

## NOTES



## PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts open to the truth of Your resurrection power. Grant us the faith to believe in the reality of Christ's victory over death. Help us to grasp the significance of His resurrection in our lives and to respond with awe and gratitude. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

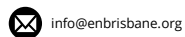
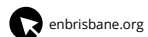


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## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

If you could witness any event from history, including biblical events, what would it be and why?

## WORD

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, [a] "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

24 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, [d] was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." 26 Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

### [John 20:11-18, 24-28 ESV](#)

16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19 And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. 22 Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." 25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, 29 but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" 33 And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, 34 saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

### [Luke 24:16-34 \(ESV\)](#)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

### 1. Importance of a Biblical Perspective:

- Why is it important for Christians to have a biblical understanding of the resurrection?
- How does the resurrection of Jesus impact our faith and daily lives?

### 2. Overcoming Disappointment and Jadedness:

- How might disappointment or jadedness affect someone's belief in the resurrection?
- Reflecting on John 20:11-18, how does Mary Magdalene's initial disbelief turn into overwhelming joy when she encounters the resurrected Christ? What can we learn from her experience?

### 3. Challenging Cultural Expectations:

- In what ways can cultural influences shape our expectations of who the resurrected Jesus is?
- Considering Thomas's doubt in John 20:24-28, how might our own preconceived notions or cultural expectations hinder our ability to recognize and believe in the resurrected Christ?

### 4. Encountering the Resurrected Christ:

- Reflect on the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:16-How does Jesus reveal Himself to them, and what significance does this hold for our own encounters with the resurrected Christ?
- How can we cultivate a deeper relationship with the resurrected Jesus in our lives today?

### 5. Prayer to Receive Jesus as Resurrected Lord and Savior:

If you're ready to invite Jesus into your life as your Resurrected Lord and Savior, you can pray this prayer or something similar from your heart:

"Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner in need of Your forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins and rose again, conquering death. I repent of my sins and invite You to come into my life as my Resurrected Lord and Savior. Thank You for Your grace and mercy. Help me to follow You faithfully from this day forward. In Jesus' name, Amen."