Volume Seven

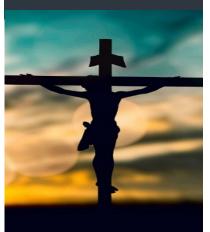
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A MONTHLY JOURNAL FROM THE HEART OF GOD

## The Growth Journal Resurrection Sunday

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## Growth Ministries Inc.

As Iron Sharpens Iron, So One Person Sharpens Another. Proverbs 27:17

#### Unforgiveness

Forgiveness is a word many people have different perspectives on. There are people in the process of forgiving or have forgiven another person in their lifetime. The bible states in Matthew 18:22 that we are to forgive someone who wronged us seventy times seven, then Luke 17:4 adds an additional clause, "in a day". So not only are we to forgive 490 times which seem impossible to do on our own but now it is asking us to forgive 490 times in a DAY! What about when forgiveness has nothing to do with another person? What about when we are the person who needs selfforgiveness?

Before I received freedom in this area of my life, it was easier to forgive others than to forgive myself of something I did to someone, even if someone had cleared me and released me of the wrong. We tend to be harder on ourselves than we are on other people. Think of this analogy; showing up to a fight to punish your opponent, not realizing the opponent is you. This is what unforgiveness towards oneself looks like.

I want to give you another analogy. Picture yourself in a room, and the keyhole is only accessible from the inside, but you hold the keys in your hands. No one can save you because there is no key entry on the other side of the door. Unforgiveness is like you locked inside a room and the only one who can let you out is you because you have the key but refuse to unlock yourself.



By keeping the door locked with no entry, unforgiveness stays in and no forgiveness can enter. God is knocking at the door (Rev 3:20) and all he is waiting for is an open door so he can rescue you. He wants to pull you unto Himself and heal your every fear, uncertainty, and pain. He wants you to know that He loves you the same, NO MATTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE. He is for you and will always be for you, he wants to lead you into a life of peace and righteousness.

How can we allow God to rescue us? By understanding He sent his only Son to die that we can receive forgiveness as well as give forgiveness. When we receive Him as Lord and Savior, we get a brand-new start. All you must do is confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead and you will be saved (Rom 10:9). If you have given your heart to Christ, great news!!! Receiving brand new mercies every morning is part of the benefit package (Lam 3:22-23)!

The bottom line is God has already forgiven you for your sins and all sins you have committed. Because He has done so, you now have the power and ability to forgive yourself AND others. His love for you can wash away any sin, transgression and wrongdoing if you have confessed it. Receive His forgiveness today.

ву **L.Р.Р** 

## 10 Painful Medical Facts About The Crucifixion Of Christ

When we think about the crucifixion of Christ, we often fast forward in our minds to his resurrection. Let's take the time to truly understand what "suffered on the cross" really means in the natural. Keep in mind that he did this voluntarily for you and me. Here are 10 facts you may not have known about a Roman crucifixion.

#### 10 The Victim Suffocates To Death

There are many theories how someone who is crucified dies. The most probable is that he suffocates after many hours or even days of hanging on the cross. The weight of the body pulling down on the diaphragm complicates breathing.

#### 9 The Person's Legs Might Be Broken

In some circumstances, an executioner needed to end the crucifixion. To do so, the soldiers would break the victim's legs by smashing the femur bones with a large, heavy mallet. This prevented the person from being able to push up from the feet to reposition the diaphragm for breathing, thus forcing him to suffocate.



#### 8 The Nerves In the Arms Rubbed Against The Metal From The Nails

The nails driven into the wrists would pierce the main nerve running through the arm. When the victim pushed up to breathe, the wrists rotated against the nail, which would irritate the nerves and cause intense pain in the arms. The direct exposure of the nerve to the thick slab of metal produced a constant, recurring pain that had to be endured every time the crucified person pulled up to breathe.



#### 7 Skin And Muscle Were Ripped Off The Person's Body Before Crucifixion

Crucifixion involved more than just nailing someone to a cross or tree. It was proceeded by a beating with a nine-tailed whip that had metal tips and bone clippings on the end of every strap. The executioner strapped the victim to a block of wood while soldiers beat the shard tips of the whip into

the back, buttocks, and legs of the condemned. The bones would tear into the flesh and then rip both skin and muscle away when retracted.

