.

- Satan is not the hero of this story or any other story in the Bible. So it would be a shame if he got discussed more than Jesus today.
- Jesus always beat the devil whenever he met him. So we do not need to be scared or worried about him.
- The Bible does say that Satan is real. "Satan" means "enemy"—that's all he is. When Jesus died on the cross, Satan was beaten (Colossians 2 v 15), so that anyone who puts their trust in Jesus is completely safe. So we can be certain that we are totally safe from the devil and his power.
- In this story, "Satan entered Judas", meaning that Satan was now changing Judas' choices. Judas was working for Satan.

## DAY 5

# Just as Jesus said

### **Where are we going today?**

*Jesus knew every detail of how Peter and John would find a room for the Last Supper, because he knew every detail of what was about to happen.*

### **READY?**

- **Optional!** Grab a piece of paper and some pens or pencils.
- Open your Bible to **Luke 22 v 7-16** (or read the passage from below).

### **LET'S GO!**

**Pray:** Dear Father, please help each of us to get to know Jesus better from today's passage. Amen.

### **Passage**

- *Where are we in the Bible?* Judas went to the religious leaders who were planning to kill Jesus. Judas said he wanted to help them.
- *Look out for what Jesus said would happen, and then what actually happened.*
- *Read the passage.*

### **Luke 22 v 7-16**

<sup>7</sup> *The Day of Unleavened Bread came. This was the day the Passover lambs had to be sacrificed.* <sup>8</sup> *Jesus said to Peter and John, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us to eat."*

<sup>9</sup> They asked, "Where do you want us to prepare it?"

Jesus said to them, <sup>10</sup> "Listen! After you go into the city, you will see a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him into the house that he enters.

<sup>11</sup> Tell the person who owns that house, 'The Teacher asks that you please show us the room where he and his followers may eat the Passover meal.'

<sup>12</sup> Then he will show you a large room upstairs. This room is ready for you. Prepare the Passover meal there."

<sup>13</sup> So Peter and John left. Everything happened as Jesus had said. So they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>14</sup> When the time came, Jesus and the apostles were sitting at the table.

<sup>15</sup> He said to them, "I wanted very much to eat this Passover meal with you before I die. <sup>16</sup> I will never eat another Passover meal until it is given its true meaning in the kingdom of God."

### Perhaps try...

- Can the children sketch Jesus' words to Peter and John, as he explains what they will find as they go into Jerusalem? (See verses 10-12.)

### Questions for us all

1. Jesus told Peter and John what would happen when they went looking for a place to have their Passover meal. How close was Jesus to knowing what actually happened to Peter and John?
2. How could Jesus get it exactly right?

### Question for 3s and 4s

Jesus told Peter and John to find a man carrying a... what?

### Question for 5-7s

Can you remember what Jesus got exactly right? Can you list the details?

### Question for over-7s

We call this meal "the Last Supper". It was a very special meal. What clues are there that it was special for Jesus?

### Question for teens

Jesus said that he had been really looking forward to eating this meal with his friends before he died. Why do you think that was? What was there to look forward to, when he knew that awful suffering was coming?



### **Prayer suggestion**

What is surprising or amazing about Jesus in this story? If you know, then tell him! Let's pray.

### **Got time to chat?**

How do you see Jesus' love for people in this story? Here we see how much Jesus delights to be with his friends. Can you imagine Jesus loving you? He knows you as an individual. He knows your name, what you hate, what you're frightened of, what makes you laugh... When would it help you to remember this?

### **Something more for the adults?**

Imagine Jesus had sat down with *you* at that meal and said, *You've no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering.* How would you feel? What would you want to say to him? Amazingly, you will be able to tell him yourself when you see him at the final party meal in the new creation.