He Is Risen Resurrection Sunday KZ Lesson Sun Am 3/31/24

# Memory Verse: Luke 24:6 NKJV

# 6He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee,

Target Thought: Resurrection Day is about Jesus.

This morning, I want to read you a story. As I read, I want you to listen carefully for some special words. Here are three words I want you to listen for: candy, eggs and bunny rabbits.

Luke 24:1-6 NKJV

24 Now on the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain *other women* with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. 3Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. 5Then, as they were afraid and bowed *their* faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee,

Did you hear any of those words in our story? You didn’t? I don’t understand. I just read you the Easter story. No candy? No eggs? No bunnies? Why not?

The fact is Easter is not about candy. It’s not about colored eggs or bunny rabbits. It’s not even about new clothes, although the Bible tells us that the angels who appeared to Mary and the others were wearing “bright shining clothes.” These things have become part of our celebration of Easter or our Resurrection Day, and there is nothing wrong with them being a part of our celebration as long as we know what Easter is really all about. Can someone tell me what Easter is all about? That’s right. Easter is really about Jesus, and the wonderful good news that He is alive!

On the Sunday morning after Jesus was crucified, a woman named Mary went to visit the grave where the body of Jesus had been laid. When she got there, she found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. She ran to find someone to tell them what she had seen. She found two of the disciples, Peter and John, and she said to them, "They have taken our Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him." Remember Jesus had already told them that He would die to save everyone and then rise again. So you see they should not have been looking for Jesus in the tomb.

We know that Father God has only good plans for us and the Bible tells us about them, however sometimes we don’t always understand all of it but we still believe even when we don’t understand how God is going to complete His plan.

The three of them immediately ran to the tomb. When they got there, they all saw the same thing, but they didn't all look at it in the same way. Nor again remember Jesus had already told all of His disciples before He was even crucified all that would happen. Remember even Peter told Jesus that he wouldn’t allow Jesus to be crucified.

Peter looked in and was curious. The Bible says Peter went in the empty tomb and looked around. He saw strips of linen laying around and the cloth that Jesus had been buried in folded neatly and placed where the body had been. "Hmmm, very interesting," Peter might have said to himself.

Mary looked and was sad. The Bible tells us that Mary didn't even go inside the empty tomb. She just stood outside the tomb and wept because she feared that someone had stolen the body of Jesus. Mary wasn’t remembering all that Jesus had told her about Him rising again and going to Heaven to the Father so that we all could be saved.

John looked and believed. The bible says that John went inside the tomb and he saw and believed. Now, I don't know exactly how much John understood, but I think he believed that Jesus had risen from the grave just as he said he would.

Three people -- they all saw the same thing -- one was curious, one was sad, and one believed. I think that is pretty much the same way people react to the story of Jesus today. Some people hear the story and they are curious, others hear it and think it is sad, others hear it and believe. How do you look at it? Explain to me what Easter or Resurrection day means to you.

Dear Lord, today we celebrate the resurrection. We thank You that Jesus is not in the grave. He is risen and alive, and because of that, we can have new life in Him. Amen.

1. Who is Resurrection Day about?
2. Had Jesus already told everyone that He would be crucified and rise again?
3. Do we still believe God even when we don’t understand?
4. Did John believe even when he didn’t understand everything?
5. Explain to me what resurrection day means to you.