#### 6 Wooden Splinters Scourged The Flesh Further

After being flogged with the nine-tailed whip, the victim had to carry a wooden beam to the place of crucifixion.[This wood was not smooth and treated. It was a splintered, jagged tree. The ragged plank moved up and down the victim's back, shoving splinters into the open wounds.

## 10 Painful Medical Facts About The Crucifixion Of Christ cont.

#### 5 Hypovolemic Shock

The initial beating alone was enough to induce the onset of hypovolemic shock. This occurs when a person loses 20 percent or more of the body's blood supply. The blood loss depletes the body of oxygen and prevents the heart from pumping more blood, which results in even less reaching the cells.[6] The cycle is vicious and can continue until the person dies from the condition.

#### 4 The Shoulders Dislocate

This happens at the onset of the crucifixion. The vertical beam is already in the ground. The victim carries the horizontal beam, and then the executioner nails him to it while on the ground. With the person's wrists nailed into the horizontal beam, the executioner lifts and then hammers it into the vertical beam. When this happens, the victim's feet still aren't nailed into the vertical beam. Therefore he has nothing to push up with, and the weight of the hanging body, once raised, pulls the shoulders out of their sockets. The body then sinks lower, dislocates the wrists.

#### 3 Cardiac Stress And Hyperventilation

Since the body doesn't get enough oxygen while hanging on the cross, the natural physiological response is to hyperventilate. Not being able to do so, however, the heart pumps harder, trying to overcompensate for the lack of oxygen. The heart then goes into cardiac stress, which can even cause it to rupture inside the chest cavity.

#### 2 Muscle Cramping And Spasms

When a victim his hung on the cross, the knees are bent at a 45-degree angle. This forces the person to sustain the weight of the body with the thigh muscles. It is painful to bend the knees and support one's weight with the thighs alone for even five minutes. Doing this for hours, even days, is unimaginable.



#### 1 Pain In The Vital Organs

The natural way for our vital organs to receive oxygen is through the flow of blood. Proper movement of the body's exterior limbs (arms and legs) and their interaction with gravity facilitate this process. The cross interferes. The stationary arms and legs, combined with gravity's work of pulling the blood downward, prevents the vital organs from receiving the proper flow of oxygen.

Why would Christ do this? Why would he allow himself to become human and endure all this pain? Because our sins required the ultimate sacrifice. Only his blood was good enough. *1 Peter 3:18 Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.* 

## **Complexity of Forgiveness**

In Matthew 18:21-22 Jesus told his disciple Peter that he was to forgive a brother not only 7 times, but 70 times 7. I really appreciate this verse because whether or not Jesus meant his direction to Peter literally, it certainly is a nod to how incredibly complex forgiveness is.

Forgiveness is not an event, it is a process. And a complex process at that.



In any trauma, we look for someone to blame. We look for a perpetrator. Yet, even when we can find with 100% certainty a guilty perpetrator, that person has a history too. That person became who they are because of their experiences, which likely includes being a victim themselves. So in reality, who is to blame? We can trace adverse events back through our personal history, our national, our cultural, and even (it could be argued) our entire human history. Where does the guilt land once and for all?

Then we have to face the survivor guilt. We have to face how even victims take on shame. In many ways, even when we had zero volition in what happens to us as victims, we may still need to forgive ourselves. In toxic shame we feel the need to apologize for even breathing. Even living is somehow an offense to someone (maybe even the someones from whom we most crave love and acceptance).

Unwinding all the shame and animosity begins with a gentle move toward forgiveness. That move may be as slight as wondering what else might be true? Wondering if we really deserve all the shame. Wondering if that object of our hatred really deserves ALL the blame.

And that simple question starts to do its work. It begins to unlock slight hints of empathy, gentle nudges toward compassion.

At some point, when I started to ask questions, a new awareness gradually unfurled in my heart. I realized that Jesus became sin...

all sin....

