

The First Appearance of Our Lord

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18



The Story

Very early Sunday morning after Jesus was buried, women went to the grave to make Jesus' body sweet-smelling. They had wanted to go the day before, but it was the Sabbath Day. Mary was the name of one of the women.

As they walked to the grave, the women wondered who would roll away the big stone in front of the grave. It was too heavy for the them to move. As soon as they arrived at the grave, they saw that the stone was already rolled away! The body of Jesus was not there. How surprised they were!

Something wonderful had happened that morning! An angel had come and rolled away the stone. He did this to show that Jesus had arisen. The angel's face was as bright as lightning and his clothes were as white as snow. The Roman soldiers were afraid and fell to the ground. They got up and ran to the city.

Mary did not know what had happened. She thought the enemies of Jesus had stolen the body. Mary ran back to the city to tell two of Jesus' disciples, Peter and John.

The other women went into the grave. Two angels were sitting there. They were dressed in white clothes. The angels said, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is alive again. Tell the disciples they will see Him soon."

Peter and John went to the tomb, followed by Mary. They discovered that Jesus' body was gone! Peter and John

went back to the city, but Mary stayed. She was very sad. She was crying, but while she was crying, she heard a man's voice. She thought the man was the gardener and asked where the body of Jesus had been taken.

Jesus said, "Mary!"

Mary recognized Jesus' voice and praised God.

Jesus showed Himself to the other women on their way to Jerusalem. They ran to tell the disciples the good news. Jesus is risen!

Activity One - Find the message. Starting with the "J", color every other box purple. This will help you find a hidden message. A triangle marks the beginning of a new word.

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| N | L | C | I | J |
| V | A | E | S |  |

Answer: JESUS IS ALIVE

Prayer - Dear Jesus, we are very happy that You rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. After dying on the cross, You showed everyone that You are God and that You have saved us all from everlasting death in hell. Thank you for dying and rising so that we can go to heaven with You. Amen.

Passage - Memory Verse Puzzles. Cut out the puzzle pieces and put together the memory verses. You may wish to glue them to the outline guide.

