

EASTER SUNDAY LESSON

Name: _____

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



LESSON SCRIPT

MATTHEW 28, LUKE 24

Last week, we talked about Jesus' death. He was put in a tomb, and all his friends were super sad because he was dead... but something kind of magical happened. Except it wasn't exactly magic. It was just Jesus doing what only He could have done. Let's open up John 20.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, breathlessly panting. "They took the Master from the tomb! We don't know where they've put him."

John 20:1-2

So, Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb where Jesus was, mostly because she wants to put spices on him so he doesn't start smelling like... well, like a dead guy. She gets there, she looks inside, and BAM. Nobody's there. He disappeared! So Jesus disappears, and Mary runs back to Simon Peter and tells him she can't find Jesus, and I'm sure he laughed at her. "Oh, where was the last place you put him?"

Well, ok maybe he didn't say exactly that!

So they all go to the tomb together.

Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus's body had been laid. They said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?"

"They took my Master," she said, "and I don't know where they put him." After she said this, she turned and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't recognize him.

"Mary", He says.

And instantly Mary recognizes the voice.

"Rabboni!" or "Teacher!"

Jesus said, "Don't cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples. "I saw the Master!" and she told them everything he said to her.

Wait, what? So Jesus goes missing from His tomb, and now He shows up in front of her and is... not dead anymore. Even though everyone just saw Him die the other day. Not only did they see Him die, they buried him! The man was big-time dead, no faking. And now He was standing in front of her... so what does that mean?

That's right... It means Jesus rose from the dead. That's pretty amazing, right? But what does it mean for you and for me?

Do any of you know?

Jesus rising from the dead is a huge deal. In fact, you could say that everything Jesus ever did hinges on Him rising from the dead... Do you know why?

Jesus told everyone He was the Son of God. He made all of these claims, and one of them was that He was sent from God—God, who can do anything. He claimed to be able to save us from our sins by dying for us.

But none of that matters if Jesus doesn't rise from the dead. Jesus proved He had the power to do everything He said, because He had the power nobody else ever had: to defeat death.

If Jesus hadn't been raised from the dead, death would have proven to be more powerful than Him. It would mean that Jesus wasn't all that He said he was. But Jesus DID rise from the dead, and He proved, once and for all, that He had the power to do anything and everything he said... and that we could trust Him.

So when Jesus says he can move mountains, we can believe Him.

When Jesus says He loves us, we can believe Him.

When Jesus says our sins are forgiven, we can believe Him.

When Jesus says we are now able to be with God, we can believe Him.

When Jesus defeated death, he showed all of us that death isn't the end of us. That no matter how grim and gloomy life gets, Jesus can defeat it. He showed us that life is greater than death.

WORDS FOR THIS WEEK

Today's Scripture: Matthew 28, Luke 24

Memory Verse: "I am the resurrection and the life; He who believes in Me will live if he dies and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." John 11:25

For the past few weeks, we've been talking about Jesus... and the strange things that happened around His death. We've talked about how the people praised Jesus. And we've talked about how they turned their back on Him, convicting Him of a crime He didn't commit. Then, they killed Him.

We also talked about how Jesus died willingly, a perfect man. He took all of our sins upon himself, voluntarily going to the cross so that we could be with God and have life forever. It seemed like such a sad story, until we learned today about his resurrection.

In our story today, Jesus' body went missing. He later revealed that He was alive to Mary, telling her that He had defeated death! You see, Jesus dying for our sins is important. He told us He would do that. But Jesus also said He would rise from the dead. That was a promise He made. If that promise didn't come true, it would have meant that Jesus wasn't who He said He was. It would have meant that Jesus wasn't actually the Messiah, and that Jesus couldn't save us from our sins.

That's why Easter Sunday and the resurrection are important! They show us that Jesus really WAS the Son of God, and that His death was not in vain. It shows us that there is life after death, and that Jesus alone has the power to rescue anyone who believes and give them everlasting life!

Key Thought:
Jesus is Life!