

**Lesson 34: The Resurrection**

**Objective:** To learn that we Christians worship and serve a Savior who is living today.

**Background:** "It is finished," said Jesus triumphantly as He was dying on the cross. For He had accomplished the purpose (goal) for which He came to earth – to pay the penalty for sin; to die in the place of sinners. He was buried and on the third day (Sunday) He rose again from the dead never to die again. He has conquered death! All the religion in the world worship "dead teachers", but Christians alone worship a "living Savior", Jesus lives today! And that is the Good News.

**Instructions:** Read carefully Mark 15:42-47; Matthew 27:62-66; Luke 23:35 to 24:43 as if you were at the scene.

**Let's Think:**

Friday around 4 or 5 p.m., Jesus was buried in a hurry because the Sabbath day, a holy day began at 6 p.m. The Jewish religious laws forbid (do not allow) leaving a dead body hanging on a cross overnight or to bury the dead on the Sabbath day. So, they wrapped Jesus' body in a linen cloth and placed it in a nearby tomb which no one had used. Let us see what happens since Jesus died on the cross at 3 p.m. Friday afternoon.

1. a) What did Pilate do before he gave the body of Jesus to Joseph of Arimathea? (Matthew 15:42-47; John 19:31-34) And where did Joseph bury Jesus? (Matthew 27:59-61)

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- b) Why did it take courage for Joseph of Arimathea to ask for Jesus' body? Explain

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2. a) When did the religious leaders go to see Pilate again? Why were they in such a hurry since they had succeeded in killing Jesus? (Matthew 27:62-66)

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- b) What did Pilate tell them to do? Had they tried? Did it work? Explain

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3. a) Had Jesus really said that He would rise from the dead? (Matthew 16:21; Matthew 17:22,23; Matthew 20:17-19) And has He really risen from the dead?

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4. a) What did Peter and John see when they ran to the tomb? (John 20:4-7)

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b) What evidence is there that Jesus body was not stolen either by His disciples or by His enemies as some said, but that Jesus really rose from the dead physically?

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5. a) Read Luke 24:13-35; John 20:19-29 and write down the names of people, besides Mary Magdalene, who saw Jesus after he rose from the dead.

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b) What did Jesus say to the doubting Thomas? What does He mean? (John 20:28,29)

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6. a) Why do we Christians boast about “the empty tomb”? What makes Christianity different from all other religions in the world? Explain

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Do you know that Jesus lives today and He wants to talk with you and walk with you every day? Would you let Him? What would you like to tell Him? Write it down.

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Let's Remember: But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He has risen, as He said.” (Matthew 28:5)

