

SEEKING JESUS

by Tracy Wells



CHRISTIANPUBLISHERS

Copyright Notice

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Christian Publishers. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Christian Publishers. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Christian Publishers. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Christian Publishers.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

AUTHOR CREDIT: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this play is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice: *Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers.*

COPYING: Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Christian Publishers.

SEEKING JESUS

A Children's Drama with Easter Story Eggs

By Tracy Wells

SEEKING JESUS

A Children's Drama with Easter Story Eggs

By Tracy Wells

SYNOPSIS: Children on an Easter egg hunt are baffled when they open the eggs to find objects that seemingly don't belong. Their teachers explain each object's relationship to the Easter story: donkey—Jesus' Triumphal Entry, silver coins—silver paid to Judas to betray Jesus, cup—the Last Supper, and more! Concludes with children singing "The Easter Egg Song," with new lyrics set to the tune of "Lavender's Blue."

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(11-20 either)

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

MR./MRS. PARKER (m/f) (43 lines)

MR./MRS. TIMMONS (m/f) (31 lines)

CHILDREN:

ANNIE/ANDREW (m/f)..... (16 lines)

JACK/JACKIE (m/f)..... (12 lines)

DANIELLE/DANNY (m/f) (11 lines)

LIAM/LILY (m/f) (21 lines)

SAM/SAMANTHA (m/f) (10 lines)

JENNA/JOHNNY (m/f)..... (10 lines)

MARK/MOLLY (m/f) (9 lines)

ALEXIS/ALEX (m/f)..... (10 lines)

CHILD 1-10 (m/f) (10 lines)

EXTRAS: Unlimited Singers

DURATION: 20 minutes

DOUBLING OPTIONS

(Lines combined to form one character)

MR./MS. PARKER can double with MR./MS. TIMMONS

ANNIE/ANDREW can double with JENNA/JOHNNY

JACK/JACKIE can double with SAM/SAMANTHA

DANIELLE/DANNY can double with ALEXIS/ALEX

LIAM/LILY can double with MARK/MOLLY

PRODUCTION NOTES

SET: The action takes place outside the church on the day of the Easter egg hunt. The set may be as simple or elaborate as the director chooses. Real or artificial flowers, large plants, and/or other touches may be present to indicate it is spring. Chairs or tree stumps may be placed at Center Stage, or the children may sit facing the audience at a long rectangular table. They could also simply sit on the steps leading up to your stage.

MUSIC: The children sing “The Easter Story Eggs Song,” with updated original lyrics to the well-known children’s song, “Lavender’s Blue.”

COSTUMES: The clothing should reflect modern times. Children could be dressed in their “Easter best,” wearing Easter dresses and hats for the female characters and pastel shirts and pants/shorts for the male characters.

PROPS

Easter baskets (children may bring theirs from home), extra colored plastic eggs or dyed Easter eggs, and a set of Easter Story Eggs as follows:

1. Donkey or small palm leaf in any color of egg.
2. Three silver coins in a pink egg.
3. Cup—thimble or chalice formed from foil in a lavender egg.
4. Prayer—praying hands or tiny scroll symbolizing a prayer in an orange egg.
5. Leather strap—piece of leather in a green egg.
6. Crown of thorns—made of twine or plant stems in a yellow egg.
7. Three nails in a blue egg.
8. Dice in a light green egg.
9. Spear—toothpick in a purple egg.
10. Piece of linen in a white egg.
11. Stone in a dark pink egg.
12. Empty light blue egg.

You will need twelve differently colored plastic eggs. Put each item above (or a picture of each item) into each egg. If you do not have twelve different egg colors, you could also differentiate the eggs using stickers with Easter symbols or numbers on them.

SCRIPTURE: Taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version ®. Copyright© 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™. Used by permission of Zondervan.

