

Resurrection Sunday: Jesus Is Alive



Introductory Question: **Tell us about a time when you had good news to tell.**



Yesterday we talked about how Jesus' followers cared for His body and how His tomb was secured. The story continues in Matthew 28:1-20, when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary took spices (**Luke 24:1**) to the tomb the day after the Sabbath. When they arrived, there was a violent earthquake and an angel came from heaven, rolled back the stone from the tomb, and sat on it. The guards at the tomb were so afraid that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus...He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples [to meet Him in Galilee]" (Matt. 28:5-7). (Incorporate your family's or group's answers to the Introductory Question – for example,) just as Marcus told the good news that his dog got better, and Samantha told her friends that she was promoted, the women hurried away, afraid yet joyful, to tell the disciples that Jesus was alive.

Continue to tell the story from **Matthew 28:1-20**, including main points such as:

- As the women were going, Jesus met them. They clasped His feet and worshipped Him. Then Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. Tell my brothers to go to Galilee; they will see me there."
- After the women left, the guards told the chief priests everything that had happened. The priests and elders gave the soldiers a large amount of money, saying, "Tell everyone that Jesus' disciples stole His body during the night, while you were sleeping. If you get in trouble with the governor, we will keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and spread the lie, which some people still believe today.
- The eleven disciples went to Galilee. When they saw Jesus, they worshipped Him, but some doubted. Then Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (v. 19-20). This is the Great Commission, a command that still applies to us today.



Invite your family to spend a few minutes in Listening Prayer and Journaling: As we've listened to these words from the Bible, God has been speaking to us through them. What is God telling you about: Himself, yourself, others, and what to do? You can talk to God about anything.



When everyone begins to finish Journaling, give each person an opportunity to share what God has been speaking to them. After each person shares, pray for them.

KEY VERSE: Matthew 28:19-20

"Go and make disciples of all nations...surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."