

Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-11

This ancient story of the Resurrection has troubled intellectual unbelievers, even some theologians. The Resurrection can be a stumbling block to many who investigate our faith. It's just too supernatural. Some overcome this problem of a dead man rising from the grave by ignoring it, or by believing that Jesus only rose from the dead in a spiritual way. Some even say that the Resurrection was a story created by early Christians in an effort to preserve the new religion. Others claim that Jesus only fainted on the cross and revived in the coolness of the tomb. Some insist that it doesn't matter if you believe that Jesus really had a bodily resurrection. It really isn't a big deal. You can be a good Christian without it. To believe that it doesn't matter is to believe a lie. Christianity is irrelevant to the human condition without the Resurrection.

St. Paul said that if Jesus was not raised from the dead, "...your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins." Without the bodily resurrection of Christ, Christianity becomes a mere philosophy of conduct, with no Savior, no eternal kingdom, no hope. The Resurrection was God's stamp of approval to everything that Jesus said. Jesus said that He was the Savior. He said that He would die on behalf of us all. He said that He was God's Son. He said that He would rise from the dead. If He did not rise from the dead, then everything else that He said becomes a lie. Without the Resurrection, Jesus of Nazareth was a liar who fell into a trap from which he could not escape, or a madman who thought he was God, or both. If we share the love of Christ without the Resurrection, we share only an empty story, instead of the empty tomb that is the proof that Jesus is Lord of all. He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

(If you would like to learn more about the history of the Resurrection, read "First Easter" by Dr. Paul Maier.)

Have you joined a Summer Bible Study group at your church?

(A message from your Iowa District West Education Committee)



Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-11

1. Explore the greatest news story ever written. WHO were the first recipients of the Easter news? (see vs. 1 and 10) WHO greeted the women? (vs. 4)
2. WHERE did Jesus' resurrection take place? (John 19:41 has some additional details about the burial place.)
3. WHEN did the women hear the good news? (vs. 1) Review the sequence of events from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning.
4. WHAT message greeted the visitors? (vs. 5-7) WHAT do you suppose the women told the disciples and others? WHAT reaction did they receive? (vs. 11)
5. WHY did Jesus have to rise from the dead? (Today's Epistle lesson begins the Apostle Paul's resurrection declaration. Read all of 1 Corinthians 15.)
6. You have a good news story to share. What does Jesus' resurrection mean for you? Share the good news with your family and friends!



Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

Peter's short sermon emphasized the Christ of God and the resurrection that sealed the truth of His message, but it is also important to note to whom Peter preached. He had just experienced a vision from God that demonstrated to him that even the Gentiles (non-Jewish people) were to hear the words of salvation. At the same time, a Gentile named Cornelius had received instructions from God to call Peter to his home, where the sermon was preached. Jewish Christians accompanied Peter. In the verses just after the sermon, the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Gentile listeners "amazed" the Jewish Christians.

How could Jesus be for just anybody? Surely there were prerequisites to be attained. Many early converts to Christianity believed that one had to become a Jew before being a Christian. One had to start from a certain point of acceptability before one could be saved! It was an old belief crowding in on Jesus' truth. The Jews had always believed that one had to be good (if not perfect) in order to see God. When Jesus said that only through Him could one see God, surely He meant that if you were a good Jew you could see God through Jesus! Even Peter could not quite grasp the idea that Jesus was the only good and perfect person involved in salvation. Only through His death on the cross, with no other action, could one be saved. Being a Jew, or being good, or being right had nothing to do with it!

We cannot deserve salvation or become good enough for God through our thoughts or actions. Our thoughts and actions will, in fact, guarantee the opposite. We just can't get it right enough for God to accept. Only Jesus could do the job. No other faith in the world, no matter how sincere, could bring us to God.

A thief died next to Jesus on the day of the crucifixion. His story gives us a great assurance. Here was a guy who had done something deserving of death. He was anything but a nice, good person. Jesus granted him eternal life. Hearing of the salvation of that worthless thief, we can proclaim that salvation is a free gift from a God Who loves us more than we can comprehend; a God Who was willing to send His own Son and condemn Him to die so that all of us could look forward to this life with new joy, new commitment, and new assurance. Jesus is alive for you and for everyone!

