

**Our Prayer for 2026:** Dear Father, Help us to gather to proclaim Christ, and please use every LMAP member to play a part in bringing 20 people to faith in Jesus in each of our ministries and congregations across the year. To your glory. AMEN.

## Easter 2026 Series Break-up

**Marketing Title of Series:** Authentic Easter

**Overview of the Series:** Authentic means real, good, truthful and trustworthy. The message of Easter is good news for a world where there is so much inauthenticity. While leaders are often deceitful and self-serving, Jesus offers authentic leadership that is humble and seeks the good of others. While love can be manipulative and conditional, Jesus offers authentic love as he offers himself on the cross. While power can be illusionary and destructive, Jesus offers authentic power to bring us through death and into eternal life.



**Purpose of the Series:** Pre-Evangelistic - trying to help people imagine better leadership, love and power found in the events of Easter.

**Evangelistic Next Step:** Sign up for Explore Life

**Series Champion:** Paul Hallam

### The Purpose of this Document:

- To instruct the **Gathering Leader, Kids Spot Speaker, Band Leader, Song Chooser** and **Preacher** in shaping each church gathering as whole – so that we intentionally draw out what we are looking at in the Bible each week. It will also mean, that particular features which complement what we do as a church, are addressed.
- To assist **Growth Group Leaders** and **Friday Youth Leaders** (and other ministry leaders) to arrange their program most logically and effectively to work in with the Bible Talk Series. And further to point to resources which can be used to lead groups well.
- To help the **Gathering Planners** (i.e. those who organise the rosters), **AV Ministry Team, Social Media**, and **Office** to have the information that they need to do the roles that they do most fruitfully and efficiently.

Talk No.	Preachers <i>(note: Master is the Google Drive Version)</i>	Passage	Reading	Talk Title <i>(marketing friendly)</i>	Talk Topic/Focus/Purpose	Comment/Outline	Gathering Googly <i>(feature/consideration)</i>
1.  29 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	MR9: <b>DSw</b> MR9 Kids Spot: <b>GO</b>  GB9: <b>PH</b> <i>(livestreamed)</i> GB9 Kids Spot: <b>Kids Song (JSh)</b>	John 12:1-36	OT: Zechariah 9:9-13  NT: John 12:12-36	Authentic LEADERSHIP	Central Theme: While leaders often promise much but serve themselves, Jesus came humbly on a donkey, ready to give of himself for others.	Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEW SONG: It Was Finished Upon That Cross</li> <li>• Come Praise and Glorify</li> <li>• This Life I Live</li> </ul>	

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	GB10:30: <b>DSw</b> GB10.30 Kids Spot: <b>Crossfire</b>  BL10:30: <b>PH</b>  BL4:30: <b>PH</b>  GB6: <b>DSw</b> <i>(Bible Talk Recorded for Church Central)</i>				<i>Purpose: I want the listener to imagine how good it could be to live under a leader like Jesus.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery</li> <li>• Jerusalem</li> </ul> Prayer Points to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday Kids and Friday Youth + Leaders</li> <li>• Easter Invitations</li> </ul>	
2.  3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026  <b>Good Friday</b>	MR9: <b>KDN</b> MR9 Kids Spot: <b>OB</b>  GB10: <b>GBH</b> <i>(livestreamed &amp; (Bible Talks Recorded for Church Central)</i> GB10 Kids Spot: <b>GO</b>  BL10:30: <b>KDN</b>  Combined BL4:30 & GB6: <b>GBH</b>	<b>NOTE: The Good Friday talks (at all gatherings) will be 3 short spots (rather than one 25 min Sermon)</b>  Reading 1: John 19:1-16  Reflection Part 1: Authentic Love is not Motivated by Fear  Reading 2: John 19:17-27  Reflection Part 2: Authentic Love is True  Reading 3: John 19:28-42  Reflection Part 3: Authentic Love Conquers	Authentic LOVE	School Holidays – kids in the AM gatherings  Central Theme: Love often can be conditional and self-protective. On the cross, Jesus shows his love by giving himself completely for our salvation.  <i>Purpose: I want the listener to see clearly the incredible love of God shown in the cross of Christ.</i>	Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEW SONG: It Was Finished Upon That Cross</li> <li>• All Creature of Our God and King</li> <li>• How Deep the Father's Love For Us</li> <li>• When I Survey</li> </ul> Prayer Points to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Conflict in the Middle East and around the World</li> <li>• For our Political leaders (Local, State and Federal)</li> <li>• For our Military Personnel (serving over Easter)</li> </ul> To Promote (nothing in-house): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Handout</li> <li>• Easter Sunday gatherings and weekly gatherings</li> <li>• Explore Life</li> <li>• Stay for hot cross buns</li> </ul>	Easter Kid's Packs to be available (GO>NR)  Lord's Supper at BL10:30 (TO)  Morning Tea – Hot Cross Buns  GB6 Soup and Hot Cross Buns to Follow	
3.  5 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	MR9: <b>PH</b> MR9 Kids Spot: <b>GO</b>  GB9: <b>NL/JSh</b> <i>(livestreamed)</i>	John 20-21	OT: Psalm 16:1-11  NT: John 20:19-31	Authentic POWER	School Holidays – kids in the AM gatherings  Central Theme: Power is often used to crush and control and is unable to deliver on it's	At GB (NL/JSh) the Gatherings will be an integrated Easter Celebration with Song, Reading, prayer and Response	Easter Kid's Packs to be available (GO>NR)

