

John 16: 16-24 – Easter hope

Watch this video: God's Story: Jesus is Alive <https://youtu.be/VtYDbPfZB-8>

In this week's passage, Jesus is preparing his disciples for his death and resurrection which is the Easter story – they will be sad because they will see him put to death by those who feel threatened by his message, and they will see his body placed in a tomb. But in three days he will rise again and they will see him, alive, and know that his message is true. Their sadness will not last for ever.



Spring hunt

Search round the house, the garden, garage and shed or all around you when on a walk, looking for things that are springy, bouncy or contain a spring. Maybe you have a space hopper or pogo stick or something you could bounce around on.



A prayer for when you are feeling sad



Jesus, help me not to be afraid of feeling sad but to trust that happiness will spring back. Amen

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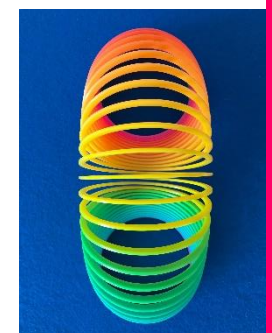
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Bible Reading

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“After a little while you will not see me. And then after a little while you will see me again.”

Some of the followers said to each other, “What does Jesus mean when he says, ‘After a little while you will not see me, and then after a little while you will see me again’? And what does he mean when he says, ‘Because I am going to the Father’?” They also asked, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We don’t understand what he is saying.”

Jesus saw that the followers wanted to ask him about this. So Jesus said to the followers, “Are you asking each other what I meant when I said, ‘After a little while you will not see me. And then after a little while you will see me again’? I tell you the truth. You will cry and be sad, but the world will be happy. You will be sad, but your sadness will become joy. When a woman gives birth to a baby, she has pain, because her time has come. But when her baby is born, she forgets the pain. She forgets because she is so happy that a child has been born into the world. It is the same with you. Now you are sad. But I will see you again and you will be happy. And no one will take away your joy. In that day you will not ask me for anything. I tell you the truth. My Father will give you anything you ask for in my name. You have never asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive. And your joy will be the fullest joy. *The Holy Bible, International Children's Bible® Copyright© 1986, 1988, 1999, 2015 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission.*

I wonder what ‘fullest joy’ might feel like?

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