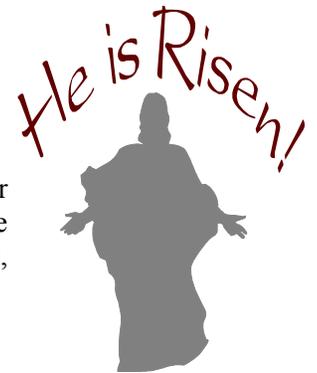
Learn about your faith! Join a Bible study group!
A message from your District Education Committee



Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

1. What is the context of Peter's Easter sermon? (Skim through Acts 10).
2. Read the introduction to Peter's sermon (vs. 34-39). What history does he review?
3. What is the main point of Peter's sermon (vs. 40)?
4. According to vs. 43 what are the blessings of faith?
5. The first lessons for the weeks of the Easter season are from the book of Acts. While the preacher will often be Peter or Paul, Who is the central focus of their message?
6. Acts 10 emphasizes that Jesus rose for everyone. Is there anyone in your family, neighborhood, or workplace who doesn't know about Jesus' resurrection? Could you pray for them? Would you take an opportunity to share the resurrection message with them?



Easter Day

Isaiah 25:6-9

Every year we gather to celebrate and proclaim the resurrection of our Lord. Death can no longer hold us because in His resurrection God assured us that all of the promises and claims of Jesus were true! We understand that the feast that Isaiah spoke of has already begun. Today we celebrate our salvation in Christ.

Will we celebrate Easter tomorrow, or will we pack it away for another year? The world does that. The television programming and the magazine articles will switch tomorrow morning and life in the world will return to “normal.” As Christians we reject that idea. While Easter was a one time historical event, its celebration is continual in our lives. Living life with an attitude of Easter joy is why we can read Isaiah’s words and see that there is more to the message than a feast prepared by our great and mighty God.

God has destroyed the shroud of death for “all peoples.” He prepares the feast for “all peoples.” We did not see Jesus come the first time, but we will see Him come the second time and we will say, “let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.” But who will be standing there with us sharing our joy?



If we leave Easter behind us tomorrow, we may forget that what we have is an awesome gift. It is a gift for us and also for all of the people who surround us. Jesus said that He came to save the world and that any who believe in Him will have eternal life. We have the wonderful opportunity to share our Easter joy with everyone around us. If we do not, who will? Invitations to the cross and empty tomb cannot be made while sitting in the pew. In our churches we receive our food for the week, but food for what? Not just to reassure us of our own salvation in Christ, but food to strengthen us in our task and privilege of sharing Easter with “all peoples,” especially those in our own communities.

Renew your walk with Christ through a Bible study this week!

A message from your Iowa District West Education Committee

Easter Day

Isaiah 25:6-9

1. On this day of special Easter meals, what menu does the Lord Almighty provide in vs. 6? Is this only a feast of food for the body?

2. When was the shroud destroyed and death swallowed up? Why are these words especially appropriate on this Sunday?



3. Have you ever cried at the death of a friend or family member? What good news is shared in verse 8?

4. The response of God’s people is noted in vs. 9. We are to “_____ and be _____ in our salvation.” In what do you rejoice?

5. Today’s second lesson (I Corinthians 15) shares the fulfillment of this prophecy. Read I Corinthians 15:50-57. What’s the good news for us and for all who die in Christ?

6. These words are often shared as one of the lessons at a Christian funeral service. Why are they especially appropriate for that setting? What comfort do they give you?

Easter Day

Exodus 15:1-11

Satan did his best to stop the ministry and mission of Jesus. After Jesus' baptism he offered our Lord many things in order to entice Him away from obeying His Father's will. People tempted Him as well, trying to make Him an earthly king who would crush the Romans and bring Israel back to its greatness. He could have destroyed Rome, even the great city itself many miles away across the Mediterranean, with a word. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus struggled with the difficulty of a cruel and unjust death to the point of sweating droplets that appeared to be blood. He was and is the Son of God and God. He lived perfectly and provided the perfect and final sacrifice for all of us throughout history. His love was unshakable, even when those watching His death shouted, "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!" (Matthew 27:40) On Easter morning Jesus walked out of the tomb in glory.

What does all of this have to do with Exodus? What if we look at Pharaoh and his armies as Satan and his demons? God routed Pharaoh.



