



Young Leaders Material

Module E1: Easter

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Module E1 – Easter

INTRODUCTION TO THIS MODULE

This material is part of a series of modules for children and young people to use in sharing the faith in a small group with their friends. Designed for young leaders, it provides nearly all that is needed to make the cell fun and interactive. Of course the material won't work on its own, it needs someone to stand up and be willing for God to use them, someone who will pray for their friends and prepare the material so thoroughly that God can use them.

Now this is in your hands could you be one of the radical new breed of children and young people who are leading their friends to Jesus in the thousands. The material covers a couple of years worth of teaching. The module numbers are a recommended order to do the teaching in.

This module is all about Easter – Jesus did something incredible for us when he died on the cross. This is a great module to use around Easter time, invite your friends along and see what God does.

MY PERSONAL RECORD

These leader's notes belong to: _____

Topic	Date shared with cell:
1. The great swap	
2. The forgiven thief	
3. Jesus died on the cross	
4. Jesus came alive again	

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MEMORY VERSE

Romans 6:23

**“When someone sins, he earns what sin pays – death.
But God gives us a free gift – life for ever in Christ Jesus
our Lord.”**

WEEK 1 – THE GREAT SWAP

At Easter time we remember what Jesus did on the cross. This is the best swap that has ever taken place in the history of the world. This week we are looking at that swap.

Remember to pray and prepare well for each cell meeting so that God can come and use you. If you are not sure about anything ask your leader or parents to help you!

YOU WILL NEED:

For this week you will need the following things (tick the box when you have them ready).

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| For the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cell material & Bible. |
| For the Warfare | <input type="checkbox"/> | Picture of a large cross, pens, paper. |
| After the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | A cell report. |

Code for the material:

Things in purple are things you should do before the cell starts.

Things in bold are things you can say in the cell.

Things in italics are there to help you a bit more.

WELCOME – LET'S SWAP

Why do this? To introduce the idea of swapping things.

AT THE CELL:

1. Make a circle with enough chairs (or spaces) for everyone to have a seat, except you.
2. The person standing in the middle calls out something that describes some people in the group. For example they may say: Anyone who is wearing red, or anyone who has a brother, or anyone who likes marmite.
3. Anyone who identifies with the something has to change seats. While people are changing seats the person in the middle has to try to sit on one of the empty seats.
4. Whoever cannot find a seat is now the person in the middle of the group, and gets to call out the next things.



WORD

Why do this? To teach the cell that God made everything.

AT THE CELL:

Remember the bits in italics are to help you know the right answers, they should not be read out in the cell.

The bits in bold are for you to say in cell (use your own words if you want to).

The bits in normal type are a guide as to the kind of thing you should do.

1. Ask people if they have ever swapped anything with anyone. Talk about whether they thought they got a good deal from the swap, and why.
2. **In today's passage, Jesus did a swap. Let's look at the passage and see what swap took place.**
3. Ask someone to read Luke 23:13-25.
4. **Why did Barabbas deserve to die (look at verse 19)?**
He was a murderer and had caused a riot.
5. **Did Jesus deserve to die (look at verse 22)?**
No – he had done nothing wrong!
6. **So what did Barabbas gain from the swap?**
He got his life back – he did not have to die, even though he deserved it.
7. **What did Jesus gain from the swap?**
He opened up the way for us to be God's friends.
8. Look at the memory verse. Explain that each one of us is like Barabbas – we have done things wrong and we deserve to be punished.
9. Give your group time to think about what they have done wrong.
10. **Just like with Barabbas, Jesus swapped places with us on the cross. He was punished instead of us. We can now choose to live for God.**



WARFARE – SWAP IT AT THE CROSS

Why do this? To swap things at the cross.

BEFORE THE CELL:

1. Make a picture of a large cross.
2. Bring pens and paper to the cell.

AT THE CELL:

1. **Jesus swapped places with us on the cross.**
2. **He swapped all our junk and mess for his goodness.**
3. Get the cell to list some of the junk and mess in their lives.
This may include sins, sickness or family problems.
4. Now they can write down their junk on a piece of paper and stick it to the cross that you made.
5. Pray together, thanking God that he has done this most amazing swap for us.
6. Ask him to take away all the junk and to give his goodness. Pray specific prayers with each person in the group.

MEMORY VERSE

AT THE CELL:

1. Take time to teach the memory verse for this module.

Romans 6:23

**“When someone sins, he earns what sin pays – death.
But God gives us a free gift – life for ever in Christ Jesus
our Lord.”**



WORSHIP – WHAT DID YOU GET?

Why do this? Because we are free to worship.

