

God's Story Your Story



April 5, 2015

Matthew 28:5-6

Faith 5 – A pattern for shaping a life of faith

Share:

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Read: Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:5-6

Talk:

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- What loud or bright things in our culture compete for your attention? Is Jesus' resurrection drowned out? Where do you see his resurrection and love for humanity loud and clear?
- What challenges do you face that make faith hard to come by? What can you do this week to strengthen your faith?

Pray:

He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Today we celebrate the resurrection of our lord and savior, Jesus Christ. With all creation we lift our voices to honor you, our risen king, Jesus Christ, our redeemer. Amen.

Bless:

God of resurrection, stir new life in our spirits with your word this day. Bring our alleluias to fullness. Amen.

Some Background

This highly dramatic event would have made for a great end to a blockbuster film. One can almost hear the roar of the earthquake, see the painful glare of the lightning-white clothing of the angel, and feel the fear of the guards as their world shook around them. It is as if the scene was intentionally shocking. Because it was so shockingly impossible, it leaves hearers two options: to reject it outright, or to believe wholeheartedly. Hearers are given the invitation to be all in, and then to go out, spreading the news of the miraculous events, and extending the invitation to anyone who will hear.

Follow the stories of early believers and missionaries.

Sunday, Matthew 28:1-10, *Easter: Matthew*

Monday, Psalm 118:19-24, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Matthew 28:11-15, *The Report of the Guard*

Wednesday, Acts 1:12-26, *Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas*

Thursday, Acts 2:37-42, *The First Converts*

Friday, Acts 5:12-16, *The Apostles Heal Many*

Saturday, Acts 5:17-42, *The Apostles are Persecuted*