



Bible
Society

The In-Between Time

EASTER TO PENTECOST



Introduction

This year we are focusing our resources on that time in between Easter and Pentecost, with one biblical event for each of the weeks leading up to Pentecost. To bring these stories to life, we have developed these pages to encourage further interaction with the Bible.

These interaction pages can be used in churches as part of worship or children's work and by families at home. It isn't a tick list to be completed, but rather a pick-and-mix of ideas. Look through the list and see what appeals to you. Then choose what interests you and suits your setting. All are simple, inexpensive, and easy to access. The interactions can be done as individuals, a church, a family, a house group, or a group of friends. As a church, you may want to make an interaction page available each week to your community either by email, a link on your webpage or by handing out a printed page after your worship service.



Read Bible passages from the in-between time.



Think – questions to discuss with others or think about yourself that may lead to deeper understanding or new insights.



Do takes you from thinking to doing through writing, walking, gathering, eating, and drawing.



Make a Pinterest page link with craft ideas that link with the stories.



Watch videos that elaborate and extend the story. Suitable for children.



Praise – ideas to guide a time of praise.



Discover – find out a little more by looking further into the story, setting, language and ideas by looking up, talking to people, or looking around.



Ponder an idea to stop ... and just think about.



Listen songs for children and podcasts for adults.

Road to Emmaus

WEEK 1

Read

Luke 24.13–35



Think

How would you describe the way the people on the road to Emmaus were feeling when Jesus joined them on their journey? It says that Jesus explained to them all the Scripture concerning himself. If you had been there listening that day, which part of what Jesus said would you have been most interested to hear about? What question might you have asked?



Watch

[The Seriously Surprising Story video](#)

Do

Go for a walk.

It was about a seven-mile walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus and after recognising Jesus, they did the same trip back to Jerusalem again so they could tell the disciples they'd seen him. On a map, find somewhere that is seven miles from where you live. How long would it take you to walk there? Why not go for a walk and keep track of how far you go and how long it takes on an app on your phone?



Praise

Take some time to thank God that we have easy access to the Bible in so many versions and prints. Thank God for children's Bibles and Family Bibles and Youth Bibles. Thank God for Bibles in large print and in Braille and formats that are easier for people with dyslexia to read. What other kinds of Bibles do you know about that you can thank God for?



Discover

Do a little research and find out what Roman roads would have been like in the time that this story in the Bible took place.



Ponder

It says in this passage, in verse 16, that the people Jesus walked with 'saw him, but somehow did not recognise him'. Some translations say that 'they were kept from recognising him'. It was when Jesus said a blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to them that they recognised that it was Jesus. Where else in the Bible had Jesus prayed, broken bread and given it out? What does this say to us about our meal times? What does it say about communion?



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A podcast episode from [The Sacred](#)



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Jesus appears to the disciples

WEEK 2

Read

Luke 24.36–49



Think

Why do you think it was important for the writer of this Bible passage to tell us that Jesus asked the disciples for something to eat, and that they gave him a piece of cooked fish, and that Jesus ate in their presence?

Praise

Jesus is alive! After Easter, we begin to see that the news of Jesus' resurrection is getting out, and more and more people are hearing the good news that Jesus is alive. This is still good news today. Take some time to praise God that Jesus is alive. Say it out loud. Whisper it. Sing it. Shout it. Do it all in praise to God. Say it with gesture or signing. Jesus is alive!



Do

Jesus did things in his resurrected body that were amazing. Make a list of the things about Jesus' newly resurrected body that were different from our bodies. Then make a list of the ways it was the same.



Ponder

If you were Jesus and had been killed by the officials, who would you have chosen to appear to first after you were resurrected? Why do you think Jesus chose to appear to the people he did?



Discover

Look back over our story so far. How many people have seen Jesus' resurrected body? How many can you name? How many are there whose names we don't know?



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Thomas doubts

WEEK 3

Read

John 20.24–29



Think

Is it ever good to doubt? What have you doubted in your life? People? Ideas? Things on social media? Were you ever right to doubt?



Do

Write a list of things you have never seen, but which you believe are there.

Discover

Look up the definition and root of the word 'doubt'. What might this information add to your understanding of Thomas' doubts?



Praise

Even though Thomas doubted, Jesus met Thomas in his doubt. Like Thomas, we don't always get things right either, but Jesus meets us where we are, whether that be in doubt, anger, pain, sorrow – no matter what we think or feel, Jesus will be there and he understands. Take time to praise God that Jesus knows all our weaknesses and still loves us.



Ponder

If faith is believing in things not seen, and unbelief is believing it 'can't' or 'won't' exist, then is it just barely possible that one's journey to faith could start with the small step of, 'What if?'

- and if that 'what if' grew into 'possibly'
- and if that 'possibly' grew into 'it's worth a shot'
- and if that 'it's worth a shot' grew into 'let's try it'
- and if that 'let's try it' grew into 'belief'
- and that 'belief' finally grew into the life changing blossom called 'Faith'?

But you would never find out unless you entertained the idea of, 'What if?'