This was no race through the reedy waters of the Red Sea shallows. God blasted the deep sea waters aside for His people to pass through unharmed. Perhaps we can visualize Pharaoh in his chariot, rage in his voice, shouting for his armies to chase the slaves through the sea! They rode forth to their destruction—Pharaoh's power over the slaves was ended.

My favorite description of Jesus' entrance into hell is this: Satan is at his desk rubbing his hands in joy at Jesus' death. He hears a sound and turns just in time to see Jesus kick down the doors and walk in! Satan had failed; and his power over mankind was ended. Jesus had won the battle and all those who had believed in God's promise of salvation in the Old Testament, and those who believe in Jesus Christ from His resurrection until today are saved through His victory over sin, death, and Satan.

Renew your walk with Christ through a Bible study this week!

(A message from your Iowa District West Education Committee)

Easter Day

Exodus 15:1-11

1. Reflect on Exodus 13:17-4:31. What events preceded the song of our text?
2. With what type of word pictures is God described? (vs. 6, 8, 10)? How are these descriptions helpful? How are these descriptions inadequate?
3. What three descriptions are used in vs. 11? How is the God of Israel different from other gods?
4. Count the number of times "Lord" appears in the song of Moses (vs. 1-18). Why is the name of God so dominant?
5. What is the theme of this song? How does the theme of the song correspond with the theme of this Easter day?
6. "I will sing to the Lord." (Exodus 15:1) Find your favorite Easter hymn in your hymnal. Read it. Pray it. Sing it!



The Resurrection of Our Lord

Acts 10:34-43

Every year the season of Easter is the time when the world asks, “Did Jesus really rise from the dead?” Peter certainly believed so, as did John, Mark, Matthew, and hundreds of disciples who saw Jesus after His resurrection and spread the news. “Who saw” may be the key that the world keeps missing. These New Testament believers were not telling tales of Jesus that they had heard from others. They were eye witnesses!

At first Jesus’ resurrection shocked even the apostles, who wondered if the women reporting the empty tomb were daft. The resurrection certainly was not on the men’s list of things to “make up” as part of the gospel story. Some people today question whether or not it really matters, but Paul said that if Jesus was not raised from the dead then we are of all people the most to be “pitied” (I Cor.15:17-19). He said this because if Jesus did not walk out of the tomb, then everything that He said was either a lie or the delusion of a madman.

Today’s verses record not only Peter’s insistence that Jesus was raised from the dead, but the story of an event in Peter’s life. Peter later (chapter 11) tells church members in Jerusalem about sharing the gospel with a Roman officer who, though not a Jew, was seeking God’s answer for his life. God Himself had sent Peter to this man named Cornelius and this was as much a surprise to Peter as had been Jesus’ resurrection! He had always believed that salvation was only for God’s chosen people.

Living twenty centuries after Peter preached to Cornelius’ household, we celebrate Easter joyfully, but without the surprise that Peter felt on the morning of Jesus’ resurrection. However, like Peter, we sometimes still seem a little surprised and even hesitant when we are challenged to reach out to our unknowing neighbors with the wonderful resurrection joy that fills our hearts. Jesus said in Matthew 28 that this celebration is for everyone. Our task is to reach beyond the comfort of our Christian family and into our communities with the life changing news of the empty tomb!

Learn more about Peter’s travels in a Bible study this week.

A message from your Iowa District West Education Committee.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Acts 10:34-43

1. For several weeks our first lessons are from the Book of Acts rather than Old Testament texts. According to vs. 43 Who was the object of all Biblical prophecies? What’s the Easter promise that is shared (vs. 43)?
2. Skim the earlier verses of Acts 10. Where was Peter when he shared this message? Who were the first hearers of the message? What unusual events had preceded the message?
3. Where’s the Easter proclamation in Peter’s message? (39-40)
4. Skeptics would suggest that a resurrection from the dead is impossible. What “proof” does Peter give for his proclamation?
5. We rejoice in our Lord’s resurrection. For whom is this Good News also intended? (vs. 34-36) Why is Easter Sunday also a mission Sunday?
6. Jesus’ resurrection is Good News for Peter, Mary (John 20:18), and for YOU. What Easter blessings does God have for you today?

