

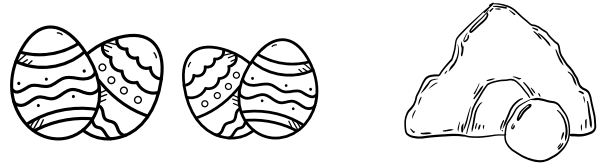
Faith and Funnies

A newsletter from Faithful Friends KY

April, Vol. 1



The Easter egg is hollow just as they found the tomb. for it is meant to represent Christ has RISEN for you!



April Fool's

April Fool's Day may have originated in France where New Years Day was celebrated during Medieval times on April 1st. When Gregory XIII changed it back to January 1st in 1582, many people in rural areas did not make the change for several years. The cosmopolitan city dwellers thought them fools for this reason, and it became the fashion to take advantage of the naivete of the provincials on this date. The practice spread to England and other English speaking countries.

<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/april>

Spring Smiles...



How excited was the gardener about Spring?

So excited he wet his plants!

When do monkeys fall from the sky?

During APE-ril showers!

What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

Bugs Bunny!

No Easter Photos

written by Marla Carter

When I was a little girl, my family spent every Easter visiting my grandparents and going to church with them. My sister and I would wear frilly spring dresses and our patent leather white shoes. Some years I had dainty little gloves, a hat, and white ankle socks with lacy turn cuffs. Easter photos were non-negotiable, and were usually taken in front of a giant evergreen tree in my grandparents' yard. When I got married and had my own children, the traditions were similar. I dressed my son and daughter in coordinated outfits and we always took lots of pictures—only eventually we were no longer using cameras but instead using our cell phones.

But time passes and things change, don't they? My grandparents are in heaven, their house is gone, and the evergreen tree no longer stands. My children are too old for me to dress in coordinated outfits (though I would if they'd let me) and are old enough to have their own lives and their own plans. This Easter my husband and I found ourselves sitting in church without our children next to us. As I looked around the sanctuary, it was painfully obvious that things are different for us now. I saw many families who took up an entire row because they had all their adult children and extended family in town for the holiday. I saw lots of young families with their children sitting next to them, all in matching pastel outfits and stretched out across the row like stair steps. I saw dads holding infants and moms wrangling toddlers. I couldn't help but feel sad that my Easter didn't look like it used to. In fact, we didn't even take any Easter photos this year.

By the end of the day, everyone was sharing their Easter photos on social media. Everywhere I looked there were smiling families, dressed in their Easter best and spending the day together. But what about the people who didn't take any Easter pictures? What about the people who were alone on Easter?

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If you were one of those people, it may feel like the world has forgotten you. You may even feel like God has forgotten you. Friends, Easter reminds us that even though we may feel alone, God has not forgotten us. In Isaiah 49: 14-16 we read: But Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me.” “Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.” Notice God didn’t rebuke Israel for feeling abandoned by Him. He can handle our feelings. He invites us to come to Him with all our fears, doubts, and questions. God says, Do mothers forget their babies? Of course not! Even if that were possible, it is *not* possible for God to forget. We are engraved on His very hands.

Think about the worst scar you ever had. It’s likely still quite visible, right? And when you see it, you vividly remember how it got there, don’t you? God says that’s how it is with us. It’s as though we are scars on His hand. *Scars on His hand*. Revelation 5:6 tells us that Jesus still has visible scars from His crucifixion. Even if Jesus could forget us, which of course He cannot, He still bears the scars of His sacrifice for us on the cross. His love for us is forever etched on His hands.

The last part of that passage in Isaiah says that “your walls are continually before me.” The walls are a reference to the walls of Jerusalem—the walls which were broken down and destroyed while the Jewish people were in exile in Babylon. What does that mean for us? God sees our condition. God knows what we are going through. He is continually aware of our brokenness, our loneliness, and our tears.

God has so greatly demonstrated His compassion for us that we never have to question His love. John 15:13 says, “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” Friends and family may leave us. Things in our lives may change. God will never leave us and He never changes.

Spring Word Search

Can you find the words hidden
in the puzzle?



C	S	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	D
F	N	L	P	M	H	K	O	O	T	U	P
L	A	D	Y	B	U	G	O	D	I	R	I
O	W	E	O	L	A	R	B	E	E	I	C
W	S	Y	M	O	S	F	N	X	D	C	N
E	E	P	U	S	P	R	I	N	G	K	I
R	L	B	R	S	T	T	W	U	S	O	C
S	L	D	B	O	K	I	R	A	G	S	A
R	R	P	R	M	U	E	C	A	V	U	N
G	R	O	W	U	C	T	T	O	I	N	S
D	F	C	O	N	F	O	S	L	U	N	N
E	S	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	L	Y	E

FLOWERS

SPRING

RAINBOW

BEE

BLOSSOM

SUNNY

LADYBUG

RAIN

BUTTERFLY

PICNIC

SPROUTS

GROW