(Phillip Tracy, by permission)



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Cast your nets

WEEK 4

Read

John 21.1–14



Think

Why was it important to sit and eat together? This was the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. How did their doubts get in the way of trusting that Jesus had actually risen?

Praise

Take time today to notice all that you have been blessed with. Maybe make a list to remind you when things are tough.



Do

Gather with friends or family and break bread. Share some frustrations and joys from your week.



Watch

[This video](#)



Discover

Is there somewhere near you where you can walk by some water and imagine fishing all night without catching anything? If you aren't near water, take a walk and notice people who are working and the challenges they might be facing.



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Ponder

The disciples changed to the other side of the boat and were overwhelmed with fish. Have you had times when things aren't going the way you want or expected? Could a simple change help?



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'Peter, feed my sheep'

WEEK 5

Read

John 21.15–25



Think

How do we show love? Jesus does not ask Peter, 'Do you honour me? Do you admire me?' He asked, 'Do you love me?' And when Peter says, 'You know that I love you', Jesus says, 'Take care of my lambs.' Jesus has such tenderness for his flock that he will only entrust them to those who love him. How do we show our love to others? As well as saying, 'I love you', what actions could you take this week to show you love others?

Do

Jesus provided Peter with a second chance to prove his love for him. What emojis would you use to represent Peter? Could you tell the story just using emojis?



Watch

[This video](#)



Praise

Pray for those who love you. Send a card or draw a picture to thank those who look after you and care for your needs.



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Discover

Are there people in your family or community who are in need (physically, emotionally or financially)? What does your church do to support them? Are there ways you could help? Are there others to whom you could reach out?



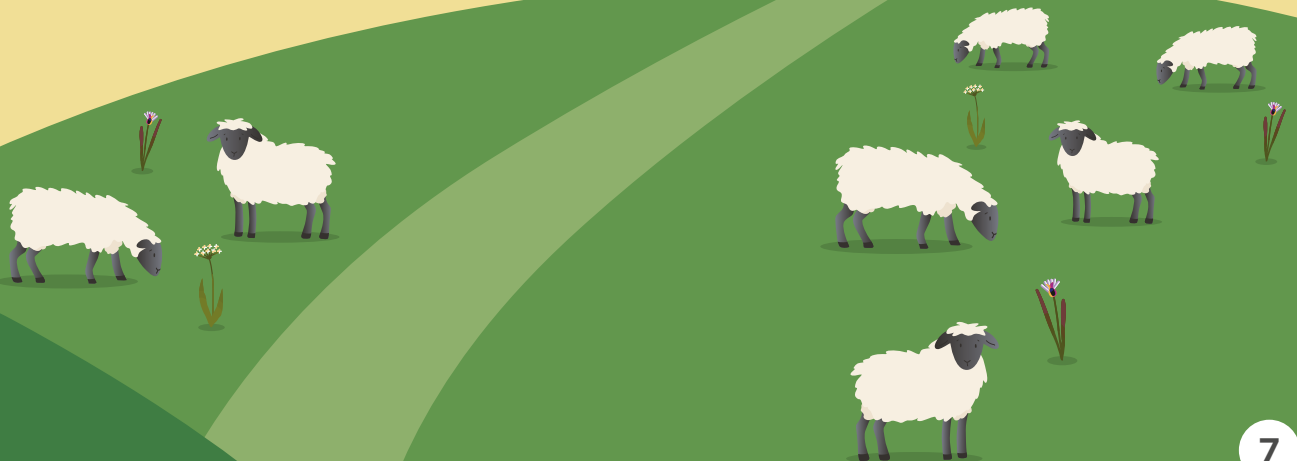
Ponder

Although Jesus has taught Peter a great deal, this interaction shows that Peter still has more to learn. It is also when Peter recommits himself to Jesus. In what ways do you need to recommit or commit yourself to Jesus this week?



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The great commission and the ascension

WEEK 6

Read

Matthew 28.16–20
and Acts 1.6–11



Think

The verses at the start of Acts tell us about the final moments of Jesus' life on earth after his resurrection. How do you think you would have felt if you'd been there to see Jesus go into heaven?



Do

Jesus wants us to join in with the adventure of sharing his good news of love and freedom. Write down the names of people whom you would love to come to know Jesus. Once you have written their names, pray for them and think about a practical way to show Jesus' love to them.

Praise

Go on a prayer walk. Say prayers of praise for the good you see and the things you are thankful for but also pray for streets and areas in need of prayer. Bring a bag to collect any litter you might see on the way ensuring you take any necessary safety precautions.



Watch

[A video from Thy Kingdom Come](#)



Ponder

What gets in the way of you telling others about Jesus? When you first followed Jesus were you excited, or has it been a quiet journey? What would it mean to you to go and tell people everywhere about Jesus? As a church community what does outreach look like and are there new things you could do?



Discover

There are many ways we can pray. If prayer isn't part of your regular routine, find ways this week to add prayer to your day. Maybe you can discover different types of prayer and use the Bible during your prayer time.



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Bible Society, Stonehill Green,
Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG

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