

“The Easter Animal Contest”

by
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What Bunny, Chicken, and Lizard are entering a contest to become the new Easter animal. Once they hear what the job might cost them, they decide to bow out.
Themes: Easter, Sacrifice, Children’s ministry

Who Bunny Lamb
Chicken Employee 1
Lizard Employee 2

When Present

Wear (Props) Bunny is wearing bunny ears, a pink nose and a fluffy tail.
Chicken has a red comb, and a few feathers in her headband.
Lizard has a green face and a long green tail.
Lamb has a hat with cotton balls glued on top and long, floppy ears.
Employee 1 and 2 are each wearing shirts that say EASTER on the front, and CANDY COMPANY on the back.
There should be two chairs placed stage right for the signs which Employee 1 carries out later.

Why Acts 13: 26-33

How Have fun playing the animals. Employees should make sure the audience can’t see the back of their shirts until the very end. Make sure you’ve practiced a couple of times so you can pull off the surprise ending successfully.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Bunny hops up from back, stopping to ask members of audience. Is this it? Is this where the contest is?

When Bunny is about halfway up, Chicken struts in from the back, and asks the same question. BAAAK BAAAK BAAK is this it? BAAK BAAK Is this where they are having the contest?

Bunny: *(spots Chicken)* Hey Chicken.

Chicken: Hey Bunny.

Bunny: Do you know if this is where the contest is?

Chicken: I don't. You'd think there would be a sign or something.

Employee 1 steps out from stage right and places sign on first chair. It reads: Easter Animal Contest

Bunny: *(pointing to sign)* Oh look. We are in the right place, although I don't even know why they are having a contest. Everyone knows that bunnies go with Easter. No offense, but Easter Chicken just doesn't have the same ring to it.

Chicken: *(pointing to Lizard who's now slithering up the aisle)* Well, Easter Lizard would be even worse. Besides, who do you think lays all those Easter Eggs, anyways? It sure isn't you bunnies.

Lizard: Hey, Chicken. Hey, Bunny. I heard about this contest, so I figured I'd come check it out.

Both: Hey, Lizard.

Bunny: *(beat)* No offense, Lizard, but why do you think that you are the best animal to represent Easter?

Lizard: Because I'm the one you'd least expect. Jesus was an unexpected King. He was God's son, but he was born in a stable. He only lived 33 years. He preached peace and forgiveness when the Jews wanted a war. And, if that isn't unexpected enough, then think about the fact that He died for all our sins. Who would have expected that? A lizard is the perfect symbol for Easter just because no one would expect me to be.

Chicken: Bunny, how did you get to be the symbol of Easter, anyway? What's a bunny got to do with any of that?

Bunny: I only know what my mother told me. She said that we were given the job by people so long ago that no one is sure why we got it. It might be

because we live in burrows, which are like the cave that Jesus was buried in. It could be because we come out in the spring, which is the time that Jesus was resurrected. Or maybe it's because bunnies make lots of little bunnies, so we are symbols of new life, like the new life Christ brings.

Chicken: Oh. I'm not sure I should even be in this contest, then. I mean, I just entered it because I lay eggs and I thought that would count for something.

Lizard: Yeah, but what would Easter be without Easter eggs? There wouldn't be any Easter egg hunts or egg dying or egg rolling.

Bunny: Or, chocolate eggs. I loooo-ooove chocolate eggs. The little hollow ones, the peanut butter ones. The crispy rice ones.

Chicken: We get it Bunny. You love chocolate eggs.

Bunny: *(swooning)* ...the cream filled ones...

Chicken and Lizard glare at him

Bunny: ...the Cadbury ones, the white chocolate ones, oh and the ones with caramel. I really love the ones with caramel...

Chicken and Lizard fold their arms and tap their feet and Bunny trails off.

Chicken: But, eggs don't egg-zactly stand for anything Easterish.

Bunny: I think you're wrong. Eggs have a hard shell. That's just like the sealed tomb that Christ was placed in. And, when you crack them open, it's like you've opened the tomb up, so we can see that Christ was resurrected.

Chicken: Hey, I thought of something else. Eggs have three parts: the shell, the yolk and the white. That's like God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Lizard: Truthfully, any one of us would be a great Easter Animal.

Bunny: I wonder how they'll choose.

Employee 1 comes back out from stage right carrying a new sign and places it on the second chair

Bunny, Lizard and Chicken read the sign.

Bunny: Only those willing to sacrifice their lives need apply.

Lizard: What does sacrifice mean?

Chicken: I don't know, let me look it up. *(Pulls out cell phone and reads)* The act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God.

Lizard: Doesn't slaughter mean to kill?

Chicken: *(nods nervously)* Why do we have to be willing to be killed?

Bunny: Maybe it's because Jesus died on the cross.

Lizard: Yeah, and he died in place of the lambs that used to be killed on altars to ask for God's forgiveness.

3 seconds of silence as the animals consider this.

Bunny: I just remembered. The kids are expecting me home to play hide-n-seek. See ya later. *(Hops off)*

Chicken: Oh, BAAAK!! I can feel an egg coming on. Gotta run. *(Struts off)*

Lizard: Well, I'm certainly not hanging around here. I think a sacrificial lizard is a little **too** unexpected. *(Slithers off)*

Employee 1 enters from stage right with Employee 2. They stand facing the audience, but behind the signs.

Employee 2: Hmmm. It doesn't look like any animals want to represent Easter. It's a shame because the pay was free chocolate eggs. *(Looking at Employee 1)* You made the signs, like I asked, right?

Employee 1: *(nods and points from behind the signs)* Yeah, this one advertises the contest and this one explains that if chosen, an animal will be away from its family for a while.

They walk around to look at signs so that the backs of their shirts are showing. Employee 2 points to second sign.

Employee 2: You left out a word.

Employee 1: I did?

Employee 2: Yes. The word family. It was supposed to go right here. Only those willing to sacrifice their **family** lives need apply. No wonder no animals applied.

Employee 1: Yeah, who would want to die for Easter? *(Picks up signs and they exit)*

Lamb enters from back baa-ing and stopping to ask the audience if this is where the contest is before wandering off stage.

PURCHASE

SCRIPT

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