All the hate I wanted to heap upon those who hurt me, would actually land on Jesus as he hung upon the cross.

And all the shame I felt...

also washed over him as he suffered.

## Complexity of Forgiveness cont.

My shame and my sin, as well as the sins committed against me, landed upon Jesus. He ingested all of it, it all became Him.

And in the same way, His forgiveness and righteousness can land upon me. I can ingest it. I can become His beautiful, pure, goodness, just-as-if-I'd (justified) never sinned.

Forgiving others then and forgiving myself for that matter (as complex as it can be), really comes down to the life of Jesus. When I participate in HIS life, his forgiveness flows over and over, a never-ending river. Each day when I wrestle with my shame and hatred, that river is flowing to wash me again, and again, and again.

Until one day, I really am set free from all animosity. One day I really do know, that I know, that I know I am loved and valued by God. I can see myself through the eyes of Jesus. I can see those who have hurt me through the eyes of Jesus.

And all that remains is love.

It isn't an easy process. But it IS an available process.



## Undeniable Irrefutable Indubitable Unquestionable

The day that changed human history was not a public occasion but a private one. The day when everlasting life broke into earthly time began not with celebration but with tears.

Easter embodies Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection is absolute proof that He is the Son of God, and it is why we can find hope in an eternity spent with Him. The unique thing about Jesus' resurrection is that it is permanent—Jesus is still alive! Jesus overcame death forever! Resurrection



Sunday, also known as Easter, is the day that we celebrate what we believe to be the most significant moment in history.

The men and women who saw Jesus after the resurrection couldn't return to the way things were. Their belief that Jesus died for their sins and rose from the grave changed them forever. They wrote the gospels we're reading 2,000 years later (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). They started the global church, spending their lives spreading the message that Jesus is alive.

Because Jesus defeated death and gave us eternal life in heaven, we no longer have to fear persecution. To live is to live with Jesus, and to die is to be united with Jesus.

Jesus, our Savior, our God, and our Redeemer, laid down his life as our sacrificial lamb to pay for our sins. When he rose from the dead, he gave victory over eternal separation from God to all who put their faith and trust in him. That is the new covenant, everlasting life spent with God through faith in all that Jesus Christ has done and continues to do.

Jesus was made a sin offering for us. The facts of His death are unique. The death of Christ was foretold under the Law, Psalms, and the prophets.

The death of Christ is essential to Christianity.

The death of Christ is essential to our salvation.

The death of Christ was a necessary penalty for sin.

The death of Christ was unique, incomparable, immeasurable, and of everlasting worth. Humanity will always remember the cost of their eternal salvation.

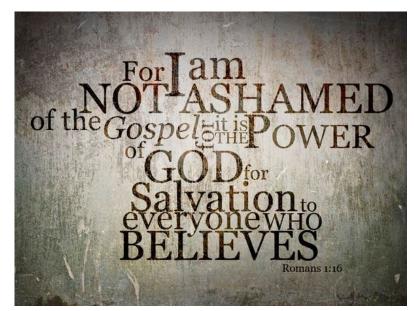
Jesus tasted death for everyone. He experienced this death so that we might have eternal life.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day is one of the fundamental doctrines of our Christian faith. There are over 100 references to the resurrection in the New Testament. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is essential to complete the redemptive work of Christ. If Jesus Christ is not raised from the dead, we are all still in sin. His death alone does not save men. It is His death and resurrection that brings salvation to humanity.

## Undeniable Irrefutable Indubitable Unquestionable cont.

As believers in Jesus Christ, our excellent task is to obey the command to tell the world about Jesus Christ being crucified, buried, and yet risen again.

We are not meant to keep this good news to ourselves. Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world, and the gift of salvation is available to all who believe.



#### **The Resurrection**

"When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid."