Easter Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Is Jesus alive? Is He really alive? When you respond to the statement, “He is risen!” with “He is risen indeed!” what do you mean? In verse 20 Paul writes, “But now Christ has been raised from the dead...” We celebrate Jesus’ resurrection today with music, praise, the excitement of Springtime, and remembrance of the empty tomb. Was the tomb really empty? Does it matter?

These questions are argued by the world and even some Christians. They say that it doesn’t matter if the tomb was really empty—the picture is just a symbol of the rising spirit of Christ. Miracles don’t matter. Jesus may or may not have walked the earth after His death. It doesn’t really matter to one’s faith. If you are not boiling by now, Paul would be—because Jesus has to have walked out of the tomb!

Our God is gracious. He wants us to know for sure that Jesus was everything that He claimed to be; that the eyewitnesses of His life were not making up stories. Why?

Many men of Jesus’ time walked the roads of Palestine claiming to be the promised messiah who would deliver Israel. Though His teachings were unique, Jesus’ claim to be the One sent by God was not. The pseudo-messiahs gathered followers and then fell into oblivion or were killed (or both). If Jesus had stayed in the tomb, then He was just another fake. Jesus walked out of the tomb on Sunday morning so that His disciples and the world might be witness to the fact that God acknowledged and confirmed that everything His Son said or did was just as He claimed.

Jesus was not, as some believe, just a good man, just a good teacher, just one who cared for the underling and the downtrodden in a social sense. Jesus was and is the Son who is our Lord and the Creator of all things. Eyewitnesses confirm the fact!

Paul wrote earlier in chapter 15, “...if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins...If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.” Paul knew; Jesus’ followers knew; and we know that He is risen! Indeed!

Learn more about Jesus’ resurrection in a Bible study this week.
A message from your Iowa District West Education Committee

Easter Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:19-28

1. How was Paul convinced that Jesus was alive? (Review 1 Corinthians 15:3-8) What would be the effect of Jesus not rising from the dead? (vs. 17)
2. A sign near a home destroyed by the tsunami in Banda Aceh, Indonesia said “Someday we all must die.” Is the sign correct? What do these verses have to say about that message?
3. Why is Jesus’ resurrection Good News for us now? Why is it really Good News when we die?

For Family Reflection

4. What’s the best part of Easter? (The candy, the dinner, the sunrise service, the Easter egg hunt, or . . .)
5. 1 Corinthians 15 is “the great resurrection chapter.” As a family read the entire chapter, especially vs. 51-57. “Thanks be to God” for:
6. 1 Corinthians 15 is true because of what happened on Easter morning. Read today’s Gospel reading, Mark 16:1-8. What is your favorite part of the Easter story? Is there someone with whom you can share this Good News?

Easter Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

In reading today's passage, in addition to a few verses prior to it, we are confronted with the truth that Paul believed that everything that we believe hinges on Christ's resurrection. In Paul's time, as in our own, there were those who scoffed at the idea of a dead man returning to life. There were others, even Christians, who fell victim to false teachers who said that Jesus' resurrection was only a spiritual one, and not a physical one. There are those today who profess to know how the tomb was emptied—the disciples stole the body; Jesus just passed out and revived when placed in the cool tomb; the silly women who were His followers simply went to the wrong tomb on Easter morning (and apparently suffered from mass hallucination when they thought that the gardener trying to explain that they were in the wrong place was really an angel). Truly if there is anything more absurd than the idea of a man walking out of a tomb after his crucifixion, it must be the claims that it didn't happen. The Jewish leaders, who were appalled at the empty tomb, barely pursued the early believers. Why? One has to assume that even they suspected the truth.

After affirming the reality and necessity of Christ's resurrection, Paul goes on to describe to his readers what will happen when Christ returns. When Christ appears in the clouds as Master and Lord of all, He will raise us from the dead. We will join in the celebration of His glory that day, and we will see His judgment on a world that will still try to reject His rule. After that day, there will be no more death. All things will be subject to Jesus' authority; the world will no longer have a choice. As for us, all believers will live eternally with their Master.