AT THE CELL:

1. **Now God has taken all of our junk, what do we have?**
Answers may vary from empty hands/freedom, to Jesus' goodness.
2. **Remember what Jesus gains out of the swap ... US!**
3. **We are now free to worship Him. Let's do it.**
4. Look at the list of things on the wall, and decide what Jesus has swapped it for.
5. Then take time to praise Him for all the good things He has given. Make the praise **LOUD** and **LONG**. Jesus deserves it.

WITNESS – SHOW THE SWAP

Why do this? To help people to share today's teaching with their friends.

AT THE CELL:

-  1. **This week, let's tell our friends what Jesus has done, by doing a swap with them.**
2. **Choose a friend and agree to swap something with them. Ask them for something rubbish (like the sharpening from after they have sharpened their pencil) and swap it for something really good, that the other person wants.** They need to actually be willing to give away the good thing for good.
3. When their friend is puzzled, they can go on to explain how Jesus did a swap for us: swapping something really precious – life, for our rubbish.

SUMMARY



1. **Today we have learnt that Jesus swapped places with us on the cross.**
2. **During this week we are going to swap something with a friend as a way of telling them about Jesus.**



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WEEK 2 – COMPLETELY FORGIVEN

Last week we taught that Jesus swapped places with us on the cross, this week we find out that God completely forgives us of everything when we come to Him.

Remember to pray and prepare well for each cell meeting so that God can come and use you. If you are not sure about anything ask your leader or parents to help you!

YOU WILL NEED:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--|
| For the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cell material & Bible. |
| For the Word | <input type="checkbox"/> | Copies of the Sin Sheet from Page 14 , Pens. |
| For the Warfare (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bowl of water, towels. |
| For the Worship | <input type="checkbox"/> | copies of songs or CD player. |
| For the Witness | <input type="checkbox"/> | Card and colouring pens. |
| For the Warfare (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Notebook and pen. |
| After the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | A cell report. |

Code for the material:

Things in purple are things you should do before the cell starts.

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Things in italics are there to help you a bit more.

WELCOME – WHO CAN YOU FORGIVE?

Why do this? To think about forgiveness.

AT THE CELL:

1. Follow up on the challenge that you set for your cell last week, to swap something good for something rubbish with a friend, to help show what Jesus did on the cross.
2. Ask the following question: **What things do you think you would not forgive someone for?**
Killing a parent, stealing your money, ...
3. Allow the group to debate the different levels of forgiveness they would be willing to offer.



WORD

Why do this? To show that God rules the whole world.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Copies of the Sin sheet (see the next page).
2. Pens.

AT THE CELL:

Remember the bits in italics are to help you know the right answers, they should not be read out in the cell.

The bits in bold are for you to say in cell (use your own words if you want to).

The bits in normal type are a guide as to the kind of thing you should do.

1. **We've just been looking at forgiveness. There was a man, that Jesus forgave, even though the things he had done were so bad that he deserved to die for them.**
2. Read through Luke 22:32-43. As you read it get different members of the group to act out different parts.
3. **The robbers both deserved to die, but Jesus didn't. What did Jesus say would happen to the robber who looked to Jesus for help.**
Today you will be with me in paradise. The man got to go to heaven.
4. **What was the difference between the two robbers on the cross?**
One looked to Jesus for help, the other did not.
5. **The robber who looked to Jesus was forgiven for all the bad things he had done.**
6. **Jesus forgives ANYONE who looks to him for help, no matter how bad the things they have done are.**
7. Look back at the discussion you had in the welcome time. Explain that Jesus would forgive all those people, because he knows that even we do not deserve to live.
8. **Jesus forgives us no matter what we have done!**
9. Give each person in the group a sin sheet and ask them to fill it in privately, without anyone else looking, writing down all of the sins they can think of that they want Jesus to forgive them of.
10. Explain that by the end of the time together, there will be no record of the sins – no one is going to see it!



SIN SHEET

Write here any sins you keep doing:
(For example – lying, stealing, bullying etc.)

Write here ways that you sin by not doing what you should do:
(For example – Not praying, not listening to your parents, not working hard at school.)

Write here any bad things you say:
(For example – Swearing, cursing, teasing others.)

Write here any bad thoughts that you have:
(For example – not liking your brother, not wanting to help, wanting to do something you are not allowed to do, thinking you are no good.)

MEMORY VERSE

AT THE CELL:

1. Take time to recap/teach the memory verse from last week.

Romans 6:23

**“When someone sins, he earns what sin pays – death.
But God gives us a free gift – life for ever in Christ Jesus
our Lord.”**

WARFARE (PART 1) – REPENT

Why do this? To get the cell to say sorry for the bad things they have done.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Bowl of water.
2. Towels to clear up an spillage.

