



How to Live It Out: Easter Season 2021

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Live It Out! is a free resource, and is a part of the larger ELCA Generosity Project. You can learn more about the full resource, and download the entire resource for a small fee, at the ELCA's website here: <https://www.elca.org/generosityproject>

In Congregations: If your congregation is currently back to in-person faith formation, Live It Out can be a wonderful ministry tool used to connect the generations while gathering together, through its discussion questions, scripture lessons and activities. Now every church has different ways in which people come together for faith formation. Some gather through adult Bible studies, some through Confirmation, and others through small groups. Within these various groups, you can:

- Gather together over the course of 7 weeks, following the 7 different conversation sessions it provides. Each week you would take time to walk through the topic, providing the discussion questions, scripture readings and materials needed to do the activities together. People can either sit together within their faith family units, or you could split them up per table, where at least 3 different generations are represented.
- Or you could meet over the course of one afternoon or evening, making this a one-time event. You could then break the 7 conversation sessions down, putting more focus into certain ones to discuss as a large group. The remaining conversation sessions could then be 'take home' lessons for folks to go through with their faith family units at home.
- It can also be used as a sermon series, highlighting the topics, and then providing people with 'take-home' materials as a follow up.

In the Digital Realm: Not all places are ready for in-person engagement, and this may continue through the season of Easter. Here are some tips for adapting Live It Out! to the digital realm.

- Engage the resource as individual households in the home, and then join for a weekly Zoom meet-up to do show and tell. Households can share something that surprised them from the discussion, a detail they learned from the Bible Study, or they can share their weekly total from the Generosity challenge and show what they are planning to give.
- If you want to engage the entire resource online, you could join households of different generations into small groups. Each small group could set their own date and time and platform on which to meet, and then report back to the congregation through a special Facebook page or group.

- Even if you are meeting in person, you could still consider engaging isolated households digitally in the above ways. Maybe they could meet your in building group for the show and tell portion, or you could have a digital host willing to field questions live on Zoom as you engage in person.
- For the final week's challenge, the feast, you could organize a way for each household to share a favorite recipe and collate them into a Cookbook of Generosity. If you choose to have a meal in person, could you also deliver food to those who have engaged online? Or send food (via app) to those who have joined you from communities across the country?

In Households: The original intended audience for Live It Out! is in households. Here are a few tips to help you engage these materials with success

- Look over the resource, and decide which parts of the curriculum you want to engage. The discussions? The Bible study? The Generosity Challenges? All of it? Depending on the ages and make up of your household, different pieces might work better for you. Feel free to tweak and adapt!
- Decide on a consistent day and time to work on Live It Out! together. You might do the whole thing on a time set aside once per week, or do pieces and parts each night as a part of your meal time or bedtime ritual. Consistency is the key, as it helps to build a habit, but also know that we live in grace. If everyone's too cranky on your set date and time, try again later.
- Brainstorm about how you can include others. Do you have grandparents, baptismal sponsors, mentors, family or friends who might like to join you for these conversations? Who in your life do you consider to be generous, and might they be willing to accompany you in your journey? Have external people involved might also help to keep you committed when energy flags.
- Share your joy on social media. Post pics of your Generosity Challenges, and spread the word about this great resource and its impact on your household. We would love pics on the NE Synod 4G Network Facebook page, as we all engage in this together as a synod during the season of Easter.

Visit the 4G Network Easter page to learn more and access resources:

<https://timothy331.wixsite.com/4gnetwork/easter-season-let-s-live-it-out>



NE Synod 4G Network: Growing God's Generous Generations