#### Mark 16:1-8

May we realize every day Lord Jesus what your death and resurrection mean for us; salvation, grace, mercy, forgiveness, freedom, lovingkindness, joy, and the strength and courage to walk with you through this fallen world into eternity. May we always find our satisfaction in you and your willingness to offer yourself to us. Praise, glory, and power are yours forever and ever! Amen

## Poems from God

Today the Holy Spirit has asked that I share two different poems with you that He gave me. You see, the Word of the Lord is always in our mouth, but we have to have eyes to see and ears to hear. Then it's our job to share the Word. Sometimes it's not just the Word from scripture but it's words the Great I AM puts in our mouth just as he did with Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Elisha, Noah, John the Baptist and so many others. The greatest of these was Yeshua, the Son of God or God in the flesh. NEVER be scared to share something you know is from the Holy Spirit because that is Jesus Dunamis power inside you waiting to be spoken into reality!



LeAnn McGranahan

God shares a lot of words with me. Some prophetic, some for others, some poems which I believe are His heart, just as the book of Psalms is. His beloved servant David, a major sinner, wrote to Him all the time. It is pure worship and pure repentance. He danced and sang before the Lord but most importantly whenever David was tormented, happy, sad or had sinned, he would create a Psalm to the Lord. So I feel extremely blessed when I receive these types of words from the Lord.

This word was received February 20, 2023, at 5:49 AM: Glory to God in the highest and peace to all on earth. Glory to God in the highest to him that gives rebirth. Born in sin we strive to stop, not knowing how or if. But Jesus died to save us all, so each new man could live. When you die, to the flesh, and this world is just a place. Your spirit, soul, and body change, you long for Jesus' ways. A brand-new day; a brand-new life; is what Yeshua brings. He lives in us and we in Him, on earth as Priests and Kings! Rejoice each day for all is new; every gift we have. It comes from God, our loving Father; Creator; the Great I AM! Shout for joy as miracles come, as My glory fills this land. Soon all things will be brand new, you're in the palm of My hand. Let My love guide you and hold you up. Eat with Me and drink My cup. The Holy Spirit will guide your way, so be the light of God each day!

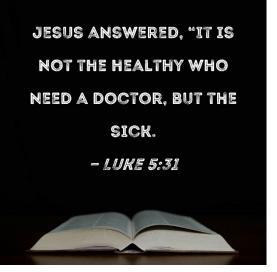
This word was received March 11, 2023, at 8:03 AM: To the Glory of the Lord, we honor You. We give You thanks and praise. For the healing power, we honor You, we lift our prayers of thanks. For the Father, He sent, His only Son, to die so we'd be saved. And on that day, we were set free, from death, sin, and the grave. There is no other God of grace, of mercy, and of love. The living God, the One true Savior, sits in Heaven above. So from our mouths, we honor You, and call You by Your name. The King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the One we soon shall see. In Jesus name all pain is gone. In His name demons flee. Authority and power we use, and set our sights on Thee. Let us not fail, thy Kingdom come; Let revival spread the world. The Holy Spirit, will guide our ways, and bring us peace unfurled. We bend the knee, I bend my knee, I give You all I am. For on the day, You call me home. I want you're welcome in. Let angels sing and shout for joy, as each soul gets set free. To be with Christ in Heaven one day; is our only plea! So Father help us, Father save us, turn this world around. And on that day, all will know, that this is Holy ground!

## Poems from God cont.

For the word above God took me to scripture. He always does with prophetic words as a confirmation but not always with poems/Psalms. I know He took me to this scripture for all of you. It is Luke 5:27-31. After these things, He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi (Matthew), sitting at the tax office. And he said to him, "Follow Me." So he left all, rose up, and followed Him. Then Levi (Matthew) gave Him a great feast in his own house. And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down with them. And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, "Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

Do you see how much Jesus loves the sinner and wants what is best for all His people no matter how great the sin may be? Back then tax collectors were considered even worse than how we feel about the IRS today!

It is my hope that when you read these words from God that you not only see His love for you but you see how He is instructing us through scripture as well to come and follow Him. Easter is just around the corner and God wants nothing more than for you to die to your flesh and become a brand-new person in Christ. He wants you to rise from the dead with Him. Both of these words are truly about salvation and the Easter blessing of resurrection.



May they comfort you and touch your mind, body and spirit. Re-read them, think on them and ask God to take you to scripture when you read them. You may be surprised at what the Lord, Jesus Christ, The Lion of Judah, and Prince of Peace wants to tell you!

