

## Be Strong #27 “Bunnies, Chicks, & Peeps”



Easter. What comes to your mind when you think of Easter? What childhood memories do you have? *Easter baskets, chocolate bunnies, new shoes, baby pink chickens, pink dresses, bright colored hats, and standing room only church services?* Easter! What do you think about when you consider Easter’s past. These are words that come to mind as I think back--way back--to when I was growing up. My parents took us to church every time the doors were open and the lights were on. So, in that regard, Easter was no different than any other Sunday. It was a day of bible study and worship, but on Easter things were different. The church was packed and everyone dressed up more than usual. “Where did all these people come from and why weren’t they here last Sunday?” I wondered! Those questions often came to my mind. We always ate Sunday lunch at home and it was similar each week. My favorite was mom’s pot roast, potatoes, carrots, and onions in the same roasting pan. After lunch we always took a nap, but not on Easter. Easter was different; mom and dad always prepared an Easter egg hunt for me and my two sisters. We had fun running around the backyard hunting brightly colored eggs and trying to fill our baskets. It was a fun day.

What do you remember about Easter? What will your kids remember about Easter? If they are asked what they think about Easter, how will they respond? Will they say chocolate bunnies, a new outfit to wear, or peeps, or will they say it’s all about **LIFE**? Easter is about **LIFE**---everlasting **LIFE**. “For God so loved the world that



He gave his one and only son that whosoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting **LIFE**,” **LIFE** with a capital “L.” Jesus gave his **LIFE** for us. When we grasp that, we can’t help but join in the hallelujah chorus. We want to sing it from the depths of our very soul. Do your children get that?

As you make your plans for Easter, as you shop with your daughter for that perfect dress, while you are out buying Sunday “go to meetin’ shoes” for your son,

while you are at Wal-Mart buying up the chocolate bunnies, talk about **LIFE** with your kids. Keep bringing the truth home. Keep before them the truth that Jesus took our place in death and that “He who had no sin became sin for us so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” Remind them that there is no real **LIFE** apart from Him. And one day you will know that they understand what you’re saying when they join in the chorus with you. Can you hear them singing? Listen... Be strong in your passion for kids to know the heart of Easter. Enjoy the chocolate bunnies. Have fun with the Easter baskets, but more than anything

celebrate **LIFE!** As you pass His **LIFE** onto your kids, remember today, you are the parent.

In His Joy!

Jerome