

The Message of the Egg

by Carol Veldman Rudie
Calvary CRC, Minneapolis, MN

As an object lesson to summarize your Coffee Break gospel studies, use a hollow plastic egg of the type available at Easter time.

Put the following items into the egg:

- a dime
- a clove
- a thorn (snipped from a rose bush)
- a stone
- a nail
- a scroll*

*Create a paper strip (scroll) with an explanation of the items. The easiest way may be to print this document and photocopy/reduce the second page. Fold or cut and then roll this paper into a scroll, tie it with ribbon and place it in the egg with the rest of the items.

We prepared an egg for each Coffee Break woman. At our spring event we filled a basket with the eggs and invited everyone to choose one. After asking the women to open their egg, the leader asked them to remove the dime. She described its significance. One by one, the leader worked through the items in the order they appear on the scroll. When the women removed the last item, the scroll, they were holding an empty egg. They understood the symbolism and were quiet with appreciation.

Each woman went home for the summer with this little reminder of the Good News. Most intended to keep the egg to share with children and grandchildren in future Easter celebrations or as a Holy Week devotional.

To create the scroll, reproduce the words on page two.

The Dime--represents the 30 pieces of silver Judas received

“What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?”
So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. Matthew 26:14-16

The Thorn--represents the crown of thorns placed on Jesus’ head

The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again saying, “Hail, the king of the Jews!” And they struck him in the face.
John 19:2-3

The Nail--represents Jesus’ death on the cross

But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Luke 23:21

Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.
Luke 23:46

The Clove--represents the spice used to anoint Jesus’ body for burial

Taking Jesus body, the two of them wrapped it with spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. John 19:40

The Stone--represents the stone rolled away from Jesus’ tomb

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.
Matthew 28:2

The Empty Egg--represents the empty tomb

“He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.” Matthew 28:6

The Scroll--represents the words that tell us this story today

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, you may have life in his name. John 20:31