Jesus, who was whipped, beaten, crucified, and was dead and buried, walked out of the tomb. Of that we are assured by the hundreds who saw Him in the following days. Many men and women, including the physician, Luke, "carefully investigated" (Lk.1:3) the truth of the resurrection by closely questioning the eyewitnesses. We now can look forward to His return and to our eternal life with God. We can announce with confidence that Christ is risen—He is risen indeed!

Talk about Jesus' resurrection in a Bible study this week.

A message from your Iowa District West Christian Education Committee

Easter Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

1. Review the facts of the first Easter (Luke 24:1-12). On what fact does the Apostle Paul base his proclamation (1 Corinthians 15:20)?
2. A story of two men unfolds in vs. 21-22. Who are the two "men"? How does their fate differ?
3. When will Christ's victory be complete (vs.24-25)? How encompassing is His victory?

For Family Reflection

4. This text is part of an entire chapter that celebrates Jesus' victory and ours. Read 1 Corinthians 15 (maybe read a few verses each day during this week). What is your favorite section?
5. What meaning does Jesus' resurrection have for you TODAY? What importance does Jesus' resurrection have for you ETERNALLY?
6. What is your favorite Easter victory hymn? Read (or maybe even sing) your favorite hymns.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

John 20:1-18

Why is John's story so marvelous? Why is there such a huge celebration today? What is so special about the Resurrection? Did it really happen? Why did Paul write to the Corinthians, "And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Cor.15:14)?

Paul's words mean that the miracle of Jesus' resurrection cannot be sidestepped. Everything that Jesus said has to be true, or we cannot be sure that any of it is true. Either the Resurrection happened as the Gospel writers say, or Jesus was just a good teacher, a political activist, or insane. Paul was adamant about this—if there was no resurrection (as foretold by Jesus), then there is nothing (1 Cor. 15).

Some say that while the Resurrection is essential, it was just a spiritual resurrection, like you and I will experience. But, it must be more than that. If Jesus was not bodily resurrected, then He was only a man, not the Son of God. He could not pay the price for all sinners. This was Paul's point in his letter to Corinth. Without a visible, bodily resurrection, there can be no celebration. The Resurrection is God's "seal of approval" on all that Jesus did and said. Paul, who saw the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus, assures his readers, and us, that it really did happen!

We have God's promise that it is true. We have the witness of Jesus' appearance to more than four hundred believers, including the writers of the New Testament. We have the Holy Spirit's witness in our hearts. We have the gift of faith given to us by God to help us comprehend the miraculous event. That is why we so loudly, confidently, and joyfully proclaim today, "HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

Learn more about the true resurrection of Christ in a Bible study this week.
A message from your Iowa District West Christian Education Committee

The Resurrection of Our Lord

John 20:1-18

1. What connections did Mary Magdalene have with Jesus (John 19:25; Mark 16:9)? What brought her to the tomb early Sunday morning? What did she find?
2. Which two disciples came to the tomb? Do we know the name of the "other disciple" (vs. 2, 4—see the notes from the Concordia Self-study Bible or another commentary)? What did they find?
3. What is the significance of the statement "He saw and believed" (vs. 8)? What did he believe? What do you believe on this Easter day?
4. Why did Mary have difficulty believing? When did she believe Jesus was alive? What did she do with the Good News?

For Family Reflection

5. Review the facts of the Easter story. (Read the Easter story also in Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10.) What details are different? What's the Good News from all the Gospel writers?
6. What's your favorite Easter hymn? Read (or sing) the hymns together. What other special activities are included in your Easter celebration? Is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection a primary part of your day?

The Resurrection of our Lord

Mark 16:1-8

This passage tells us that the women were, "...trembling and astonishment had gripped them...they were afraid." Of the men the Bible says, "...they refused to believe it." Only Peter and John ran to the tomb to see if it could possibly be true.

We want to say, "Come on, you guys! How could you not believe, even after Jesus told you that it would happen?" We think that we, after having experienced the blessing of actually being with Jesus, would have expected the good news, not doubted it.

We would like to believe that of ourselves, but it probably isn't true of us either. We would have doubted it, too. After all, how could the cross have been planned? It seems impossible to believe that Jesus would have willingly died so that we could live—we, who are so undeserving. Why would He die for me? Why would He die for them? How could the plan end with Jesus walking out of the tomb? He who had been definitely dead, living again? Jesus did it all out of a love that we will never really understand until we see Him face to face in Heaven.

