



# Resurrection Relay

## A Bible Learning Activity for Easter

### OVERVIEW

The point of this relay race is to quickly find passages on Easter themes in the four Gospels. The activity is intended to increase the young teens' skill in using the Bible and to help them become familiar with Gospel passages that recount the Resurrection of Jesus.

### Suggested Time

About 15 minutes for the relay race and closing prayer; preparation time is extra

### Group Size

The ideal group size for this strategy is sixteen participants. The activity can be done with a larger or smaller number of young people, though it will get a little drawn out with more than twenty-eight or so. See the Alternative Approaches section near the end of this strategy for suggestions on accommodating different numbers of participants.

### Materials Needed

- ☀ four pieces of newsprint or poster board
- ☀ markers

## PROCEDURE

- ☀️ masking tape
- ☀️ four small bowls or paper bags
- ☀️ sixteen plastic eggs, four each of four different colors
- ☀️ four spoons
- ☀️ sixteen pieces of construction paper, approximately 3-by-6 inches, four each of approximately the same four different colors as the plastic eggs
- ☀️ sixteen 1-by-3-inch strips of paper
- ☀️ four Bibles
- ☀️ four pieces of notebook paper
- ☀️ four pens or pencils
- ☀️ prizes for the winning team (optional)

*Preparation.* Make four signs on newsprint or poster board, one for each of the Gospels. Post the signs at one end of the meeting room. Place a Bible, a sheet of notebook paper, and a pen or pencil under each sign.

Prepare citation and question slips for each of the four Gospels. To avoid confusion you may want to work on one Gospel at a time. For each Gospel do the following things:

- ☉ Write each of the four citations listed below on a small slip of paper. Place each paper in a different colored egg. Put the four eggs and a spoon in a bowl or paper bag at the end of the room opposite the sign identifying the Gospel.
- ☉ Write the question associated with each citation on a piece of construction paper that is approximately the same color as the egg that contains the citation. Place the four questions facedown near the Bible.

The citations and their corresponding questions are as follows:

<i>Citations</i>	<i>Questions</i>
Matt. 28:1	With whom did Mary Magdalene go to inspect the tomb?
Matt. 28:7	Who were the women supposed to tell that Jesus had risen?
Matt. 28:13	What did the chief priests bribe the soldiers to do?
Matt. 28:19	What did Jesus tell the Apostles to do to all the nations?
Mark 16:1	Why did the women take perfumed oils to the tomb?
Mark 16:5	Whom did the women see when they entered the tomb?
Mark 16:9	To whom did the risen Jesus first appear?
Mark 16:19	Where is Jesus' seat in heaven?
Luke 24:2	What did the women find when they went to the tomb?
Luke 24:13	Where were the two disciples going?
Luke 24:30–31	When did the two disciples recognize Jesus?
Luke 24:39	What did Jesus show the Apostles in order to prove his identity?



*Leader.* His friends saw him but at first did not recognize him. We respond . . .

*All.* Alleluia! He is risen, alleluia!

*Leader.* We have not seen and yet we believe and respond . . .

*All.* Alleluia! He is risen, alleluia!

*Leader.* Thank you, God, for giving us the Gospels. They are faithful reminders that death is not the end and that your promise of eternal life has been fulfilled. And so we respond . . .

*All.* Alleluia! He is risen, alleluia!

## **ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES**

- ⊙ If you have fewer than ten participants, create just two teams and give each team two sets of eggs and questions. If you have more than sixteen people in your group, find more Easter passages for each team, and write additional questions, so that each team member gets at least one citation and question.
- ⊙ To make the game a little more challenging, mix up the passages among the teams so that no team is dealing with only one Gospel. Be sure to match the questions and citations for each team.
- ⊙ If the game goes quickly and the young people are eager to try again, assign each team to a different Gospel.
- ⊙ Invite the young people to make a bookmark of their favorite Resurrection passage: Give each person a lengthwise half of an index card. Make available a variety of decorating supplies. Tell the participants to write their favorite Resurrection passage on the bookmark and decorate the bookmark.
- ⊙ Instead of doing the activity as a relay race, simply do it as a team competition. Give every young person on each team a Bible and designate a team captain. Ask one of the questions, announce its corresponding Bible passage, and tell the teams to look up the citation and find an answer. Follow these rules:
  - ⊙ Only the team captain can answer the question for the team.
  - ⊙ The first team to give the correct answer gets a point.
  - ⊙ The game continues for no more than 15 minutes or until all the questions have been answered.
- ⊙ This relay is not restricted to Easter passages. It can be used with other passages any time you want to give young teens a fun experience with searching the Scriptures.