

BAPTIST FEATURES

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THE BEST EASTER GIFT
By Gladys Cleone Carpenter
(illustration #3)

It was Saturday. Fred and Sharon were about to start for Emily's home. They had a yellow chicken, a pure white bunny, and a basket of Easter egg candies.

Tomorrow was Easter and also Emily's birthday. But, of course, she was having her party today.

Suddenly Betty came running. "Oh, see what I have for Emily!" she exclaimed, and opened a box to display a yellow chicken.

When she had gone, Sharon said to Fred, "We can't take the chicken to Emily. It will spoil Betty's fun in her gift if ours is just like hers."

So they left the chicken at home and started out.

Soon they met Claude and Tom who had a bunny and Easter eggs for Emily.

Not wanting to duplicate the boys' gifts, Sharon and Fred went back home. Then they decided to go to the party and promise Emily a present for later. Sharon thought of something they could make and Fred agreed.

When the party was over, Sharon and Fred ran home. Taking a basket, Sharon went to the meadow while Fred went to the dump yard. There he found some wire mesh and two boards. With the wood he made a cross and covered it with the mesh. When Sharon returned with a basket of flowers, the two studded the mesh completely with blossoms.

"Chickens, bunnies and candy are nice for Easter," Sharon stated. "But we should remember that it's the time when Christ rose from the tomb."

Now they took the cross to Emily's home. But she wasn't there. Fred wrote on the back who it was from and stood it up where Emily could see it.

Easter morning Sharon and Fred put on their new clothes and started for Sunday School. They stopped at Emily's home. Both Emily and the cross of flowers were gone!

They went on to Sunday School. There was Emily. And among other flowers was the lovely cross of blossoms.

"Oh, thank you!" Emily told them. "I liked your present the best of any because I could bring it to Sunday School. I sprinkled the flowers so they'd stay fresh."

Now came Betty, Claude, and Tom. And everybody listened to the Easter lesson.

Before they went home the teachers said that they might stand the cross outside the Sunday School door. Then all who went by and saw it would think of the true meaning of Easter.

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THIS IS THE DAY
By Helen Isely

Easter starts the Church bells ringing;

Easter starts the people singing,

For this is the day when Jesus said,

"I have risen from the dead!"

We'll tell it again, from valley and hill,

Jesus is living, living, still.

Let's sing the song which Easter gives--

"Jesus lives! He lives! He lives!"

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