

# SUNDAY... *Resurrection!*

## Remember...

The Resurrection is cause for celebration and we need to show up for it today, and every day!

## Read Matthew 28:1-6

Only heaven knows how to plan, oversee and execute a resurrection! These verses resound with LIFE and JOY and VICTORY! I love to read them over and over again! *“Jesus has risen, just as He said!”* That is what the angel told the women who came to look at the grave. *“He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said He would.”*

The power of Jesus’ Word is beyond our comprehension. During His ministry, Jesus told His followers again and again that He would rise from the dead. His Word is always true and will always come to pass, even if we can’t imagine how that could be.

Just like His followers couldn’t imagine. After all the trauma of the days preceding this resurrection morning, I am sure it seemed like they were encompassed in death like never before. Their hope of Jesus reigning as Messiah appeared to be lost and how heavy all of that must have felt.

And yet, Jesus had every detail of the resurrection that He had promised set up and ready to go. He would be true to His Word. His new mercy on this resurrection morning was ready to burst forth. Verse 1 tells us, *“After the Sabbath, as it began to dawn...”* see the sun was barely starting to rise and Jesus was up and out of the grave! When God has a plan, He puts it into motion exactly when He says that He will. Jesus had told them He would rise after 3 days and that is exactly what happened... first thing, no waiting!

And yet, have you ever thought about this... that no one showed up for the resurrection? See all throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus’ had repeatedly told His disciples that He would be in the grave for three days and then He would rise again. They had certainly seen enough of His character to know He was faithful to His Word. And they had certainly seen Him perform plenty of miracles, even raising others from the dead. **But when the third day came, the only one there to see it was the angel who rolled away the stone. No one else showed up.**

**Why?** Fear, unbelief, sadness, trauma and probably a host of many understandable reasons that we all can probably relate to. But being on this side of the story where we have full view of Jesus’ resurrection, we can also see that **they missed out on the greatest moment of their lives!**

Now you might be thinking, *“but the women came,”* and true they did. But why did they come? Mark 16 tells us that they came bringing spices. That would be like bringing a casserole to the funeral, just trying to do something to help during a time of loss. See the women were bringing spices to take care of Jesus body... his dead body. **The point is, they didn’t come expecting to see Jesus alive.**

**So what about us?** We can’t show up today and see Jesus walk out of the grave, but He has spoken repeated promises all over Scripture about the power of His resurrection in our lives. And not just for our future in heaven, but His promises are for right now too. He has promised to resurrect the dead things in our lives... dead thoughts, emotions, relationships, habits... He promises to make all things new! **The question is, are we expecting the resurrection He has promised, or are we hiding away in fear, unbelief, sadness, trauma and more?**

**Today, we celebrate Jesus’ Resurrection!** But tomorrow and the next, and the next, **may we continue to do so!**

## Prayer Conversation Starter...

**Jesus, You said You would rise from the dead on the third day and You did!** Give me renewed trust that You do exactly what You say! Help me trust in every promise of resurrection You’ve given and **help me show up for it every day!**

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