

**March 31, 2024**  
**He is Alive!**  
**Pastor Mike Griffin**  
**Matthew 28:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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**Questions for Personal or Small Group Use**

Opening: What was the most life-changing news that you ever received? How did you react? What did you do? How did the news change your life?

Discussion Questions:

- How does Matthew indicate that a fresh start was coming?
- Consider the mission of the women. How does it undergo a radical change from their initial approach to the tomb?
- What signs accompanied the miracle of Jesus' resurrection? Which of these would most assure the women? Which most assures you of the reality of the resurrection?
- Neither the women nor the guards were expecting the resurrection or the appearance of angels. What might be a reason for their vastly different responses?
- Trace the emotion of fear in the passage. How were the women moved from fear to faith?
- The angel is the first messenger of the resurrection (vs. 2-7). How do his message and actions speak to the women's concerns and confusion?
- How have you looked for Jesus in your life? How are you looking for him now? When and how did you find him?
- What were the women to go and tell the disciples?
- How was the witness of the women affirmed & supported?
- How do each of those who are involved in the Easter events respond to the empty tomb and the appearance of Jesus?
- How have you seen the principle of a witness who helps to prepare for an encounter with the Lord active in your own faith and life?

Application Questions:

- Where in your life do you need or want to experience a fresh start as a result of the resurrection of Jesus? How are you hoping to experience new life this Easter?
- What signs or evidence is there that you have or are experiencing new/resurrection life? What aspects of your life is God currently bringing transformation to?