



## A Special Note About Easter

Easter is a special time in churches. It's a time of celebration and thankfulness. But because of the graphic nature of the Easter story and the crucifixion specifically, we need to be careful as we choose what we tell preschoolers about Easter.

In order to be sensitive to the physical, intellectual, and emotional development of preschoolers, First Look has chosen not to include the Easter story in our curriculum. Instead, we are focusing on the Last Supper, when Jesus shared a meal and spent time with the people He loved. We have made this choice because the crucifixion is simply too violent for preschoolers. And if we were to skip the crucifixion and go straight to the resurrection, then preschoolers would be confused. Additionally, preschoolers, as concrete thinkers, are simply unable to truly grasp what it means to die and then be raised again through the power of God.

We know that God wants all people to come to know Him and accept His gift of salvation. We believe that, by waiting until children are in elementary school to tell them the marvelous story of Easter, they will be better able to understand it and accept God's offer of salvation. We're using these formative preschool years to build a foundation for that eventual decision by focusing on God's love and telling preschoolers that "Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

However, we know that some of you use First Look in your five-year-old and kindergarten classrooms. To accommodate your needs, we have included an alternate ending to the Bible story that tells a simple version of the Easter story. We hope it is an appropriate way to communicate the story of Easter in a way that is understandable for older preschoolers.

Thank you for joining us in preparing preschoolers to know God's love personally.