



You will need...

- *PPT*
- *Pillow*
- *Lidded dish*
- *Snorkel and mask*

The story

So, you remember how that first Easter happened. Jesus was crucified on the Friday. His body lay in the tomb on the Saturday. Then at dawn on the Sunday two of Jesus' friends went to the tomb...

[P/Pt of women arriving] They were two women, going with spices to put on Jesus' body. They expected to find his body still there. But it wasn't. They found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty.

[P/Pt Empty tomb] It was then that two angels appeared. They explained why the tomb was empty and where Jesus was.

[Read Luke 24: 5b-7]

Do you remember what he said when he was with you? He *told you*, that he would be crucified and then rise again three days later. He *told you* what would happen, and it *has* happened. He made a promise. A promise that he would rise from the dead, never to die again. He has kept that promise. And if he has kept this promise, this biggest promise, this most amazing promise, then we know he will keep all of his other promises.

Imagine, that one day, your parents said to you

- We're going to take you on a holiday. Thousands of miles from here. Where the beaches are beautiful, the sun always shines and the sea is warm
- You're going to sleep in a comfy bed
- Eat amazing food and
- Swim in warm seas with beautiful fish

You say... , "Nah! That won't happen. We'll never do that". You just don't think it will happen.

[P/Pt of 2 children sitting on a plane] Then, one day you find yourself sitting on a plane, that's going to take you thousands of miles away on holiday. It's happening. For real!



If, *at that moment*, I walked up to you and asked you

- Do you think you're going to sleep in a comfy bed on holiday? [*Get out a pillow.*] You'd say, "Of course I will. We're going on holiday!"
- Do you think you're going to eat amazing food? [*Get out a lidded dish, and lift the lid up, look in and look delighted.*] You'd say, "I'm sure I will. If my parents are flying me thousands of miles on holiday, I'm sure they'll keep their promise of great food"
- Do you think you'll swim in warm seas? [*Get out swimming mask and snorkel.*] You'd say, "Too right! Of course I will. My parents said I would, and look, here I am on the plane- its going to happen!"

If your parents had already got you on a plane then those other promises will absolutely happen. You're sure.

It is exactly the same with Easter. Jesus has risen from the dead, *exactly* as he said he would, *when* he said he would. If he kept *that* promise, then we can be absolutely certain he will keep the other promises he made to us.

[*Count off on your fingers as you go through*]

- He will forgive all those who trust in him.
- He will be with us, forever just as he has promised us
- He will be in charge of *every* moment in our lives
- He will never let go of us; he will hold us tightly forever.
- He will raise all those who are trusting in him, just like he was raised.
- He will bring us to be with him forever in Heaven.

Do you know for certain that Jesus rose from the dead, 3 days after he died? Do you trust him to keep these other promises? Do you know he'll keep them because he kept his biggest promise?

Easter is very good news.

Happy Easter.

Let's pray.