### The Lord Cares About The Small Things Too (or "Mr. Peanut")

by Sharol Gutierrez

## He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:32 KJV

## And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. Isaiah 65:24

These scriptures took on a whole new meaning for me several years ago. We had definitely been going through our share of life's challenges, and we would take them to the Lord in prayer, thanking Him that we already had the victory because of the Lord Jesus' finished work at the cross. But a few small things that I mentioned just in passing to the Lord seemed to have caught his attention too.

There was a hot pink "Barbie" book I used to read at my grandparent's house when I was in about the second grade. I loved that book. One day when I went to visit, it wasn't on the shelf. He had done some cleaning and had donated a bunch of my aunts' childhood books to the local library. Bummer. So I moved on and forgot about it. Until several years ago (40 years later!). Out of the blue, that book came to mind. I thought, I should try to find that book on eBay one day, just for fun, and forgot about it. A couple of weeks later, a friend of mine and I went to an antique mall, and in the first shop I walked into had that very same book right up front on a cabinet, at eye level! Hadn't seen one or thought about it in 40 years, and there it was! Of course, for twelve bucks I had to buy it.

A few months later, a cousin of mine was getting married. He's much younger than me and had never known our grandfather (same man). I had inherited a vintage black and white chess set that Grandpa had taught me to play chess with as a child, and I had always intended to gift it to my cousin someday. So, I wrapped it up and gave it to him as a wedding gift. I had a special place in my heart for that chess set, so I remember saying to the Lord, "I think I'd like to get another like it, but in a different color since it will never truly be the same as having the original set." I looked online, could not find one just like it. Two weeks later, I was driving through my neighborhood and noticed an estate sale sign. It was very impromptu, but I walked into that home, and in the living room was an exact replica of that chess set, except, the pieces were two different shades of brown. Wow. Another \$12 later, and it was mine.

And then, about a year later, I had a hankering for some homemade nut butter.... and I thought about those old fashioned "Mr. Peanut" peanut butter makers.... you know, the big plastic peanut man with a black crank. I thought, that would be a fun way to make one, but they're vintage and even if you could find one, it probably would have broken or missing pieces. So, I forgot about it. One month later, my husband and I took a trip to southern Missouri where we had been many times before, but this time we pulled into a little antique place I had not seen before.... I walked, in, and yes, you got it, I saw a "Mr. Peanut" peanut butter maker right up front. It was in perfect condition and had all of the original parts. I'd not seen one in years. Of course, I bought it.

These items all hold personal sentimental memories for me, but even beyond that, when I look at each one of them, I'm reminded that there is no prayer too small or too insignificant that doesn't catch my Father's attention. Or yours.

## **Just For Laughs!**



#### Mother-In-Law Dies In The Holy Land

A man, his wife, and his cranky mother-in-law went on vacation to the Holy Land. While they were there, the motherin-law passed away.

The undertaker told them, "You can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here in the Holy Land for \$150".

The man thought about it for a while and told the undertaker he would just have her shipped home.

The undertaker asked, "Why.... why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your mother-in-law home when it would be wonderful to be buried here and spend only \$150?"

The man said, "A man died here about 2000 years ago. He was buried here and three days later, he rose from the dead."

"I just can't take that chance."

#### The Sick Boy At Church On Easter Sunday

A little boy, was in church on Easter Sunday with his mother, when he started feeling sick.

"Mom," he inquired, "can we leave now?"

"No," his mother replied, "the service isn't over yet."

"Well, I think I'm about to throw up." the boy announced.

"Then go out of the front door and around to the back of the church and throw up behind a bush," said his mother.

After about 60 seconds, the boy returned to his pew, alongside his mother.

"Did you throw up?" she asked quietly.

"Yes," the boy answered, embarrassed.

"How could you have gone all the way to the back of the church and returned so quickly?" Doris demanded.

"I didn't have to go out of the church. They have a box next to the front door that says, 'For the Sick'."

