

Easter is going to be early on the calendar this year. A former pastor used to say that we need to be "Easter People" every day of the year. It is important for us to remember the hope we have in Christ's sacrifice and resurrection every day. It is not always easy to do, but we need to try to live in Christ daily. The apostle Paul writes a beautiful letter to the Philippians about 10 years after he had started that church. It is a short letter, but so full of encouragement and love that I encourage you to read it.

Paul starts his letter with prayers for the church in Philippi. "I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you will live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return." Philippians 1:9-10

At the time Paul writes this letter, he is under house arrest. He is chained to a Roman soldier 24 hours a day. Paul takes this time with his guards I am sure to share the Gospel. He knows he could be executed any day, but he knows God holds his future and he has no fear. Paul is totally living in Christ daily and desires only to serve Christ—either in life or death.

How in the world can we here on earth possibly live like Paul? Only by following Christ's example of sacrificial love and humility and by letting the Holy Spirit dwell in us. Christ laid aside His rights as God to live as a human. He paid the penalty we should have paid so that we might have eternal life. We are to follow His example of selfless love. Remember, that selfless love does not mean we need to suffer abuse from others or become a doormat so to speak. We are to love others, listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance within us, put aside selfish ambition, forget the past and press on to what lies ahead. These things require us to change our thinking. It is WORK! It requires effort daily on our part!

Here are a few things to focus on this Easter season (and daily): Christ humbly came to earth to fulfill His Father's will for us so that none should perish, but have eternal life. Christ's death on the cross has given us all unmerited favor from God. We can trust that God has begun a good work in all of us and He ALWAYS finishes what He started. We are in partnership with God to spread the Gospel and its purpose. Because Christ lives in us, we can be confident of our future! Because Christ lives in us, we are becoming more like Him! Because Christ lives in us, we can rejoice in all of our circumstances!

Praise God always for Christ's sacrifice for us, so that we may live in Him and like Him! Amen!

Your sister in Christ,

sally

Praise and Prayer

FATHER we pray that the fighting across the world come to an end that all sides live in peace.

Father we pray for the family of Devin J. we also pray for whoever it was that caused his death. May they find You Lord and turn themselves in to face justice.

LORD WE PRAY for Jimmy M. as he continues to struggle with health issues.

PLEASE LORD comfort and give peace to the families and friends of the incarcerated and help them with struggles of separation from loved ones.

LORD WE PRAY for all those struggling with mental health and addiction.

FATHER WE ASK that you heal the broken hearted and weary.

LORD WE ASK that you give us wisdom and strength to let YOUR light shine through us in all that we do.

Lord we praise you for the birth of Mike T's grandson.

THANK YOU FATHER for this ministry and guide us in all that we do to give YOU the glory.

THANK YOU LORD for those who have been released recently from

prison. We ask that you be with them and guide them through the struggles they may face.

WE PRAISE YOU for another day and opportunity to worship You, Lord!

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty, the Earth is filled with His glory! How great and awesome is He!

PLEASE SEND ALL PRAYER AND PRAISE REQUESTS TO: MISSION POSSIBLE WORDS OF HOPE MINISTRIES PO BOX 11063 CHARLOTTE NC 28220-1063

Top Easter Messages of Hope

- 1. Easter is a reminder that even in our darkest hours, there is a light waiting to shine bright. Embrace that inner brilliance and let it guide your path forward.
- 2. As we reflect on the resurrection, let us also recognize the constant renewals happening within ourselves. Life is an ongoing transformation, never static and always moving.
- 3. The blooms of spring coincide with Easter to teach us that even after the harshest winter, life finds a way. Stand strong, knowing that your winter too shall pass.
- 4. Through trials and tribulations, it's the unwavering faith that keeps us going. This Easter, let's embrace the power of belief and the miracles it can usher.
- 5. Blessings come in many forms; some we see, some we feel. On this holy day, open your heart to the intangible gifts that life offers.
- 6. Easter is not just about painted eggs and bunnies. It's a testament to the enduring human spirit, which, against all odds, continues to rise and shine.
- 7. Every sunrise gives us a new beginning, just as every Easter offers us a chance for redemption. Grasp that chance, and let your spirit soar.
- 8. The stories of Easter teach us that sometimes, to find your purpose, you must travel through darkness. But remember, it's the journey that shapes us, not just the destination.
- 9. In every corner of our lives, there are small miracles waiting to be discovered. This Easter, take a moment to recognize and celebrate those miracles.
- 10. From the caterpillar to the butterfly, nature showcases the magic of metamorphosis. Let the message of Easter guide your own personal transformation.
- 11. Life's challenges may seem insurmountable at times.