- 1 **AT START:** *It's the day of the Easter egg hunt. Eggs are hidden*
2 *throughout the stage beforehand. CHILDREN enter carrying*
3 *baskets with eggs in them. Make sure the CHILDREN who are*
4 *sharing about a special Easter Story Egg have that particular egg in*
5 *their basket.*
6
- 7 **ANNIE:** I bet I can find more eggs than the rest of you!
8 **SAM:** I already found a ton of eggs.
9 **MARK:** *(Holding up basket.)* My basket is nearly full!
10 **DANIELLE:** I think I see another one! *(Rushes over to pick up egg.)*
11 **ANNIE:** Me too! *(Rushes to pick up egg.)*
12 **LIAM:** I see a blue one. *(Rushes to pick up blue egg.)*
13 **JACK:** I see a green one. *(Rushes over to pick up green egg.)*
14 **JENNA:** How many eggs do you have, Alexis?
15 **ALEXIS:** I think I have about twenty. What about you, Liam?
16 **LIAM:** I must have about one hundred eggs!
17 **JENNA:** I doubt that. Your basket isn't big enough.
18 **ANNIE:** Who cares, Jenna? Let's just keep looking for eggs.
19 **DANIELLE:** I found a purple one! *(Rushes to pick up purple egg.)*
20 **SAM:** Good job, Danielle.
21 **LIAM:** *(Picks up yellow egg.)* I found a yellow one.
22 **ANNIE:** *(Looking into her basket.)* I haven't found any yellow eggs
23 yet.
24 **LIAM:** *(Holding out yellow egg to ANNIE.)* Here, Annie, take mine.
25 I have about a hundred more anyway.
26 **ANNIE:** Thanks, Liam. *(MRS. PARKER and MRS. TIMMONS*
27 *enter.)*
28 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Have you found all the eggs?
29 **MARK:** I think so, Mrs. Timmons.
30 **ALEXIS:** Wait! There's one more. *(Rushes to pick up egg.)*
31 **MRS. PARKER:** Good eyes, Alexis.
32 **JENNA:** *(Looks around.)* I think that's all of them.
33 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Great! Good job, everyone.
34 **CHILD 1:** Can we open the eggs now?
35 **DANIELLE:** Yeah! I want to see what prizes are inside.

- 1 **MRS. PARKER:** Sure. Let's go sit over here and we'll see what you
2 got. *(ALL cross to chairs, table, or steps leading to the stage and*
3 *sit. CHILDREN dump put their baskets and start opening their*
4 *eggs.)*
- 5 **ANNIE:** *(Excitedly.)* I got a piece of chocolate!
- 6 **JACK:** *(Excitedly.)* I got some jelly beans!
- 7 **SAM:** *(Excitedly.)* I got a marshmallow bunny!
- 8 **LIAM:** *(Confused.)* I got a... donkey? *(Holds up a miniature donkey*
9 *figurine.)*
- 10 **MRS. PARKER:** How lucky you are, Liam!
- 11 **LIAM:** *(Confused.)* I am?
- 12 **MRS. PARKER:** Yes, indeed. You've found the first piece of the
13 Easter story.
- 14 **LIAM:** I did?
- 15 **MRS. PARKER:** Yes, Liam.
- 16 **LIAM:** *(Excitedly.)* I did!
- 17 **MRS. TIMMONS:** In addition to eggs filled with candy and treats,
18 we also hid twelve special eggs for you all to find.
- 19 **MARK:** Special eggs?
- 20 **JENNA:** Why are certain eggs special, Mrs. Parker?
- 21 **MRS. PARKER:** Because they're Easter Story Eggs. There are
22 items hidden inside them that help tell the Easter story.
- 23 **ALEXIS:** Do you mean the story of the Easter bunny?
- 24 **LIAM:** I didn't know there was a donkey in the story of the Easter
25 bunny!
- 26 **ANNIE:** Maybe the bunny rides on the donkey.
- 27 **MRS. TIMMONS:** *(Chuckling.)* No, the real Easter story does not
28 have a bunny in it.
- 29 **LIAM:** *(Holding up a donkey.)* But it does have a donkey in it, right?
- 30 **MRS. PARKER:** That's right, Liam. The Easter story tells how
31 Jesus was crucified and buried, then rose from the dead to save
32 us from our sins.
- 33 **MRS. TIMMONS:** The donkey is the first piece of the story. It
34 represents the donkey Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Jesus'
35 followers waved palm branches and called out, "Hosanna!"
36 which means, "Save us."
- 37 **CHILD 2:** Just like the palm branches we waved in church last
38 Sunday?