<p><b>Easter Sunday</b></p> <p><b>NOTE: Daylight Savings Today</b> <i>(clock goes back 1hr)</i></p>	<p>GB9 Kids Spot: <b>Integrated into Program</b></p> <p>GB10:30: <b>NL/JSh</b> GB10.30 Kids Spot: <b>Integrated into Program</b></p> <p>BL10:30: <b>PH (w. Michael W)</b></p> <p>BL4:30: <b>PH</b></p> <p>GB6: <b>NL/JSh</b> <i>(livestreamed)</i></p>		<p>GB - Easter Reflective Celebration (John 20-21)</p> <p>BL10.30am – Musically Integrated Easter Sunday Service</p>		<p>promises. In his resurrection, Jesus shows that he has power to bring life beyond death for eternity.</p> <p><i>Purpose: I want the listener to marvel at Jesus' unique power and consider entrusting their eternity to him.</i></p>	<p>At BL10.30am Michale Webb is working up an Musically Integrated Easter Celebration (see songs below)</p> <p>Song Suggestions (for MR, all GB and BL4.30pm):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEW SONG: It Was Finished Upon That Cross</li> <li>• Low In The Grave He Lay</li> <li>• See What A Morning</li> <li>• Man of Sorrows</li> </ul> <p>Song Selections for BL10.30am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christ the Lord is risen today</li> <li>• See what a morning Thine be the glory</li> <li>• When I survey the wondrous cross</li> <li>• Christ arose The power of the cross</li> </ul> <p>Prayer Points to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical and Health Professionals</li> <li>• School Teachers and Staff (having a break from students for the next couple of weeks)</li> </ul>	<p>Note: <b>BL No Lord's Supper (it was on Good Friday)</b></p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt following the MR/GB am gatherings (RC)</p>
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**Key:** MR = LMAP Mt Riv; BL = LMAP Blaxland; GB = LMAP Glenbrook; KDN = Ken Noakes; DSw = Dave Swan; RC = Rachael Connor; Paul Hallam; NL = Nick Lindeback; JH = Julie Haddon; GO = Gail Oakey; NA = Neil Atwood; TO = Trevor Oakley; JLav = John Lavender; JSh = Josh Schroder; OB = Olivia Bush; JB = Jared Bartlett; JE = Jake Evans; GBH = Gary Haddon; AC = Andrew Cox; PC = Phil Coghlan; DC = Dave Catto; BCA = Bush Church Aid; MTC = Moore Theological College; CMS = Church Missionary Society; DLS = Daylight Savings; YA = Young Adults; MARS = Mountains Anglican Refugee Support; WSU = Western Sydney Uni AFES Group.

**Gathering Leader & Preacher:**

- Take special note of the suggestions in the 'Gathering Googly' column. This detail should be kept in mind as you lead or preach.
  - Gathering leaders, *if scheduled into the elvanto plan*, you will need to make arrangements to incorporate this aspect into the gathering.
- Please note there is a visual Powerpoint template which we would prefer that you used so that we have some consistency across what we display (and so that we avoid some traps e.g. colours that cannot be seen, text too small, fonts too difficult, text which covers set logos, livestream split

screen requirements etc.). This template exists in the 'G\_Ministry (Visuals for LMAP Gatherings > 1. Gathering Visuals > 2. Slide Library (Where to look...) > Bible Talk Series Visual Templates > [this Bible Talk series Folder] - and can be emailed to you on request ([admin@lmap.org.au](mailto:admin@lmap.org.au)) .

**Devotionals or Bible Study** *(for the benefit of Growth Group Leaders):*

- There will be Easter Advent Devotionals for Youth Crossfire and Blaze released on Palm Sunday
- There will be Easter Advent Devotional for Kids/Families released on Palm Sunday
  
- It is assumed that Growth Groups will break over Easter – not Bible Studies prepared

**Commentary suggestions** *(for the benefit of Growth Group Leaders and Preachers):*

- Paul Barnett, *John – The Shepherd King*. Reading the Bible Today Series. Aquila Press, 2005.
- Bruce Milne, *The Message of John*. Bible Speaks Today Series. IVP, 1993.
- D.A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John*. The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Eerdmans Pub, 1991.
- Andreas J. Kostenberger, *John*. Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Baker Books, 2004 (note: this is quite detailed)
- R. Kent Hughes, *John: That You May Believe*. Preaching the Word Series. Crossway, 1999.
- St Helen's Bishopsgate, *John*. Read/Mark/Learn Series. Christian Focus, 2008 (rpt).
- J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on John – Vol 3*. The Banner of Truth Trust, 2012.

**Song suggestions** *(for the benefit of Gathering Leaders & Song Choosers):*

*In the Song Selections above – Josh Schroder has been consulted as we have limited the range of songs that make up our LMAP Song list.*

*Band Leaders: Vincent Willard (MR9am); Michael Webb (BL10.30am); Jason Bryne (GB9am); Callum Beaton (BL4.30pm); Josh Schroder (GB6pm)*

Copyright questions should be directed to Liz Thornton.