#### 7 Things to Remember About Easter

1. Jesus gave up His life for you. (1 Peter 3:18)

Jesus gave you the ultimate sacrifice so that you would be forgiven of your sins. He went through hours of pain and torture, so that you may have a way for eternal life. You were not even born yet, and Jesus died on the cross for you. That's how much He loves you.

2. You will always be perfect in His eyes. (Psalm 139:14)

God created you. He hand picked your eye color, nose shape, and smile because that is exactly how He wanted you to look like. God created so many masterpieces in this world, and you are one of them.

3. If you ask for it, you will be forgiven. (1 John 1:9)

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, one of the other crucified prisoners said to Him, "Forgive me Lord, for I have sinned. Remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus replied, "Amen I say to you, today you shall be with Me in paradise." The simple act of repenting to God, as He asked us to do, gives us the greatest gift of forgiveness. No matter how big or how small the sin. Jesus is waiting for us with His arms wide open. He does not judge, He only sees beauty inside each one of us. When we confess to the Lord, He reminds us once again, how much He loves us by freeing us from sin.

4. Praise Him, always. (1 Peter 4:11)

Not only does He want you to run to Him in times of struggle, but He also wants you to look to Him when you are having times of joy. He wants a relationship with you, in all the highs and lows of your life.

5. We should look to Him as an example. (Ephesians 5:1)

Jesus walked on this earth to give us the perfect example as humans. The heart He has is what we need to strive for. Forgiving, loving, and free of evil or judgment.

6. He never leaves us. (Joshua 1:9)

We may forget about Him, push Him away, or walk too far down the wrong path, but He never leaves us. He never turns His back on us. He is always right there, waiting with open arms, for us to turn back around and follow Him.

7. He went through so much for you. (Acts 17:2-3)

For many of us, we tend to forget what Jesus really went through. His suffering, His strength, His faith through all of the pain. Our troubles do not match up with His suffering on the cross for us. When you are feeling weak and tired, praise the Lord with all your heart, and He will give you strength.

Easter is more than just eggs and bunnies. Easter is a time to celebrate the amazing resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a time to remember what he did so that we may have an eternal life with Him in Heaven. During this Easter holiday, and the times to come after, I ask you to keep in mind the real reason for this special holiday.

## Closing Words – He is Risen

Luk3 24:1-6 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee:



Lonnie Johnson GMI Executive Director

We are all going to die one day. I know, this is a morbid way to start out with a closing word of encouragement. However, I need to make a point. Each one of us will pass away one day. We all have family and friends that we know that have already passed away. People die daily. But do you personally know anyone that has been dead and buried for three days and has come back to life? And furthermore, if you just happen to know someone, did they predict that is what was going to happen?

Jesus talked about his death and resurrection in Matthew 16:21-23. He specifically said he would be killed and be raised on the third day. He said it again in Matthew 17:22-23. He shared this information a few more times leading up to his death, but no one took him seriously. I mean after all the miracles he performed; you would think at least one person would have been sitting outside the tomb waiting for him to come walking out. But there was no one there. The Jewish leaders that had him killed may have believed it more than Jesus' followers because they had a guard sitting outside the tomb. They say it was so no one would steal the body, but they were clearly paying attention to Jesus when he kept saying it.

The two Mary's went to the tomb not to see if he had risen, but to finish treating the dead body according to their burial ceremony. They were expecting a dead body. However, to their surprise the body was gone. The scripture above said they were wondering (or confused). The angels had to remind them that Jesus told you he was going to do this. This was the final piece of God's plan for redemption for you and me. As I said earlier, everyone is going to die, but Jesus rose again. This is what validated his deity. This is what completed the promise that he was the Lamb of God sacrificed for all our sins. This is how we know we have salvation through our faith in Him. Had he not risen, he would have been like everyone else. Just another man, or just a good teacher, or just a prophet, or as some even said maybe he was just a lunatic. But we now know that was not the case.

If you believe this biblical truth then you too have been raised with Christ. Romans 6:4 ESV We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. You have been resurrected from your former state. You were dead to God in your sin. Now you have been risen unto eternal life. Jesus was risen with all power. You too can walk in that power. The power of his Holy Spirit. The devil no longer has authority over you. We are glad that Jesus was born, we are glad that he died for our sins, but we are most grateful that he rose with all power over death, hell, and the grave.



