**Easter Sunrise Service Children’s Message**

Beautiful Mess

**Materials Needed:**

* Garbage bag with hole in the top for head to fit through
* One egg with insides blown out
* 50 card-stock crosses large enough for kids to decorate when they get home (# is kids attending)
* 50 freezer bags large enough for the crosses (# is kids attending)
* 50 or more strips of colored paper, each with the following Scripture phrase: “***All things work together for the good of those who love God.” (Romans 8:28)***

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| Kathy: | Start throwing scraps of paper (with Scripture verses) on floor as kids come forward |
| Brian: | **Mrs. Hanson – What are you doing?** |
| Kathy: | **Making a beautiful mess!** |
| Brian: | **That doesn’t look so beautiful to me! And why are you making a mess? We’re in the middle of an Easter service here!** |
| Kathy: | **Well, beautiful mess is our Easter theme. I’m getting our church ready.** |
| Brian: | **Well you’ve certainly made a mess. But I’m not sure that’s what it means…** |
| Kathy: | **No? well then I have another idea for a beautiful mess. Sit down Mr. Brian.** Produce plastic, put over Brian’s head. Produce egg so kids can see but Brian can’t. **Would you be willing to do anything to help us learn what a beautiful mess has to do with Easter?** |
| Brian: | **Anything?** |
| Kathy: | **Anything.** |
| Brian: | **Like *you break an egg over my head* anything??** |
| Kathy: | **You got it. What do you think, boys and girls? Should we break this egg over Mr. Brian’s head to make a beautiful mess?** (Yes) **Well Mr Brian?** |
| Brian: | **Well I guess so. Easter’s a pretty important message to get across to these boys and girls.** |
| Kathy: | Breaks empty egg. **What happened? Where’s the beautiful mess?** |
| Brian: | **Smiling. I don’t know but I for one am glad that didn’t work! I think we need to ask the boys and girls how that reminds us of Easter.** |
| Kathy: | **That’s a good idea. What do you think, boys and girls – what does an empty egg have to do with Easter?** Someone will surely say the egg was empty just like the grave. |
| Brian: | **That’s it! We were expecting a mess, and instead the egg was empty. When Jesus’ disciples went to the tomb that Easter Sunday morning, they were expecting to find the body of Jesus! He had been alive just three days earlier, preaching and teaching and I bet laughing with them as they celebrated the Passover. And then he was dead.** |
| Kathy: | **But when they got to the tomb his body was gone! The mess had turned into something beautiful.** |
| Brian: | **That’s the message for us today, boys and girls – Bad things happen in our lives, but Jesus turns them into something beautiful.** |
| Kathy: | **Even really bad things, Mr. Brian – like somebody getting hurt?** |
| Brian: | **Well sometimes the messes in our lives don’t get beautiful right away. But Jesus has won the biggest victory over the worstest mess. When he rose from the dead, he destroyed death forever. When we die, we can know we’re going to live in heaven with Jesus! Now that’s beautiful!**  |
| Kathy: | **Boys and girls, we have a baggie for each of you with this Bible verse in it – it says, All things work together for the good of those who love God.** **(Romans 8:28)…** *ad lib Kathy…* |
| Brian: | Close with prayer… |