DURING THE CELL:

1. Lead the group to look through the sins on the Sin Sheet and to say sorry to God for the bad things they have done.
2. Then they can rip the paper up and destroy it completely, because Jesus has completely forgiven them of everything.
3. If you can get them to put the ripped up paper into a bowl of water, so that their Sin Sheets are completely destroyed.

Warfare

WORSHIP – CLOSE TO JESUS

Why do this? To praise God using the Psalm.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Choose a song that shows our thanks to Jesus or our love for him.
2. Bring a copy of the song to play in the group, and the ability to play the music.

AT THE CELL:

1. Encourage everyone to close their eyes and to think about how they can now be close to Jesus.



2. Put on the music and lead them to worship God, using the song you have chosen.

Optional Extra:

If your cell is Capital Kids age you may also want to sing a song like:

My God is so big or Who's the king of the jungle?

For CTFW cells you may want to find a CD with some praise music on and play it.



WITNESS – INVITE THEM

Why do this? To get the group to invite people to next week's session, where there will be an opportunity for their friends to respond to Jesus.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Card.
2. Colouring pens.

AT THE CELL:

1. Let each person make three invitation cards for next week's meeting. Don't forget to include the day, the time, and the place of the meeting as well as something about it and who to speak to if they want to know more.



2. **Encourage them to choose three of their friends to invite to come to next week's meeting.**



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WARFARE (PART 2) – FOR YOUR FRIENDS

Why do this? To get them to pray for their friends to come next week.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Notebook and pen.

DURING THE CELL:

1. Write down the names of the three friends each person is planning to invite.
2. Pray together as a group, that these people will come and choose to follow Jesus.
3. Continue to pray for the people on the list throughout the week.



SUMMARY



1. Today we have learnt that Jesus forgives us no matter what we have done.



2. During this week we are going to invite three of our friends to next week's meeting.

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WEEK 3 – JESUS’ DEATH, OUR LIFE

Last week we taught that Jesus forgives us no matter what we have done. This week we are looking at the heart of Easter – Jesus’ death on the cross. It is a special week to invite friends to come.

Remember to pray and prepare well for each cell meeting so that God can come and use you. If you are not sure about anything ask your leader or parents to help you!

YOU WILL NEED:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| For the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cell material & Bible. |
| For the Welcome | <input type="checkbox"/> | Drinks and snacks. |
| For the Warfare | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tracts. |
| After the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | A cell report. |

Code for the material:

Things in purple are things you should do before the cell starts.

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WELCOME – IT WAS BAD.

Why do this? To have fun & think about the importance of breathing.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Bring some drinks and snacks to this week's group.

AT THE CELL:

1. Welcome any first timers to your group.
2. Find out who came because of an invitation they received (from last week's action point).
3. Offer round the snacks you have brought.
4. Split the group into pairs. Let each pair act out real events from their lives, titled: "The Worst Thing Anyone Has Ever Done To Me."



WORD – JESUS' DEATH

Why do this? To teach that God made us and gave us life.

AT THE CELL:

Remember the bits in italics are to help you know the right answers, they should not be read out in the cell.

The bits in bold are for you to say in cell (use your own words if you want to).

The bits in normal type are a guide as to the kind of thing you should do.

1. **Today we are thinking about Easter, when Jesus died on the cross.**

2. **When Jesus died on a cross they did some horrible things to him:**
 - a. They whipped him until he was half dead
 - b. They put a crown of thorns on his head.
 - c. They pulled his beard.
 - d. They laughed at him and spat on him.
 - e. They banged nails into his hands and feet.
 - f. They hung him on a cross, until he had died a painful death.

3. Look at the list of things that happened to Jesus and compare them to “the worst things that have ever happened to men,” sketches. Let the group share their feedback on who they think had the worst deal.

4. Read the Memory Verse for the month: **Romans 6:23** **“When someone sins, he earns what sin pays – death. But God gives us a free gift – life for ever in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**

5. Explain how we have all done things wrong – sin. But Jesus and so we deserve to die. But Jesus gives us a free gift of life. He can do this because he swapped places with us when he died on the cross.

6. **When Jesus died on the cross, he did it to take away all of our sins.**

7. **All we have to choose is whether or not we want to accept what he did for us..**



WORSHIP – GOD MADE ME

Why do this? To give God glory by sharing your story.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Ask each regular member of the group in advance to think of something that they can share about their experience with God.

