"Holy Week in a Box!" (adapted from https://buildfaith.org/holy-week-in-a-box/)

Here is an idea for you to do with children at home! It uses simple objects tucked into a small box, along with scripture, to tell the story of Holy Week. Each item in the box is a symbol, representing a piece of the

gospel narrative: from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, through the Last Supper, betrayal, burial, and finally the empty tomb on Easter morning. Then, there is a way to 'go' and live the story! I hope you consider journeying through Holy week by using this resource with your families.



Small box
Wooden figure
Green Paper
3 coins
Playdough
Marker
Pipe cleaner
Tealight
Piece of cloth





Palm Sunday: Paper Palm Fronds

It's Palm Sunday. The people cut down palms and cheered as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Do: Cut out a green leaf from paper and wave it like a flag in celebration!

Read: Mark 11:1-10.

Ask: How can we welcome Jesus into our lives and homes? Can we have a parade? Can we sing? Can we walk with Jesus? **Go:** on a Palm Sunday Peace march around your neighbourhood-walking, singing, and collecting branches/leaves



When Jesus came to Jerusalem, he went into the Temple. There were people cheating others out of their money. Jesus was very angry.

Do: Put a coin on the box.

Read: Mark 11:15-19.

Ask: How much money do you have? How can we use our money wisely?

Go: Using your hand to count to 5 on your fingers, pray 5 prayers of thanksgiving by finishing the sentence: "God, Thank you for giving me..."

Eat your chocolate coin!



Holy Tuesday: Coin two

The religious leaders asked Jesus if it was right to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor.

Do: Put a second coin on the box.

Read: Jesus' answer in Mark 12:13-17.

Ask: I wonder how we can give to God?

Go: Choose someone to give your coin to, perhaps a family member or neighbour.



Holy Wednesday: Coin three

Jesus watched people in the Temple giving money to God. Some made a big show of giving lots of money. But one person didn't. Read her story.

Do: Place the third coin on the box.

Read: Mark 12:41-44.

Ask: How can we give to God's kingdom?

Go: See if you can give some money to the church via the online/direct

debit offering. (Details on the church website or email)



Maundy Thursday: Table

Today we remember the last Passover meal Jesus had with his friends. Do: Use the top of the box as a table. Draw a cup and plate on it, and

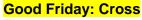
make small balls of bread out of modelling clay. Place Jesus by the table.

Read: Mark 14:12-25.

Ask: In church, how do we remember this meal?

Go: Get some bread and drink, and together celebrate your own "Last

Supper" at home.



The religious leaders wanted to get rid of Jesus. They told lies about him. Jesus was arrested. It was a very sad day, because the authorities put Jesus to death on a cross.

Do: Make a cross out of the pipe cleaner and place it with Jesus in front of the box.

Read: Mark 15:1, 15, 22-25, 37, 39.

Ask: Why did Jesus die? How do we see Jesus loving us through the

cross?

Go: Watch one of these clips to learn of more of the story.

Max7: https://www.max7.org/en/resource/795da39b-c639-42bdbb97-58a9e36293ae

Holy moly: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mjEe2MX1x4

Saddleback kids:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL8R158Ujp4&t=15s



Saturday: Cloth and Tomb, Stillness

When Jesus had died, his friends took his body down from the cross and wrapped it in linen cloth. They placed Jesus' body in a tomb.

Do: Wrap Jesus in the cloth. Place him in the box gently and put the lid on.

Read: Mark 15:40-43, 46, 47.

Ask: I wonder how his friends felt?

Go: Holy Saturday is a waiting day. On Saturday, everything was so still you could almost hear the earth breathe. There was nothing that could be done. Place a tea-light by your box and as a way of showing that you are waiting. Light the candle and wait awhile. "The light shines, even in the

darkness".



Easter: Empty Tomb

Early on the Sunday morning, the women went to the tomb and had an amazing surprise.

Do: Open the box. Place Jesus at the side of it and the cloth neatly wrapped in the bottom of it.

Read: about Easter Sunday in Mark 16:1-8.

Ask: I wonder what difference it makes that God raised Jesus to life? I wonder if you know any symbols of new life?

Go: Decorate a "new life" symbol like an egg, a butterfly, a chicken, a love heart. Take a photo and send it to: frankstonucyouth@gmail.com

A song you could learn and sing at Easter is a classic piggyback song,

sung to the tune of "Are You Sleeping? (Brother John)

Here's the cross. Here's the cross. [make cross with your fingers]

[use finger to make tears fall from your eyes down your cheeks] Jesus died. Jesus died. See the tomb.

[cup hands together to make tomb]

Empty tomb. [open hands to reveal empty tomb]

He's alive! He's alive! [clap to the beat]