

GO FORWARD!



In Victory

¹TITLE: THE UNBELIEVABLE TRICK!

ON YOUR MARK

Bible Truth: Jesus' resurrection from the dead was more than just an unbelievable trick: it was part of God's unbelievable plan.

Bible Verses: Mary and Peter find the the empty tomb. (John 20:1-8)

GET SET

Grab bag: Bible, 1.5 oz glass, painted egg (raw)

Watch this video on how to perform the egg in glass trick. Practice it several days beforehand so that you master it.

You may wish to paint your egg with bright easter colors to draw the children's attention.

GO!

Have you ever seen something that was so amazing, so unbelievable, that when you went to tell someone they said, "I don't believe it." And you replied, "No, I swear it's true, honest!" And they answered, "That's impossible. You're making it up." What were some of the amazing things you have seen? Give appropriate examples: i.e. double rainbows, animals on the road, a helicopter in the sky, advancing to a really high level in a video game, etc.

Take egg and glass out of bag. Place egg in the glass, large end first, as they would be placed in an egg-carton. **Well I am going to show you something right now that is totally unbelievable, but you're going to see it with your very own eyes. Does anyone want to see what I'm about to show them?**

¹*This Children's Five resource was adapted from the book, "Children's Sermons in a Bag", by Mary Grace Beker, published by Cook Communications Ministries, 2003.

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How many of you woke up this morning and enjoyed some yummy chocolate easter eggs? Or maybe you were given an egg with a surprise in it? Well I'm going to show you an amazing trick with a real Easter Egg. This is a raw egg that I painted into a beautiful Easter egg. Right now, I am going to make this egg flip upside down in the glass without touching it. You have heard me correctly; without using my hands, I'm going to make this Easter Egg turn upside down in the glass. Who thinks I can do it?

Have a 'plant' in the congregation stand up and say, '**No, not true. You can't make the egg turn upside down in the glass without using your hands. I don't believe it. That's impossible.**'

How many of you agree? How many of you think this is impossible? Pause. How many of you think that it may just be possible - that somehow, even without the use of my hands I can make this egg turn upside down in the glass?

Who remembers the story of Easter in the Bible? Pause. That's right. It was a dark and stormy afternoon. Jesus died on the cross. Friends wrapped his lifeless body in sheets of linen and placed it in a tomb. Then they rolled a big stone in front of the tomb. Before we continue with our egg trick I'm going to read to you from the first chapter of the Book of John and we're going to talk about how God can make unbelievable things happen. Read John 20:1

What did Mary Magdalene find on that dark morning?

Mary Magdalene ran to find Peter. Out of breath she shouted, "You'll never guess what I just saw!"

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Read John 20:2. **Peter did not believe her fantastic, hard-to-believe story. He thought he was being tricked, so Peter and a friend ran to check it out for themselves.** Read John 20:6-8.

What did the disciples see when they went to the tomb?

The fantastic, hard-to-believe story was true. The cold, dark tomb was empty. Jesus was...alive! He had risen from the dead. He won victory over death, just like he said he would. When Jesus rose again from the dead and burst out of the tomb, it's like he played an unbelievable trick. An unbelievable trick like this. Blow on the bottom of the egg in one fast, concentrated breath until the egg flips upside down in the glass. Isn't that amazing? Should I do it again? Do it again. Jesus played an unbelievable trick on death by defeating it, but do you know something? It's not really accurate to call it a trick. This egg in a cup is a trick. What God did through his Son Jesus, why - that was part of God's plan all along.

When Jesus died on the cross and rose again, he won victory over sin and death. And because Jesus had victory, you and I can have victory too. When we feel tempted to sin, or to do something wrong, we can pray to Jesus to help us not to do the thing we're tempted to do. That's victory! Even better, since Jesus had victory over death by rising again, one day we too will rise again and live with Jesus forever in heaven. Isn't that amazing? We can have victory each and every day because of Jesus.

In the same way that Mary ran and told Peter that Jesus had risen - that Jesus won an unbelievable victory over death, wouldn't it be special to tell your friends the same message? This week when you talk to your friends at school and they ask, 'What did you do this weekend?' you can tell them, 'I learned an

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unbelievable trick. I learned how to make an egg turn upside down in a glass without using my hands.' You can show them this really cool trick, (do it again) and then tell them that Jesus died for our sins, and because of this we can have victory each and every day, because Jesus did something unbelievable - he rose from the dead just as he said he would.

You may want to crack the raw egg into a bowl in order to prove that the eggs is real and not a "trick egg".

Let's pray. Dear God, your Son died so that we might have a victorious, unbelievable life. We choose to follow and live for him. The Bible teaches us that the things that are impossible for humans are possible with God. With God, all things are possible. Help us Lord to share with others this unbelievable good news that Jesus is alive and living in our hearts. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.