- 1 **MRS. PARKER:** That's right!
- 2 **SAM:** Why did they do that?
- 3 **MRS. PARKER:** Because they knew he was the Son of God. They
4 wanted to show Jesus that he was their king.
- 5 **JACK:** Was he the king of the land?
- 6 **MRS. PARKER:** No, but the Jewish leaders, known as the
7 Pharisees, didn't like that the Jews were worshiping Jesus as
8 their savior.
- 9 **MRS. TIMMONS:** In Jesus' time it was customary for a king to ride
10 a big prancing horse through the streets. Jesus chose to ride on
11 an ordinary small donkey instead, to show that even though he
12 was their king, he was also their servant.
- 13 **DANIELLE:** So that's why Liam has a donkey.
- 14 **MRS. PARKER:** Yes. The day that Jesus rode through Jerusalem
15 on a donkey, sometimes called the Triumphal Entry, was the
16 beginning of the Easter story.
- 17 **CHILD 3:** So all the pieces of the story will be inside these eggs?
- 18 **MRS. TIMMONS:** They sure will.
- 19 **MARK:** Awesome! Then what's the next piece of the story?
- 20 **MRS. PARKER:** Does anyone have a pink egg with a sticker on it?
- 21 **JENNA:** (*Holds up pink egg.*) I do! (*Opens it.*) It has money in it.
- 22 **MRS. PARKER:** Three silver coins, to be exact.
- 23 **MRS. TIMMONS:** The coins represent the thirty silver coins that
24 Jesus' follower Judas was paid to betray Jesus.
- 25 **ALEXIS:** What do you mean, betray?
- 26 **MRS. PARKER:** The Pharisees didn't believe that Jesus was the
27 Son of God, so they paid Judas to lead them to Jesus. They
28 wanted to capture Jesus and hand him over to the soldiers who
29 would arrest him.
- 30 **LIAM:** That wasn't very nice of Judas. Wasn't he Jesus' friend?
- 31 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Yes, he was. What Judas did was wrong, but it
32 was also part of God's plan.
- 33 **MRS. PARKER:** Now, who has the purple egg?
- 34 **DANIELLE:** I do! (*Opens egg and pulls out cup.*) It's a cup.
- 35 **MRS. TIMMONS:** This little cup represents the one Jesus and his
36 disciples drank from during his Last Supper.
- 37 **JACK:** His Last Supper?

1 **MRS. PARKER:** On the night that Judas betrayed him, Jesus
2 brought his disciples together to share a last meal of bread and
3 wine. On that day Jesus divided the bread, gave it to his
4 disciples, and said, “This is my body.”

5 **MRS. TIMMONS:** He poured each of them some wine and said,
6 “This is my blood.” He asked his disciples to remember him when
7 they ate bread and drank wine.

8 **ANNIE:** Why did he do that?

9 **MRS. PARKER:** He knew it was the last time they would all eat
10 together. That’s why this meal is called the Last Supper.

11 **CHILD 4:** I’ve heard of the Last Supper!

12 **MRS. TIMMONS:** It’s a very important part of the Easter story. In
13 fact, we remember Jesus in church every time we take
14 Communion. It’s our way of letting Jesus know we remember
15 him and his sacrifice.

16 **DANIELLE:** What’s next?

17 **MRS. PARKER:** Who has the orange egg?

18 **SAM:** I do!

19 **MARK:** What’s inside, Sam?

20 **SAM:** (*Opens egg.*) A tiny scroll.

21 **MRS. PARKER:** The scroll represents Jesus’ prayer to God in the
22 Garden of Gethsemane before Judas betrayed him.

23 **LIAM:** What did he pray about?

24 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Jesus is the Son of God, but he was also a man.
25 He prayed to God, his father, to watch over him.

26 **CHILD 5:** Why did he want God to watch over him?

27 **MRS. PARKER:** Jesus knew what God’s plan was. He knew Judas
28 was going to betray him and that he would be arrested. It was
29 probably very scary for him. But he knew that if he prayed, God
30 would watch over him.

31 **CHILD 6:** Just like he watches over me?

32 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Yes. God watches over us all.

33 **JENNA:** Which egg is next?

34 **MRS. PARKER:** Does anyone have a green egg?

35 **LIAM:** I do! (*Opens green egg and pulls out a piece of leather.*) A
36 piece of leather.

37 **MRS. PARKER:** When Jesus was taken to jail, the soldiers
38 whipped him with leather straps.