#### Habakkuk 2:2 ESV

And

the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. **Write Us** – We want to hear from you. We enjoy hearing from you. Here are some things you can write about.

#### • Tell us about our magazine

We want to know what you like about our magazine. What are some of the articles you want to see more of? Are there any specific types of stories that inspire you?

#### • Send us something to publish

Do you write poetry? Do you have a powerful testimony? Do you have a particular scripture that you want to share why it inspires you? Maybe you are an artist and want to share a drawing. Send it to us and let us check it out. If approved we will publish it for others to see. Please refrain from any inappropriate material. We are a Christian organization and will not publish anything that is unsuitable for our readers.

#### • Send us your prayer requests or issues you are dealing with

Are you going through something right now. Write us so we can pray with you. We will respond to your letter with a prayer, scripture and guidance on your issue. We all need someone to touch and agree with us when we are faced with life's challenges.



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Changing the World One Life at a Time

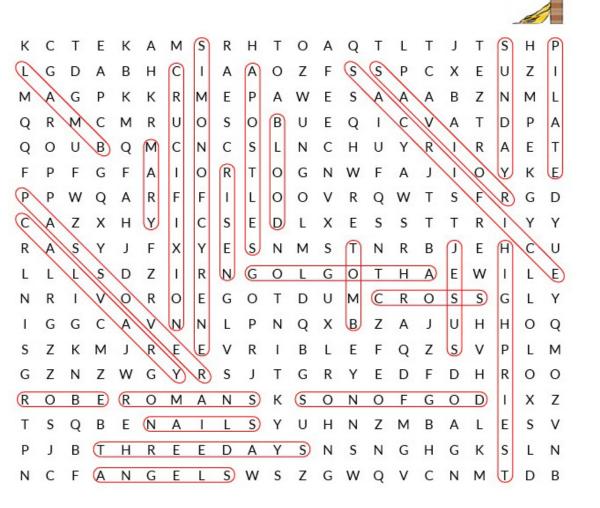
# BIBLE EASTER Word Search



К C Т Е К А M S R н Т 0 А Q Т L Т J Т S н P S Ρ G D н C Ζ F S C х E L А В A А Ο U 7 I Ρ Ε P E S Ζ G R W В м А К К М А А А A Ν М L S R M С М R U O Ο В U Е Q I С ٧ A Т D Ρ А Q В С С S С R R Ε Т Q 0 U Q М Ν L Ν н U Y I A F Ρ F G F A I 0 R Т O G N W F Α J O Y К Ε I Ρ Ρ Q R F F 0 R Q Т S F R G D w А I L Ο V W С S S S C А Ζ Х н Υ I Ε D L Х E Т Т R I Y Y S R А J F Х Y Ε S Ν M S Т R В E U Y Ν J н С S Ζ R G G Ε L L L D I N O L 0 Т н A E W I L R 0 R 0 Ε G 0 Т D U С R O S S G Y Ν L V М L G Ρ Ζ T G С A V N N L Ν Q Х В A J U н Н Ο Q S Ζ К R Ε Е V R В Е F Ζ S Ρ М М J I L Q ٧ L G Ζ Ζ S Т R Е D F Ο Ν w G Y R J G Y D н R 0 S R 0 В E R Ο A N К S Ο N Ο F G 0 D Ζ M I х т S Q В E Ν Α L S Y U н N Ζ м В А L Ε S V I Ρ J В Т R E E D A S S G S н Y Ν Ν н G К L Ν F Ε S S Ζ Ν С A G W G W Ν Т D В Ν L Q v С М

GOLGOTHA SON OF GOD MARY ROMANS RISEN BLOOD TOMB CRUCIFIXION SACRIFICE SIMON OF CYRENE APOSTLES PILATE THREE DAYS JESUS CALVARY HIGH PRIEST ANGELS ROBE CROSS PASSOVER SUNDAY SAVIOR LAMB NAILS

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MARY CRUCIFIXION PILATE HIGH PRIEST PASSOVER SUNDAY