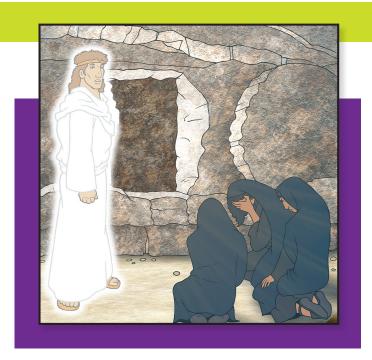
April 12, 2020

BIBLE LESSO

KEY VERSE: "Don't be alarmed," [the young man] said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!" (Mark 16:6)



Alive!

Lesson Scripture: Mark 16:1-9

God's Word

1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb 3 and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. 6 "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." 8 Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid. 9 When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

Bible Story Alive!

Mark 16:1-9

After Jesus had been crucified and the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome made their way to the tomb. They had purchased burial spices to use to anoint Jesus' body. It was very early Sunday morning just after sunrise when they went to the tomb. On their way, they wondered about and discussed who would be able to roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb. Once the women got to the place where Jesus was buried, they looked up and realized that the stone had already been rolled away!

As the three women walked into the tomb, they were surprised to find a young man dressed in a white robe sitting there. He told them not to be afraid. He knew that they were looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the one who had been crucified. The angel told them that Jesus was not there. He had risen! The angel said, "Look at where His body had lain. Go and tell His disciples that Jesus has gone ahead to Galilee. They will see Him there, just as He had told them before He died." After seeing the place where Jesus had lain, the women were afraid and ran from the tomb. They did not tell anyone the news because they were too afraid to talk.

Yes, early on Sunday morning, Jesus rose from the dead! The first person to see Him was Mary Magdalene, the woman out of whom He had gotten seven demons.

When "Empty" Is Good News!

(Part 1)

"Mama, today in Children's Church, Minister Poole asked us a really tough question.

"Some questions are harder than others, but this one must have really gotten you to thinking. What was it?" Mama wondered.

"She asked, 'When is "empty" good news?"" Shelicia answered.

"Well, you and I both know that an empty gas tank is not good. Remember when your dad ran out of gas and the tow truck had to come and pick him up?" Mama replied.

"Yes, ma'am, I remember. That is definitely soooo *not* the answer," Shelicia said with a laugh.

"This question has me thinking too. Give me some time to think about it," Mama said.

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

Hello! Nicholas and Cornelius here. Today's lesson begins with a sad trip to the cemetery. Jesus was crucified on Friday and His friends were not able to properly prepare His body for burial. On the third day after Jesus was buried, some women went to the tomb to place spices on the body—but the body of Jesus was gone! How would you respond if you were the women on that first Resurrection Sunday?



When "Empty" Is Good News! (Part 2)

"Time's up! In Children's Church, we came up with a lot of different answers. One person said an empty desk, because that meant it was clean. Another person said an empty floor, because that meant they had cleaned up their room," Shelicia commented.

"Those all sound like good answers to me, but for some reason I don't think that was the answer Minister Poole was looking for," Mama said.

"She was looking for 'an empty tomb'! It's good news that Jesus wasn't in the tomb on Sunday morning. Just like the three women, we should share that sometimes empty is good," Shelicia explained.

"Now that is Good News!" Mama said in agreement.

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

What began as a sad trip to the cemetery ended with the Good News that Jesus is alive! The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are at the center of the Gospel message. Jesus died for the sins of the whole world. This message is life-changing. It gives

us forgiveness and hope for a future with God. We agree with Shelicia's mom—that is Good News!

Word Scramble Decoding

Unscramble the scrambled-up words, writing each of the letters of the unscrambled word in the boxes provided to the right of the scrambled-up word. Then fill in the missing letters of the phrase below by transferring each letter in a numbered box to its corresponding number in the phrase to reveal a message from today's lesson.

