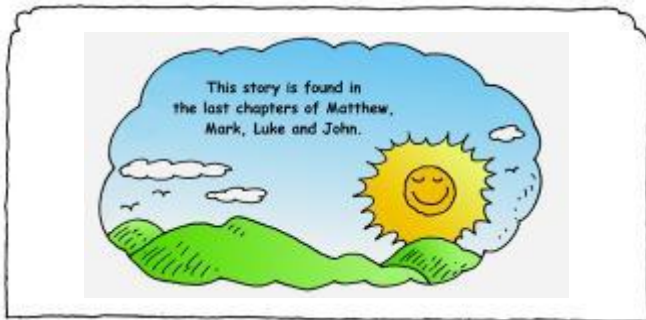


# THE Easter story

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Illustrated by Richard Gunther



In the Bible we can read the good news about the very first Easter. This is what Jesus' friends saw.



Jesus had twelve special friends who went everywhere with him and saw the miracles he did. They listened to his stories about God.



One day Jesus said to them, "It will soon be time for me to go away, but first some sad things will happen, but I will come back again."



Jesus went into the garden to pray. He knew it was time for him to die on the Cross. The soldiers came to get him.



Jesus was put on the cross on the top of a hill. Soldiers stood guard. His friends were sad.



When Jesus died they put him in a cave tomb with a big stone across the door. Soldiers stood guard.



On the third day God rolled the stone away. The soldiers were frightened and they ran away.



Then his friends saw Jesus! "See I am alive again, just as I told you," Jesus said. "Go and tell your friends the good news."