Seasonal Evangelism



ideas for Faster

AIM

Here are some ideas for Easter in Evangelism Year – or next year if you need to 'think ahead'.

INTRODUCTION

Easter can be a good time for sharing our faith story as it plays an important part in our life together. These ideas and thoughts have been generated by a group of 16 -18 years olds, but could be used with people of all ages.

Some ideas and resources to get you started

1. The cross is at the centre.

'The cross is at the centre of all we do' said one 18 year old; 'Therefore the light should be on the cross all of the time to remind us'. Think of a way you could 'shine a light on the cross' this Holy Week and Easter. Perhaps a flood light or spot light on a cross inside or outside your church or in some other venue.

2. Chocolate for Easter

'Everyone loves chocolate', said one 17 year old; and whilst that might be an over generalisation, it is popular. A group of 16 and 17 year olds have organised a chocolate event. Maybe you could do one too, with chocolate fountains, fair trade chocolate and fruits and so on. Remember to have some way of serving up your Easter message – maybe a post card with the Easter message on to give out with your chocolate items.

3. Painting our faith

How would you paint the Easter message? A 17 year old student called Liz Parker has painted this powerful crucifixion image. Maybe you could have an art show for Easter with paintings or photography.

4. Busking for Easter

Music is also popular with people of all ages. A small group of musicians, of whatever style, in the shopping area or outside the station with some Easter cards to give away could be a good idea. After all we do Carol singing at Christmas so why not Easter music? Remember to get permission to hold the event if it is in a public place.

5. Faith Quiz

'Quizzes are very popular. We could have quiz in here [Chapel]'said one 18 year old: 'Loads of people would come to that'. Think about what the questions for your Easter Quiz would be like – try to make as many links to popular culture as possible as this will be more familiar to people. You can always have a series of questions the answers to which make an Easter message like:

[is]

- 1. Leonard Cohen or George Fredric Handel hit number [Hallelujah!]
- 2. First half of the holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus [Christ]
- 3. small word, two letters, a verb

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4. what bread dough is before you cook it [risen]

Christian Easter greeting: Hallelujah, Christ is risen!

6. Procession of palms

If you can get a donkey a Palm Sunday procession can be a good idea. Also need some palm branches to wave and crosses to give out. Get yours from www.africanpalms.co.uk

Prayer for Easter

Holy Week

This is the week:
the week of cheers
that turn to mocking and jeers
and then to silence
that storms out of twisted streets
to stand at crossroads
in [names places in the news];
the half-remembered week
where guttering flames
and a few lined faces
keep this vigil, still;
the week that takes us further
than any other
and always ends in tears.

Good Friday

Christ of the Easter Vigil, as you hung on for us, help us to hang on to and for each other. Remind us that we all still count, in that endless crowd of witnesses. Confirm us as cross people as we take the steps that lead us from death to life.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is vital to the vision4life process. Please try to reflect on the year and in what way it has been transforming the church as you experience it. Please try to answer these questions for yourself and for others who will use this material and remember to send in your feedback to admin@vision4life.org.uk

- 1. What was the most helpful thing?
- 2. What was the least helpful thing?
- 3. What would you like to try now?

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THE NEXT STEP

More new material for Evangelism Year will be appearing on the website throughout the year. Prayer Year material is still be available as is Bible Year material. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.

Acknowledgements

These ideas and examples all come from students at Silcoates School, Wakefield (www.silocates.org.uk). The prayers for Holy Week and Good Friday are copyright to Janet Lees who is currently the temporary part time Chaplain at the school.

HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group about general or website V4L issues via the website or at admin@vision4life.org.uk

If you want to make contributions or ask questions about Evangelism Year you can email:

Year 3 – Transformed for Evangelism: evangelism@vision4life.org.uk