- 1 **ALEXIS:** Was he hurt?
- 2 **MRS. PARKER:** Very much so. Pontius Pilate ordered the soldiers
3 to whip Jesus in front of a large crowd of people, hoping to show
4 the Jews that Jesus could not be a king.
- 5 **CHILD 7:** But Jesus' followers still believed in him.
- 6 **MRS. TIMMONS:** That's right. Unfortunately, Jesus had much
7 more to endure. Now, who has the yellow egg?
- 8 **ANNIE:** I do. (*Opens yellow egg and holds up crown.*) A small
9 crown.
- 10 **MRS. PARKER:** Pontius Pilate charged Jesus with sedition, or
11 causing a rebellion, and sentenced him to die by crucifixion on a
12 cross.
- 13 **MRS. TIMMONS:** To make things worse, he made Jesus carry his
14 own heavy cross through the streets while wearing a crown
15 made of thorns.
- 16 **MARK:** Why a crown of thorns?
- 17 **MRS. PARKER:** Well, Mark, the Roman soldiers twisted together
18 a crown of thorns to mock Jesus for saying he was the King of
19 the Jews and cause him pain.
- 20 **LIAM:** Jesus was very brave, wasn't he?
- 21 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Yes he was, Liam. But his suffering was not over
22 yet. Who has the blue egg?
- 23 **ALEXIS:** I do. (*Opens blue egg and holds up nails.*) Three nails.
- 24 **CHILD 8:** Was that because Jesus was a carpenter?
- 25 **MRS. PARKER:** That's a good guess, but these nails represent the
26 crucifixion of Jesus.
- 27 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Jesus was nailed to the cross with (*Holds out her*
28 *hands, palms upward.*) one nail in each palm and one through
29 both feet. Then he was left on the cross to die.
- 30 **JACK:** He must have been lonely.
- 31 **MRS. PARKER:** His mother, Mary, and some of his followers came
32 to be with him. On each side of Jesus, there was a criminal
33 hanging on a cross. One believed Jesus was the Son of God.
34 He repented for his sins, and Jesus forgave him and said he
35 would see him in Paradise, or heaven.
- 36 **CHILD 9:** So even while he was dying, Jesus helped saved other
37 people?

- 1 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Amazing, isn't it? Now, who has the light green
2 egg?
- 3 **LIAM:** I do. (*Opens light green egg and pulls out dice.*) Dice? I
4 didn't know there was a board game in the Easter story.
- 5 **MRS. PARKER:** The dice represent the soldiers who cast lots—or
6 played a game—to see who would get to keep Jesus' clothing.
- 7 **DANIELLE:** (*Aghast.*) They took his clothes too?
- 8 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Yes. They took his clothing and gave him sour
9 wine, saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself"
10 (*Luke 23:37*).
- 11 **JACK:** Did he save himself? Did he get himself down from the
12 cross?
- 13 **MRS. PARKER:** He could have, but because he obeyed God, he
14 didn't.
- 15 **LIAM:** Why were the soldiers so mean to him?
- 16 **MRS. TIMMONS:** They didn't believe he was the Son of God.
- 17 **MRS. PARKER:** But Jesus said to God, "Father, forgive them,
18 for they do not know what they are doing" (*Luke 23:34*).
- 19 **ANNIE:** Jesus was really kind to forgive those soldiers, wasn't he,
20 Mrs. Parker?
- 21 **MRS. PARKER:** Yes he was, Annie. Now, who has the dark purple
22 egg?
- 23 **DANIELLE:** I do. (*Opens dark purple egg and holds up a toothpick.*)
24 A toothpick?
- 25 **MRS. TIMMONS:** The toothpick represents the spear that a soldier
26 put into Jesus' side after he was dead.
- 27 **SAM:** Why did they do that if he was already dead?
- 28 **MRS. PARKER:** Jesus died much quicker than other people who
29 were crucified. God did not want Jesus to suffer after he had
30 done so much for all of us.
- 31 **ANNIE:** How sad.
- 32 **MRS. PARKER:** Whenever someone dies, it's sad. But Jesus'
33 death brought new life for us all, and we can all rejoice in that.
34 Now, who has the white egg?
- 35 **JACK:** I do. (*Opens white egg and holds up linen cloth.*) A piece of
36 cloth.
- 37 **MRS. TIMMONS:** This piece of cloth represents the linen Jesus
38 was wrapped in after he died.

