

FOLLOW ME

The Gospel of Matthew

WEEK 9 - THE RESURRECTION OVERVIEW

It is finally here! Not just the resurrection of our Savior, but the end of this multi-part sermon series. We are ending right where we began, with Matthew 28 and the resurrection of Jesus. In this Easter message, we will attempt to imagine the shock and joy felt by the first of Jesus' disciples to encounter the risen Christ: the women he chose to be the first evangelists. As we consider both their "fear" and "great joy" at the news that Jesus was alive, we will be invited to experience those emotions along with them: Awe at the power of Christ over death itself and profound joy at his invitation to join him in that victory. He is risen!

They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them.

Matthew 28:8-9

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the most awesome thing you've ever seen or experienced?
2. Read [Matthew 28:1-7](#).
 - a. How does the angel describe what has happened?
 - b. Why is that important?
3. What is significant about Jesus meeting the women first after His resurrection?
4. Why do you think the resurrection is central to the message of the Gospel?
5. How does the resurrection change the way you view suffering, death, or uncertainty?
6. Barry shared that "Because Christ took the consequences of our sin on himself on the cross, and because he shattered the gates of death when he rose, we can now live free of our slavery to self." What are some examples of how we may be in **slavery to self**?
7. Where might fear and doubt be holding you back from sharing your faith?
8. Read [Matthew 28:18-20](#) and [Romans 9:5](#).
 - a. What do these reveal about who Jesus is?
9. What brings you great joy or awe?