



Breaking the mould

The Real Easter Egg in your church: all-age talk/ activityplan/producer stories/campaign.

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Some ideas to help you use The Real Easter Egg in your church.

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4

Prayer

Father God, we thank you for all the good things that you give us in our lives. As millions of chocolate Easter eggs are given and enjoyed, we pray for each person who will receive one.

We thank you for the message of new life which this brings and pray for all who will give and receive these Real Easter Eggs, that they may know more of the real meaning of Easter.

We give thanks for all the farmers and producers who have provided the Fairtrade ingredients and for the work of Traidcraft and Baby Lifeline, whose work is supported through each egg that is bought. Bless all that they do and the real benefits it brings to those in need, in developing countries and in the UK.

Amen

Suggested songs

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me

The Potter's Hand (Darlene Zschech /Hillsong)

Breaking the mould – all-age talk/activity

You will need:

- Four readers/volunteers
- One Real Chocolate Easter Egg
- Flipchart or board plus pen to write down rules



Get involved, visit www.traidcraft.co.uk or call 0845 330 8900



Presentation

- Show chocolate egg in box and ask people to raise their hands if they have given or received an Easter egg this year.
- Ask if anyone knows how many chocolate Easter eggs are sold each year in the UK. (Answer, more than 80 million.)
- Ask if anyone knows how a chocolate egg is made? Share some of the information in the box on the right.
- Ask group/congregation if they can come up with three rules required for making chocolate Easter eggs and write them on flipchart/board. (If stuck, suggest things like hygienic conditions, don't overheat, measure ingredients correctly, use Fairtrade chocolate.)
- Explain that you need to have a mould for the melted chocolate otherwise you don't get the egg shape, so it's important that this is removed very carefully. Write underneath the rules – **Don't Break!** There is no point in carefully melting chocolate into a mould if it comes out in pieces.

It takes the whole crop from one cocoa tree to make 16 Real Easter Eggs.

One cup of Fairtrade chocolate (125g) is melted to 28 degrees (like a warm bath!). The liquid chocolate is dropped into two half-egg moulds which are pushed together and spun, very fast, for 20 seconds. When the two moulds are separated, the hollow Real Easter Egg is released.

*1 egg is made every 5 seconds
12 every minute
more than 600 an hour,
meaning more than 4,000 can be made in a day.*

Without the mould, none of this would be possible!

Facts provided by The Meaningful Chocolate Company which make the Real Easter Egg

- Now ask one of the volunteers to share the egg with the group. Hand over the egg, but as you do, remind them of the rules. The last rule made sense when the egg was made but now it's in a different place with a different group of people, what will happen if they follow the rules?

Can they share it?

Can they taste and enjoy it?

How do they feel?

Explain that God gave us a set of rules – the Ten Commandments, but since then people have set up lots of other rules and systems for how we live. Some of them are good and build on God's ways so that we can apply them to our lives today. But sometimes the rules trap people, force them into moulds that stop them getting the best out of life.

Once poor, so always poor. No skills, so doomed to failure. No money, so no potential.



It's been happening for a long time and happened when Jesus was around. There were ways of doing things and they couldn't be changed. There were laws that must be obeyed and the rich stayed rich and the poor, poor.

But Jesus changed things, he broke the mould. He mixed with people that society ignored and turned away from, he saw the potential in people, he healed on the Sabbath.

And Jesus' resurrection broke the life-mould too. Normally people who died didn't come back to life, but Jesus did and turned everything upside down. The bleakness of Good Friday becomes the celebration of Easter Day.

This Real Easter Egg is very different from most of the Easter eggs that people will be getting in the UK this year. It has broken the mould, because it makes the connection with Jesus through the message on the box – and it's the first time that's happened.

(If time allows, ask someone to read the message on the Real Easter Egg box, which is reproduced below.)

The Real Meaning of Easter

Easter is all about cute bunnies, fluffy chicks and eating too much chocolate, right? Well, not quite. We happen to think it's a bit more meaningful than that.

That's because billions of people all over the world believe that Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday, then rose again three days later... on Easter Sunday.

Actually, many believe that chocolate eggs represent the boulder that sealed his tomb. And with eggs being widely thought of as a symbol of hope and new life, the custom grew where people exchanged gifts of chocolate eggs at Easter. So now you know.

Just think... when you give someone The Real Easter Egg you're not just giving them a delicious chocolate treat, you're giving them something much more meaningful.



And buying the egg helps to break another type of mould, the one that keeps people in poverty, because 30p from the sale of this egg is going to Traidcraft Exchange. Traidcraft is a Christian-based organisation that wants to change the trade rules that benefit the rich and keep the poor powerless.



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Producer Stories

The following producer pictures and stories can be presented using the Powerpoint, with different people reading out the information related to each image, or print out the producer sheets so that individuals hold the letters, with the images, to spell out the word REAL.

The money going to Traidcraft Exchange will make a real difference to the lives of real people like

Rupa
Emily
Ali
Loise



Rupa lives in Bangladesh where her father, Abu Bakkar Molla, grows jute. He didn't go to school but he wants Rupa to get a good education. For small-scale farmers like Abu Bakkar, it's hard to earn enough money to support their families. Traidcraft is helping them to form groups and work together, buying things like seed and fertiliser in bulk, so they can cut costs and get a better harvest.

Photo: Traidcraft/GMB Akash



Emily helps her mother, Josphine, to look after the cattle when she's not at school. Like so many Maasai people in Kenya, the family depends on the animals they keep. Money from selling milk is very important to pay for food and education. Traidcraft is working to improve the livelihoods of people like Josphine by helping them to get better prices for their livestock and produce.

Photo: Traidcraft/Richard Else



Ali Ashraf is a duck farmer who lives in northern Bangladesh – the poorest part of that country. More than 2,000 vegetable farmers, duck rearers and fish farmers are receiving training and support through a Traidcraft project and work collectively to increase their income. It's been so successful that there are plans to help poor farmers in neighbouring areas too. Photo: Traidcraft/Abir Abdullah



Loise Kaguongo used to sell second-hand clothes in Kenya. After receiving training and mentoring she opened up her own milk bar near Nairobi. Traidcraft has helped around 2,500 milk traders to improve their businesses and, through training in health and hygiene standards, made sure that the people who drink the milk get a better product too. Photo: Traidcraft/Richard Else





Get involved with Traidcraft's latest campaign

Support Traidcraft's latest campaign – order the campaign postcards to stop the EU's new resource grab and invite people to complete them and send to your MEP.

Traidcraft believes in the power of trade to lift people out of poverty. But

international trade is governed by rules and agreements that are stacked in favour of rich countries. Traidcraft campaigns to break the mould by changing these rules and allowing developing countries the freedom to choose policies that let them benefit from trade.

Many developing countries are rich in valuable raw materials like cotton, metals and minerals. But the European Union is pushing policies that prevent poor countries from controlling their own resources - which, if managed well, could create jobs, develop businesses and raise vital income.

Find out more about the campaign and Traidcraft's work at www.traidcraft.org.uk

To order campaign cards to hand out visit www.traidcraftshop.co.uk (ref no 55694)



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