

SURPRISE!

TWO DAYS AFTER JESUS DIED - AT THE CRACK OF DAWN...



SUDDENLY, TWO ANGELS APPEARED.



SAMUEL SAYS...

Do you like surprises? Some surprises are not that good, like finding out that someone you care about has been hurt or is unwell, having a good friend come to you and tell you that they are moving and have to change schools, finding out that your favourite TV show has been cancelled or realising that your favourite toy, game or book has been left at the airport when you board the plane for a holiday.

When the disciples (Jesus' followers) found out that Jesus was going to be put to death it was a horrible surprise: it was not what they expected, not the way they thought a good man should be treated.

Sometimes, though, we can get good surprises, some—you might even say—are fantastic. Finding out that we are going to be in the same class as our best friend, getting the best birthday present we could have ever hoped for, or maybe even getting a special present when it's

not even our birthday are all very exciting surprises.

On the very first Easter Sunday the disciples and lots of other people received a fantastic surprise—Jesus was alive! Jesus had been put to death on the cross and then buried in a tomb that had a huge rock covering the entry but when the women went to the tomb (as we can read in this week's cartoon) the rock had been rolled away and Jesus' body was gone. Three days after dying on the cross and being placed in the tomb, Jesus was alive again! Jesus had told his followers he would come back to life but they didn't truly believe it—when they heard the good news they were totally surprised and excited.

On that first Easter Sunday, Jesus surprised everyone and proved that God and his plans are the most awesome in the world. This Easter we can celebrate because we know that: Jesus is alive, that he is the king of the world, he is the Son of God, he is truly amazing, he's the one who loves us no matter what and the best friend we could ever have.

Use the clues to fill in the grid to reveal a hidden phrase in the grey squares that describe the events of the first Easter Sunday.

- 1 The father of Jesus
- 2 What the heart symbol represents
- 3 Easter eggs are made from this
- 4 Day we celebrate Easter
- 5 He dies to save us
- 6 Creature that delivers Easter eggs
- 7 Easter treat: Hot ____ Buns
- 8 Follower of Jesus
- 9 Month we celebrate Easter this year
- 10 The good news of Easter: Jesus is ____!
- 11 Another word for the bad things we do
- 12 Chocolate ones are eaten at Easter time