AT THE CELL:

1. Let each regular member share something of what God has done for them. (Make sure that you share something too!)

WARFARE – SINNERS PRAYER

Why do this? To give everyone an opportunity to accept Jesus.

BEFORE THE CELL:

1. Make sure you have prayed.
2. Get some tracts to give to anyone who responds to the Gospel.

DURING THE CELL:

1. **So Jesus has done amazing things for us.**
2. Recap on the message of salvation, and why Jesus died on the cross.
-  3. Remind them that they have to **decide to follow Jesus.**
4. Invite anyone who wants to, to pray and choose to follow Jesus, using the following prayer.
5. **Dear Jesus, thank you that you died on the cross for us. Even though you had not done anything wrong, you let people kill you on the cross, because you wanted to take my place and be punished instead of me. I choose today to turn away from my sin, from my mess, and to accept what you have done. Please take away all of my bad things and help me to follow you, today, tomorrow and for the rest of my life. In Jesus' Name. AMEN**
6. Give anyone who has prayed this prayer for the first time a tract to go home and read some more.
7. Follow up on these people and invite them to come again next week.

Worship

Warfare

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WITNESS – MODEL IT

Why do this? To help teach your regular group how to lead someone to Jesus.

AT THE CELL:

1. After you have led people Jesus, discuss with the group how they can use a similar prayer to lead other friends to Jesus.
2. **The key parts of a prayer are a turning away from sin and a turning to God through Jesus.**

SUMMARY



1. **Today we have learnt that Jesus died on the cross to take away our sins.**
2. **We have to decide to follow Jesus.**

Witness

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WEEK 4 – JESUS CAME ALIVE AGAIN

Last week we taught that Jesus died on the cross to take away our sins. This week we are seeing how Jesus did not stay dead, but he came alive again.

Remember to pray and prepare well for each cell meeting so that God can come and use you. If you are not sure about anything ask your leader or parents to help you!

YOU WILL NEED:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| For the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cell material & Bible. |
| For the Worship | <input type="checkbox"/> | Copies of the words of the song. |
| After the Cell | <input type="checkbox"/> | A cell report. |

Code for the material:

Things in purple are things you should do before the cell starts.

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WELCOME – LOVELY NURSERY RHYMES

Why do this? To think about people who are unlovable.

BEFORE THE CELL & MATERIALS LIST:

1. Think about which nursery rhyme you will use.

AT THE CELL:

1. Follow up on anyone who responded to the call to follow Jesus last week and find out how their week has been.
2. Choose a nursery rhyme that everyone knows (like Baa, baa, black sheep).
For example: Baa, baa, black sheep; The Grand Old Duke of York; Humpty Dumpty.
3. Get the group to act out the nursery rhyme.
4. When they have acted it out, get them to act it again in the following ways:
 - a. As if they are all babies.
 - b. As if they are the head teacher of a school.
 - c. As if they are old people.



WORD – JESUS BEAT DEATH

Why do this? To learn that Jesus is stronger even than death.

AT THE CELL:

1. Hold on to one member of the group and see if they can escape.
2. If they can ask a couple of other people to help hold on to them.
Be careful that it does not turn into a fight. If it looks like it might, then skip this bit.
3. **The most powerful person is the one who cannot escape.**
4. **But there are some things that it seems nobody can escape. Of all of these things, death is the most powerful.**
5. **But Jesus was so powerful that even death could not keep hold of him.**
6. Go round the group letting each person read a verse at a time from:



7. **Jesus is alive.**
8. **Jesus beat death, and because he did, this shows that he has power over everything else, including the power to beat our sins. He can do miracles!**
9. **Jesus now lives in heaven and we can talk to him anytime we want to.**

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 6:23

**“When someone sins, he earns what sin pays – death.
But God gives us a free gift – life for ever in Christ Jesus
our Lord.”**

WORSHIP – LOUD PRAISE

Why do this? To praise God with all our heart.

AT THE CELL:

1. Get the group to shout out praise to God as loudly as they can, after all God deserves it – He can do anything.

WARFARE – THE GOD OF MIRACLES

Why do this? To ask God for miracles.

DURING THE CELL:

1. Ask each person what they would like to see God do.
2.  **Pray for these miracles** to take place.

WITNESS – THE GOD OF MIRACLES

Why do this? To get the group praying for others.

AT THE CELL:

1. Encourage the group to ask their friends, who do not know Jesus, what they would like pray for.
2. Then get them to pray for their friends and see how the God of miracles answers.

SUMMARY



1. **Today we have learnt that Jesus is alive.**
2.  **This week we are going to pray for a miracle.**