



Lesson 24: *The Empty Tomb* (Condensed Version)

Objectives: To explain that:

- Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. An angel was at the tomb and announced what had happened to Jesus.
- Jesus conquered sin and death when he died and rose again. He now has a glorious new eternal body. He is the Forever King.
- The resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee that we who are united to him by faith, will be resurrected to everlasting life too. We will also rise from the dead and will be given a glorious, new and eternal body like Jesus has; we will live in God's Kingdom with Jesus as the Forever King.

"I Wonder" Questions:

What do you see in this picture? (empty tomb, women, sunshine)

I wonder who was in the tomb.

I wonder why the tomb is empty.

I wonder why the women are there.

Let's find out more in our story.

Lesson Summary: After Jesus' death on the cross on the Friday, they took his body down from the cross and wrapped it in white linen and put it in a tomb. The Jewish leaders were nervous that the disciples might come and steal the body, so they had soldiers guard the tomb during the day and night. On the Easter Sunday, three days later, Mary Magdalene and her friends were crying as they were going to the tomb where Jesus was buried. When they got to the tomb, they found that the large stone door had been rolled away, the soldiers were gone, and Jesus' body was not there! Instead, there was an angel in the tomb who said, 'Why are you looking in a tomb for someone who is alive? He isn't here! Jesus is risen and he is alive!'

The greatest story ever told is the story of Easter, that Jesus is Alive!

Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world. He was crucified and conquered sin on the cross. Jesus died and was buried in a tomb, but he was resurrected! He conquered death and has a glorious new eternal body. Jesus is alive and we can have his life in us! When we follow Jesus, we begin a new life. We are a new creation! The resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee that we who are united to him by faith, will be resurrected to everlasting life too. We also will rise from the dead and will be given a glorious, new and eternal body just like Jesus. We will live in God's Kingdom with Jesus as the Forever King.

Suggested Questions: **What does this story tell us about Jesus?** (He truly is the Son of God, he is powerful, he overcame death, he has a glorious eternal body) **How does this event change how I live?** (I am thankful that Jesus overcame death. I can live knowing that, if I follow Jesus, I will live with him forever and someday I will have a new and glorious eternal body too.)

- Why did Jesus die on the cross? (by his perfect life and sacrificial death, Jesus paid the penalty for our sins. He conquered sin on our behalf.)
- Why is it important that Jesus rose again from the dead? (Jesus defeated even the enemy of death, so he could give us new life. The resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee that we who are united to him by faith, will be resurrected to everlasting life too.)
- If we believe and follow Jesus, what will happen to us when we die? (We will also rise from the dead and will be given a glorious, new and eternal body like Jesus has; we will live in God's Kingdom with Jesus as the Forever King)

Bible Memory Verse:

"Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17--NIRV)