But on this day, remember the power of resilience and faith. Like the springtime flowers, always reach for the sun.

- 12. The spirit of Easter is the spirit of hope. In the face of adversity, may we remember to always carry that hope in our hearts, letting it guide our steps.
- 13. Our journey is filled with moments of doubt and uncertainty. But let Easter be a reminder that there's always a dawning of a new day, a chance for renewal and rebirth.
- 14. In the cycle of life, after every end, there is a new beginning. Embrace the promise of fresh starts this Easter and make every moment count.
- 15. May the message of Easter inspire you to face every challenge with grace, knowing that every setback is just a setup for a grander comeback.



3/4 Ronald "Tex" C. 3/5 Dustin M. 3/11 James D. 3/14 Antwan A. Ray C. 3/15 Jeremy R. 3/24 Leroy A. James P. 3/27 Lamont P. 3/28 Teresa C.

James K.

3/29

Easter Word Search

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APOSTLES CHRIST CROSS CROWN CRUCIFIXION HOLY **JESUS** KING LAMB LOVE MARY REDEMPTION RESURRECTION RISEN ROMANS ROOSTER SACRIFICE SALVATION SAVIOR THORNS

Easter Fun Facts

The lamb is an important symbol because the Christian tradition of eating lamb commemorates Christ's death and sacrifice.

The red Very Cherry jellybean has been the most popular flavor of all jellybeans except during the years 1998 through 2002 when Buttered Popcorn prevailed. In 2003 the Very Cherry flavor returned as the top bean

In Australia, Easter takes place in Autumn due to the Southern and Northern Hemispheres having opposite seasons.

The largest Easter parade is held in New York and originated in the 1870s. Churchgoers would walk down Fifth Avenue after religious services displaying their finest spring outfits for the Easter holiday.

The Cadbury Creme Eggs, invented

in 1923, became Fry's Creme Eggs from 1963 until the name changed back to the Cadbury Creme Eggs in 1971.

The largest chocolate egg was over 34 feet tall, weighed nearly 16,000 pounds and was produced in Italy in 2011.

Easter lilies signify the true meaning of the holiday since its white color represents the purity of Jesus and the bulb initially growing underground is attributed to Jesus' death while the actual sprout of the flower symbolize is His Resurrection.

Ham served at Easter dates back many years ago before refrigerators were invented and ham could be cured in winter months and thawed in spring for the holiday meal.

Easter's date changes every year based on the Sunday occurring after



the Paschal full moon.

Egg decorating started in Ukraine when the tradition of pysanky was brought to the US and influenced the movement of dying eggs at Easter.

The first Whitehouse Easter Egg Roll was held in 1878 and was initiated by President Rutherford B. Hayes after he got the idea from some children he saw playing outside. The event continues today.

According to a 2018 survey, over 51% of people who celebrate Easter attend a church service. Wonder if that statistic has changed since then?



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Palm Sunday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 John 5:28-29					1 I Corinthians 2:9	2 Matthew 5:16
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hebrews 4:16	Luke 22:27	Matthew 11:28	I Peter 3:18	Daniel 6:16	Romans 8:14	Matthew 6:10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Matthew 10:30	Ephesians 4:32	Romans 6:22	Luke 12:31	Romans 8:34	Luke 25:27	Hebrews 13:5
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Philippians 3:10	I John 5:4	l John 1:7	Colossians 2:13-	Psalm 14:17	I Timothy 2:1	Mark 14:33
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Hebrews 10:10	John 16:33	Matthew 8:3	Psalm 37:5	l John 3:1	John 13:35	Philippians 2:8