

Apr 17, 2022



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

We have the assurance that Jesus is risen! Believers in Christ have His Spirit inside us

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Jesus, I'm so thankful You're alive and that as Your child You live in me

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her

(John 20:18 NKJV)

From "Our Daily Bread", Apr 04, 2021)

Series: God Frees and Redeems

UNIT 2: Liberating Gospels

NEXT WEEK

Freedom in the King
(John 8:31-38)

Resurrection of the King Matt 28:1-11

Lesson Background and Introduction

At the center of Christian faith is the affirmation that Jesus rose from the dead. This is the testimony of women who saw the empty tomb and who encountered the resurrected Jesus. We can trust their words, and we can live in the light of the message they were given. Believers have a new start and new life in Christ. We need not fear the grave. The resurrection of Jesus has changed everything, and we have been entrusted with that message. Because we are released from the fear of death, we are free to live for God. The faithful life requires much of us, but all that we do begins with the joy and awe of Jesus' resurrection. From there we go out into the world to announce his resurrection and the invitation to join in his kingdom. Jesus' resurrection demonstrates that the kingdom of God has broken into history. Its final consummation will come at the return of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:20–24; Revelation 11:15). Believers may be confident that, when Christ returns, the Father will bring with Christ the dead in Christ who also had submitted and entrusted themselves to the Father (1 Thessalonians 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:12). The resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee of the believers' resurrection and transformation at Christ's second coming (example: 2 Corinthians 4:14). As believers, we live between the ages. The kingdom has been inaugurated, but we await its consummation (Colossians 1:12–13; Hebrews 12:28; 2 Peter 1:10–11). May our lives reflect God's kingdom presence on earth in anticipation of the day we will experience it fully with him.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

Jesus Is No Longer Dead! - The Sabbath stopped Jesus' disciples from properly finishing the preparation of His body for burial. As soon as the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph headed to the tomb. They felt the need to finish anointing the body. Jesus had repeatedly spoken of His resurrection. But the women still expected to find Jesus' dead body. How could He possibly be alive? Before the women's arrival, there had been an earthquake and an angel rolling the stone from the tomb. The Roman soldiers guarding Jesus' tomb trembled with fear and fainted. They suffered an immediate death if they lost a prisoner. Once the gigantic boulder was gone, the angel invited the women into the tomb to see for themselves—He's gone!

Go Tell of Jesus' Resurrection - The angel further commissioned them to tell the disciples the good news and tell them to go to Galilee. Jesus would meet them there. The women wasted no time questioning the angel or arguing—they ran to tell the others.

Jesus Appears - The two Marys made haste to report the good news to the disciples. But before they had left the area, they encountered Jesus. Matthew, the author of this account, used two words to describe their emotions: fear and joy. They fell down at His feet in worship. He repeated the angel's directives to meet Him in Galilee.

Death Is Conquered! - One of the greatest human fears is death. But Jesus conquered death, so God's children will be victorious over the grave as well: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (1 Cor. 15:55, KJV). The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a shout of victory! The shout started early that first Sunday morning when He rose from the dead and continues to this day. No follower of Jesus has anything to dread, especially on the day of their death. Jesus overcame the grave, thanks to His resurrection. He walked away from the tomb. And because He walked away, God's children will do the same on the day of their death! It's not death—it's a passing over into a glorious eternity.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

The Quest for Jesus in the Tomb (Matt 28:1-4)

Seeking Jesus (1)

- Seeking Jesus is a joy (Job 19:27)
- Seeking to have Jesus' Name on our forehead (Rev 22:4)
- Seeking Him without being able to see Him (1 Peter 1:8)
- Seeking Jesus is seeking the Father (John 14:9)
- Seeking Jesus because Jesus is the exact representation of God (Heb 1:3)

Angels help us in our seeking of Jesus (2-3)

- Angels help by gathering God's people from everywhere (Matt 24:31)
- Angels help by protecting those who are representing Him (Dan 6:22)
- Angels help because God speaks through them (Heb 2:2-3)
- Angels help because they are stronger and more powerful (2 Peter 2:11)
- Angels help because they minister to Jesus (Heb 1:6-7)
- Angels help because they are to be part of Jesus' powerful army (2 Thess 1:6-7)

Seeking Jesus should not include fear (4)

- No fear because through the Holy Spirit we have been freed from slavery of fear (Rom 8:15)
- No fear because God is our helper (Heb 13:6)
- No fear because God is my refuge and strength (Ps 46:1-3)
- No fear because our trust is in God (Heb 2:13-16)

The Angel's Declaration of a Risen Jesus (Matt 28:5-7)

Fear keeps us from seeking Jesus (5)

- Because fear makes us a slave (Rom 8:15)
- Because fears causes doubt about the saving power of God (Num 17:12-13)
- Fear causes us to drive Jesus away (Luke 8:37)
- Because the spirit of fear comes from Satan (2 Tim 1:7)
- Because of Satan's deception about death (Heb 2:15)
- Because there is no fear in love (1 John 4:18)

Jesus was crucified (5)

- Jesus was crucified at the third hour (Mark 15:25)
- We can be assured that Jesus was crucified (Acts 2:36)
- Jesus was crucified because His own countrymen wanted Him crucified (1 Thess 2:14-15)
- Because the chief priests and rulers handed Jesus over to be sentenced to death (Luke 24:20)
- Because the Roman soldiers verified it (John 19:31-35)

Jesus has risen (6)

- Jesus has risen because He appeared to the eleven disciples (Mark 16:14)
- Jesus has risen because He appeared to Simon (Luke 24:34)
- Jesus has risen because it was prophesied (Acts 2:29-32)
- Jesus has risen because He is the living hope (1 Peter 1:3)
- Jesus has risen through the power of God (2 Cor 13:4)

We will see Jesus again (7)

- We will see Jesus again because He will come back the way He left (Acts 1:11)
- We will see Jesus again in Heaven (Mark 14:25)
- We will see Jesus again and rejoice (John 16:22)
- We will see Jesus again coming down from Heaven (1 Thess 4:16-17)
- We will see Jesus again because all will see Him (Rev 1:7)

Jesus' Appearance (Matt 28:8-11)

There is joy because of Jesus' resurrection (8-9)

- Joy because of sharing in the fellowship of Jesus (Phil 3:9-11)
- Joy because of salvation through the resurrection of Jesus (1 Peter 3:20-21)
- Joy because of the revealing of Jesus' glory (1 Peter 4:13)
- Joy because of the hope provided through Jesus' resurrection (Rom 15:13)
- Joy because Jesus joyfully died and rose for us (Heb 12:2)
- Joy because Jesus is praised and honored for His resurrection (1 Peter 1:6-7)

One of the reasons for worshipping God is because of Jesus' resurrection (9)

- Worship God because Jesus has all authority (Matt 28:17-18)
- Worship God because Jesus is in heaven (Luke 24:51-53)
- Worship God because of belief in Jesus (John 20:28-29)

We should tell others about Jesus' resurrection (10-11)

- Witnessing to others started with the scattering of the disciples (Acts 11:19-21)
- Witness to others because Jesus commanded it (Matt 28:18-20)
- Witness to others through the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)
- Witness to others through teaching (2 Tim 2:2)