

EASTER

Prayer/Response Stations

Ideas here can be utilized in a variety of ways
For use as a church, for use as a Youth Ministry, For use as a Diocese for Parish Youth Ministries to tap into.
Planned with the assumption that Stations will be spread out in different outdoor locations,
and the Stations are planned to reflect the massive journey throughout Easter



STATION 1

ANXIETY – PEACE

Check out Matthew 26 vs 38-39

Jesus knew what it was
to be riddled with anxieties, stress, fears
He knew first-hand about feeling overwhelmed
and in those biggest moments He modelled
handing them over to God

*In the Sand trays
use a stick to write words or draw pictures
that symbolise the things that are overwhelming,
as you do this pray and hand them over to God
just like Jesus did in Gethsemane
as He prayed.*

*At end of time by tray
slide ruler over words, pictures
and watch the sand reset.*

STATION 2

LET DOWN BY OTHERS

Check out Matthew 26 vs 36,37, 40-45

Jesus was really distressed
and was trying to get ready for
what was coming up for him.

He asked 3 of these closest to journey with
Him, be with Him, pray with Him
What did they do? They fell asleep!!
Not once but 3 times!!!

*Take a moment, Read the passage
Reflect on Jesus being let down by people that
He trusted and was doing life with.
Think through moments in your life.
When that has happened to you?
If you are up for it and if it would be helpful
write their initials on POST-ITS
or write a letter to God about those moments
Pop them in an envelope and take them to Station 3*

STATION 3

BETRAYAL

Check out Matthew 26 vs 46-50

Check out Mark 15 vs 15

We all have times when the people around us let us down, when others disappoint or hurt us or even betray us. Jesus knows what that was like – it happened to Him.

At the previous station time was spent thinking about who may have let us down and how we reacted when it happened.

*At this station there are Hammers and Nails
A cross that symbolises Jesus' love for us
We don't have to deal with this on our own
Jesus' knows and He is here - He cares about our lives.*

*Take your letters of hurt created at Station 2
if more is on your heart, grab a POST-IT and add more*

*Take a hammer & nails and nail your envelop
& post-its to the cross. Jesus knows, He gets it*

Spend as long as you need at the cross

Leave it all with him

MOCKED BEING MADE FUN OF

Check out Matthew 27 vs 32-44

Check out Mark 15 vs 16-20

Check out Luke 23 vs 40-43

Jesus is relevant - He was one of us
He was bullied & seemed powerless
He must have felt such despair
People being harsh, cruel, unkind
when things were already so awful.

This week a beautiful man I know who is homeless
was hurt badly because he was discovered sleeping outside
The Ukraine people, & others around the world, fleeing for safety

How can people hurt other people?

Soooooooooooo not ok - but even this - Jesus can connect to.

Being hurt while already so vulnerable

Jesus went through a lot and He so gets our darkest of times,

He even knows personally what it is like

when humans do their worst to others – it was done to Him.

From birth right through to His death

He was, and is, the Son of Man

He also never stopped being generous

and He never stepped away from His purpose on earth

He was, and is, the Son of God.

MOCKED

BEING MADE FUN OF

At Easter we are asked to think about Jesus what He did & why. We remember all He went through. Here are some things to help us understand some of the physical things He went through

Spend some time looking – touching it all - Exploring thinking it all through.

Despite it all Jesus was generous to others

To us all – He carried though and died
To the thief on the cross He gave him the gift of hope of more after death, showing such massive generosity

- The Crown of thorns on His head

Try it on

- The Purple robe across His shoulders

Place it across both of your shoulders

Jesus clothes were taken off Him & they put Him in a purple robe

- The Large nails in His hands and feet

Get a Nail and hammer and bang it into the 4x12 piece of wood.

BLACK FRIDAY

Check out Mark 15 vs 33-41

Check out John vs 38-42

It was the Darkest of hour of Jesus life
He felt so abandoned emotionally
(He even yelled out on the cross
asking God why He had abandoned Him)

Jesus couldn't feel God
but God was there through it all
and in Jesus last breath he spoke with God
"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit"

It's the same for us.

God is with us even when we can't feel Him.
After Jesus last breath - all of creation shuddered
For 3 hours from noon – 3pm there was no light
The people were surrounded by total darkness.
When it became light again people found the curtain in the temple
was ripped down in the middle
*When they wanted to talk with God they could go to the temple, tell a
Priest who went past the curtain and met with God for them.
The ripped curtain was a sign of a new time
– a new way to connect with God*

BLACK FRIDAY

The Curtain ripped and opened as Jesus died
meaning we no longer have to use a Priest or
another person to connect to God.

Jesus broke the barrier once and for all
So we can connect with God personally.

*What barriers hold us back from God
Don't believe? Disappointed? Distrust? Disillusioned?
Disinterested? Don't know how to connect with him?
Spend some time in the dark talking to God about them.*

*Write words or pictures on stones
showing what they are.
When the light is on again,
place them in the basket on the other side of the
curtain asking God to remove the barriers,
lay them down, leaving them with him*

SCROLLS To be printed out, rolled around 3 mini easter eggs,
Tied up with String at each end Wax dropped and sealed.

Possible thoughts of Jesus disciples....

*“I screwed up big time Now what?
I can’t connect with Jesus, I totally left Him
literally hanging there on His own and
just ran for the hills
After doing life together why did I do that?!?
Now what? I can’t even sort it
Where are the others?
How to sort out this mess out?
Do I believe what Jesus told us or just drop it?!”*

Even those closest to Him, who had been prepared by Jesus for this, were Feeling lost and didn’t know where to from here. Saturday is a day of waiting , grieving loss and wondering what went wrong and what was going to happen next. The mini easter eggs remind us of Jesus dying and being laid out in the tomb. The tomb is full.

Jesus He died but it’s not end of story

*Where are you with God? What’s next?
Great news is God hasn’t finished with us yet
On Easter Saturday the greatest story of all time
was still being written
He is with us today, still writing our story with us if we let Him.*