

Easter

Children experience how much God has given us

Scripture: Matt 26 – Matt 28:4

Supplies:

- Glue
- Scissors
- Copies of the box template for children – with text at the back or pictures only
- A completed box for the story teller
- Print out guidance sheet for the story teller
- Stationery for decorating
- Copies of the craft picture
- Coins
- Sellotape



Welcome

Hide some of the coins. Let the children find as many as possible. Let the children think about things that we can't buy with money.



Worship

Sing an Easter song your children are familiar with.

Settle down ritual: Let the children close their eyes and think for a few minutes about things they have that money couldn't buy. Then read the following scripture:

Song of songs 8:7 Many waters cannot quench love, nor can rivers drown it. If a man tried to buy love with all his wealth, his offer would be utterly scorned.



Word

(Use the printout for the story teller to guide them, but it is best advised to know the story and not to read it. The story teller uses a ready-made box to tell the story.)

Picture 1: Coins

Matt 26:14 –25

Judas went to the priests and asked them how much they will pay him to betray Jesus. They gave him 30 pieces of silver. Later the evening around the table Jesus confirmed this. Judas asked, “Rabbi, am I the one?” Jesus said: “You have said it.”

Picture 2: Bread and wine

Matt 26:26 – 29

Jesus took some bread and blessed it. He broke it, gave it to them and said: “Take this and eat it, for this is My body.” Then He took the cup of wine and gave thanks to God, He gave it to them and said: “Each of you drink from it, for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and His people.” He said it is also there to forgive sins.

Picture 3: Rooster

Matt 26:31 – 34

On the way to Gethsemane Jesus told them, “Tonight all of you will desert me.” Peter declared that he will never desert Jesus. Jesus told him that before the rooster crows he will deny Jesus three times. Peter insisted that he would not deny Jesus. (We know now that it happened the way Jesus said it would.)

Picture 4: Crown

Matt 27:26 – 31

Pilate turned Jesus over to the Roman soldiers. They took Him to their headquarters, stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on him. They wove thorn branches into a crown and put it on his head, and they placed a reed stick in his right hand as a sceptre. When they got tired of mocking him they led him away to be crucified.

Picture 5: Dice

Matt 27: 35 – 37

After they had nailed him to the cross, the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. Then they sat around and kept guard as he hung there. A sign was fastened above Jesus’ head, announcing the charge against him. It read: “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Picture 6: Grave

Matt 27: 62 – 64, Matt 28: 1–4

On the Sabbath, the priests and Pharisees went to Pilate. They were concerned that the disciples would steal the body of Jesus because of the claim that Jesus would rise after three days. They wanted to seal the tomb and place guards in front of it. Pilate granted their wish. Mary Magdalene and Mary went to visit the tomb. An earthquake revealed an angel that rolled away the stone and spoke to the women and the guards.

Start opening the cube: Continuing the story, a cross is revealed.

Matt 28: 5 – 6 – The angel then told them: “Don’ t be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn’t here! He is raised from the dead, just as He said would happen.”

Children get a chance to think about the story

1. I wonder which part of the story you enjoyed most.
2. I wonder which part of the story was unpleasant.
3. I wonder which part of the story you would like to witness.



Working and Playing

- Children can colour the picture and then stick coins to the cross.
- Help children to cut out, fold and make boxes.

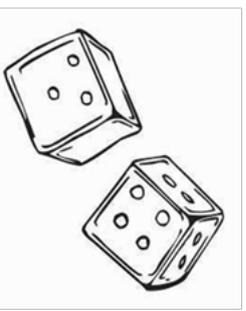
Close off with prayers

“What a lot we got?!” - God gave greatly!



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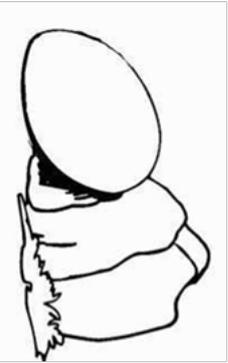
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Use this page to tell the story.

