

Matthew 28:1-10

He Has Risen!

A long, mournful Sabbath ...

- I. The Dawn of a New Day
 - A. Earthquakes & Angels

 - B. Guards & Disciples
- II. Death's Dominion Destroyed
 - A. Jesus is Alive!

 - B. You Will See Him
- III. The Door to Everlasting Life
 - A. Crucified with Christ

 - B. Alive in Him

... a full, joyful Lord's Day.

Children, Listen ...

1. Who rolled the stone the covered Jesus' tomb?
2. What happened to the guards at Jesus tomb?
3. Who were the first of Jesus' followers to see Him alive?
4. When they saw Jesus, what did they immediately do?
5. What were they to go and tell the disciples?

Every Year, Once a Week, Every Day!

You may feel as though you have been caught up in a time warp, but don't worry, you are fine. While we are closer to Christmas than Easter, we are celebrating the resurrection today. The fact of the matter is, we do so formally the beginning of each week, and today is no different. We have spent many weeks immersed in the Passion narrative of Matthew's Gospel. As we turn our attention to the final chapter in Matthew, we enter into the wonderful, joy inspiring account of Jesus' resurrection. Last week we were left to ponder the fact that Jesus was dead and buried and the implications of such a wondrous event. Today we are treated to a magnificent report that merits rejoicing too often relegated to just one Sunday each year. Jesus lives! We should rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus every day as we consider the glory it reveals and living hope it affords believers. The disciple's mourning will turn to joy when they realize that Jesus is alive. Over two thousand years later, we rejoice with them in the presence of the living Christ. The resurrection of Jesus and the power of it displayed in the life of believers is a cause for celebration every day. And, in a very special way, at the beginning of each new week, we gather together to celebrate His and our resurrection as the corporate body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:19-22

If in Christ we have hope in this life only,
we are of all people most to be pitied.
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For as by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.