

## Introduction

You can tell this story to your children any time you like. If you want to read it for yourself you can find it in Matthew 28: Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20-21. If you want to read it online just go to the Bible Gateway website and type the passage into the search engine. There's a colouring page and word search with the story as well as some ideas for things to do together as a family.

## Easter Sunday

After Jesus had died on the cross he was put in a tomb and a big stone was rolled over it. The people who didn't like Jesus thought they'd got rid of him for ever. Jesus' friends felt sad because he had been hurt so much and now wasn't around. What were they going to do now? Their special friend and teacher was gone. It was all really sad.

On the very first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and some other friends of Jesus got up really early to go to his tomb. But when they got there something very strange had happened. The great big stone had been rolled away. What was going on? It was a huge stone and would have been very difficult to move.

Mary was very upset. She started to cry. What had happened to her friend? She looked inside the tomb and saw 2 angels sitting where Jesus' body had been. They asked her, "Why are you crying?" Mary said, "My friend isn't here. I don't know where he is." Just then, Mary turned around and saw a man standing behind her. She didn't know who it was. She thought this person must be in charge of looking after the garden. The man asked her, "Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" Mary said, "Please tell me if you know where my friend is."

Mary didn't realise that the man she was talking to was Jesus, she didn't recognise him straight away. But then Jesus said her name and then she knew it was him! She was so happy! Her friend was alive again! Jesus said to her, "Go and tell everyone else that you've seen me and I'm alright." Mary ran and did just as Jesus said. She was so happy! She'd never been so happy!

Later on that day, Jesus came to see his other friends. He showed them that he really was alive and ok again. For many days Jesus spent time with his friends, sharing food with them and teaching them just like he had done before. When it was time for him to leave he said to them, "I have a very important job for you all. I want you to tell everyone about me. Tell them about all the things that I've said and all the things that I've done. I promise I will always be with you no matter what. I'll never ever leave you." What an amazing promise! It wasn't just for Jesus' friends back then, it's for all of us today as well including you and me. How amazing is that?! We can have Jesus as our special friend and he promises to never leave us.

## **What to do next**

You could chat about your favourite part of the story.

You could pray together. Below are some suggestions for prayer:

- Thank Jesus that he's alive and wants to be our special friend
- Ask Jesus to help you know him better as your special friend
- Think about someone you know who doesn't know about Jesus. Ask him to help them know he can be their special friend too.

## **Possible activities to do**

- Make an Easter garden- use a seed tray/cake tin
  1. Fill with compost use
  2. Use anything you have: stones, grass, moss, seeds, cress seed
  3. Put paper cup in corner ,
  4. Cover with compost for tomb,
  5. Put 3 little crosses on the 'hill' over the cup
  6. Find a stone in the garden to cover the front of the cup
  7. Don't forget to open the tomb on Easter Sunday
- Make an Easter card for friends and family you cant be with.
- Do an Easter egg hunt in the garden.



The tomb was empty because Jesus was alive again!

# He is Risen!



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V	H	E	D	P	C	A	L	I	P	I	R	B	M	U
N	Z	N	G	R	T	V	V	Q	Q	R	O	M	F	S
N	U	J	O	N	A	Y	K	L	F	H	S	O	Y	I
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B	F	O	N	X	W	Z	Z	K	X	H	U	E	K	U
T	N	H	I	M	P	C	Y	R	I	S	E	N	P	N
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RISEN  
SALVATION  
STONE  
SUNDAY  
TOMB

ANGEL  
CALVARY  
CHRIST  
CROSS

CROWN  
DISCIPLES  
EMPTY  
MARY