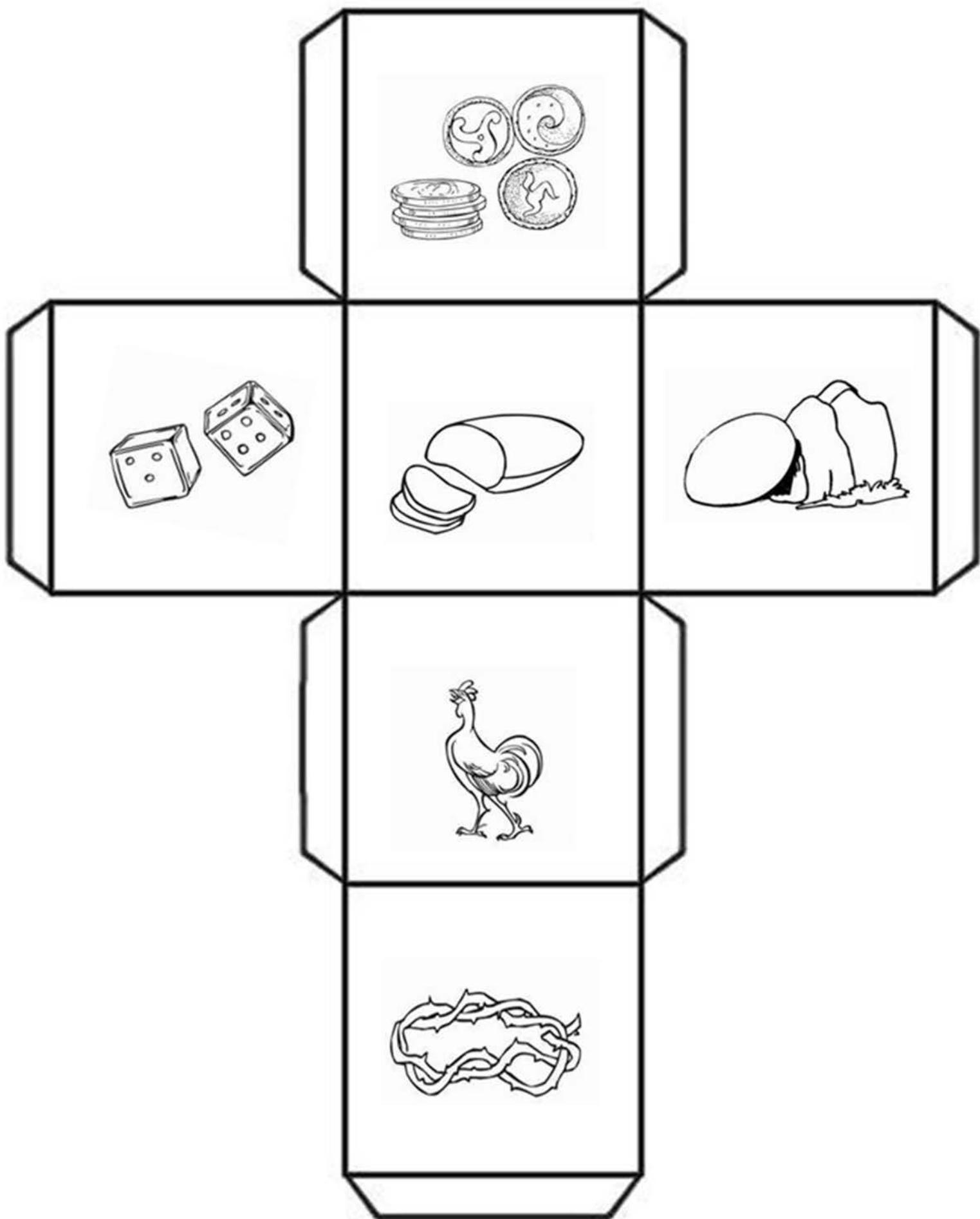
Begin to unfold the box while continuing the story, revealing a cross.