- 1 **MRS. PARKER:** When he was taken from the cross, his body was
2 wrapped in linen and laid in a tomb.
- 3 **JENNA:** Kind of like the swaddling clothes he was wrapped in as a
4 baby?
- 5 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Very true, Jenna. Now, who has the dark pink
6 egg?
- 7 **ANNIE:** I do. (*Opens dark pink egg and holds up stone.*) A rock.
- 8 **MRS. PARKER:** The rock represents the large stone rolled in front
9 of Jesus' tomb.
- 10 **LIAM:** Why did they roll a rock in front of his tomb?
- 11 **MRS. TIMMONS:** They wanted to make sure that no one went into
12 the tomb. No one could possibly move a stone that large.
- 13 **MRS. PARKER:** When some women came to the tomb early on
14 Sunday morning, they were surprised to find that the stone had
15 been moved.
- 16 **DANIELLE:** But who moved it?
- 17 **SAM:** Some robbers?
- 18 **MARK:** Jesus' followers?
- 19 **MRS. TIMMONS:** (*With a smile.*) You'll have to wait and see. Our
20 Easter Story Eggs will tell us the whole story, and we are almost
21 to the end. Now, who has our last egg—the light blue egg?
22 (*CHILDREN look through their baskets.*)
- 23 **JACK:** I don't.
- 24 **ALEXIS:** Neither do I.
- 25 **LIAM:** I don't have it.
- 26 **JENNA:** I don't either!
- 27 **ANNIE:** Where is it?
- 28 **DANIELLE:** None of us seem to have it.
- 29 **MRS. PARKER:** Then I guess we're going to have to hunt for it.
30 Let's go! (*ALL start looking for the last egg.*)
- 31 **MARK:** Where could it be?
- 32 **SAM:** I thought we found all the eggs!
- 33 **ALEXIS:** This is just like playing hide and seek.
- 34 **LIAM:** Only this time we're not seeking each other—we're seeking
35 Jesus!
- 36 **CHILD 10:** I love hide and seek!
- 37 **ANNIE:** This must be how Jesus' followers felt when they didn't find
38 his body in the tomb.

- 1 **MRS. TIMMONS:** That's right, Annie. They didn't know where his
2 body had gone, and they didn't know where to find it.
- 3 **JENNA:** We're going to find that last egg—I just know it!
- 4 **JACK:** (*Holding up light blue egg.*) I found it! (*CHILDREN and*
5 *MRS. PARKER cross to JACK, who opens the light blue egg.*)
- 6 **ANNIE:** (*Shocked.*) There's nothing inside!
- 7 **SAM:** How could that be?
- 8 **MARK:** Did you forget to put something in this egg, Mrs. Parker?
- 9 **MRS. PARKER:** (*Smiling.*) No, I didn't forget.
- 10 **ALEXIS:** But the egg is empty!
- 11 **MRS. TIMMONS:** That's right.
- 12 **JACK:** But how can we tell the rest of the Easter story if the egg is
13 empty?
- 14 **DANIELLE:** The empty egg *is* the next part of the Easter story, isn't
15 it, Mrs. Parker?
- 16 **MRS. PARKER:** (*Taking the empty egg.*) That's right, Danielle.
17 Just like Jesus' followers found an empty tomb, we found an
18 empty egg.
- 19 **MRS. TIMMONS:** When his followers went inside the tomb, they
20 found an angel who said, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you
21 are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here; he
22 has risen" (*Matthew 28:5-6*).
- 23 **JACK:** Where did Jesus go?
- 24 **MRS. PARKER:** As it says in the Bible, Jesus ascended into
25 heaven to be with God. The wonderful thing is when you learn
26 about Jesus and trust him to be your Savior, just like his
27 followers did so many years ago, then you will always find Jesus
28 right here: in your heart. (*Puts her hand to her heart.*)
- 29 **ANNIE:** That was a great thing Jesus did for all of us—dying on the
30 cross so we could be forgiven.
- 31 **MRS. PARKER:** Yes, it is.
- 32 **LIAM:** Does that mean the hunt is over, Mrs. Timmons?
- 33 **MRS. TIMMONS:** Did we find all the eggs?
- 34 **ALEXIS:** I think so.
- 35 **MRS. PARKER:** Then our hunt is over and the story of Easter has
36 been told.



Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:

SEEKING JESUS

by Tracy Wells.

*For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script,
please contact us at:*

CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS LLC
P.O. Box 248 - Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406
Toll Free: 844-841-6387 - Fax 319-368-8011
customerservice@christianpub.com