The Resurrection is our assurance that everything that Jesus said about Himself, the Father, and the Spirit is true. God's love for us is unreasonable, yet unending. That's a great ending for the Easter story, isn't it? However, as we study God's word, we see that Easter is not the end of the story.

We, like the first disciples, are saved by God's grace through His victory over death. Our faith is assured through His resurrection. With joy and confidence we may tell others about our Lord. The first disciples, along with the apostles, carried the story beyond themselves. We are called by God to do the same.

As you celebrate Easter, remember to move beyond the joyful colors and family fellowship. Thank God for this unbelievable gift by sharing it with others through your words and lives. It is why He leaves us in this world. We are His witnesses.

We are here to tell the world that Jesus was not just a good guy, a good teacher, a godly man caught up in the politics of His time. He was and is more than a prophet—He is the Son of God, risen from the dead, ruler of the universe, coming again to gather believers to His side.

Let God's Word bless you in a special way this Easter season.

(A message from your Iowa District West Christian Education Committee)

The Resurrection of our Lord

Mark 16:1-8

1. Who were the women that went to the tomb? What was their original objective? What surprise awaited them?
2. Why was Peter singled out in the directive of verse 7?
3. Why did the women depart "trembling and bewildered"? (vs. 8) Why didn't they immediately share their experience at the tomb?
4. Compare Mark's Easter account with the story in Matthew 28:1-9; Luke 24:1-10; and John 20:1-9. How are the accounts the same? How are they different? Why are they different?

For Family Reflection

5. Who was the "young man" (vs. 5) who greeted the women? Why did God send a special messenger? Are there other times God sent a special messenger to earth?
6. Why is the news of Jesus' resurrection important to you? What is this news more important than Easter eggs, family dinner, new clothes or other trimmings associated with the day?

Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-12

This ancient story of the Resurrection has troubled intellectual unbelievers and even some theologians. The Resurrection can be a stumbling block to many who investigate our faith. It's just too supernatural. Some overcome this problem of a dead man rising from the grave by ignoring it or by believing that Jesus' resurrection was only spiritual—that His body stayed in the tomb. Some even say that the Resurrection was a story created by early Christians in an effort to confirm the new religion. Others claim that Jesus only fainted on the cross and revived in the coolness of the tomb. Some insist that it doesn't matter if you believe that Jesus really had a bodily resurrection. It really isn't a big deal. You can be a good Christian without it. To believe that it doesn't matter is to believe a lie. Christianity is irrelevant to the human condition without the Resurrection as described by the eyewitnesses of the event.

St. Paul said that if Jesus was not raised from the dead, "...your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins." Without the bodily resurrection of Christ, Christianity becomes a mere philosophy of conduct, with no salvation, no eternal kingdom, no hope.

The Resurrection was God's stamp of approval on everything that Jesus did and said. It was God's stamp of approval on Jesus' claims that He was Messiah, the Son of Man, and the Son of God.

Jesus claimed that He would rise from the dead on the third day after being executed by His enemies. If He did not rise from the dead, then everything else that He said becomes a lie. Without the Resurrection, Jesus of Nazareth was a liar who fell into a trap from which he could not escape, or a madman who thought he was God, or both.

If we share the love of Christ without the Resurrection, we share only an empty story, instead of the empty tomb that is the proof that Jesus is the Christ, the Lord of all.

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Let God's Word bless you in a special way this Easter season.

(A message from your Iowa District West Christian Education Committee)

Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-12

1. Who are the "they" that went to the tomb on Easter morning (see vs. 10 and 23:49,55)? What was the purpose of their early morning visit?
2. Who were the "two men" (vs. 4)? What was unusual about their appearance? What was their message?
3. Were the women surprised by what they saw and heard? Should they have been surprised? In what ways should we never be surprised about the message of God's Word?
4. Why did the women's message seem like "an idle tale" (vs. 11)? Are there people still today who don't believe the Easter message? What do we tell them?

For Family Reflection

5. What surprises you about the Easter story? What surprises does God have planned for us because Jesus is risen from the dead?
6. Read the Easter story again in Luke or one of the other Gospels (Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, John 20:1-10). Sing a favorite Easter song and offer a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus is risen from the dead for you and your family!