Matt 28: 5 – 6

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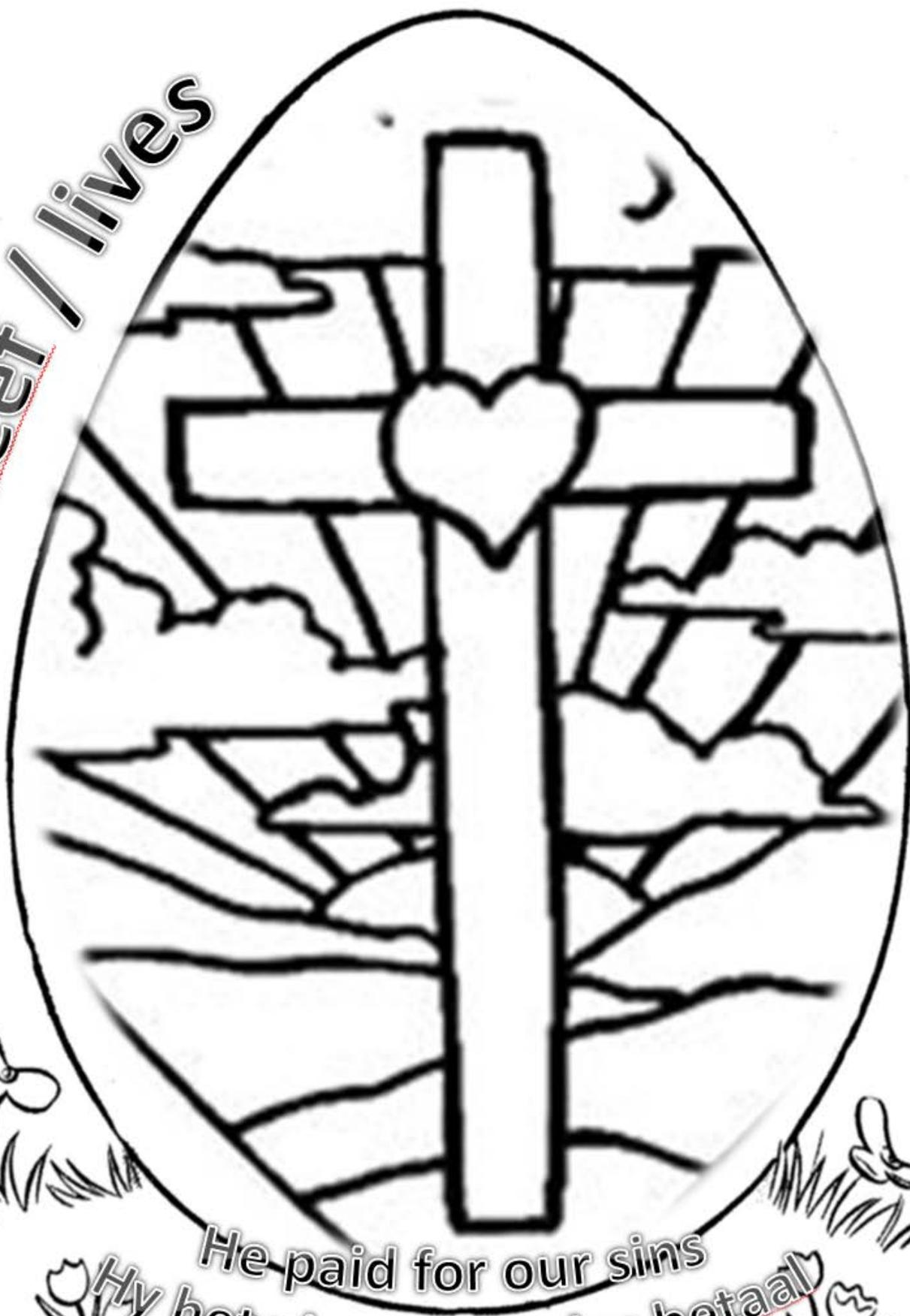
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Jesus leef / lives



He paid for our sins
Hy het vir ons sondes betaal

Plak muntstukke op die kruis.
Stick coins on the cross.