

STUDYING THE BOOK OF MATTHEW
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 116 - The Resurrection - Matthew 28:1-10

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

MT 28:1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

MT 28:2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. [3] His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. [4] The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

MT 28:5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. [6] He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. [7] Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

MT 28:8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. [9] Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. [10] Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 116 - The Resurrection - Matthew 28:1-10

- 1428. When did the events of this passage occur? (28:1)
- 1429. Who went to Jesus' tomb? (28:1)
- 1430. What significant events took place that morning? (28:2)
- 1431. Where did the angel go, and what did he do? (28:2)
- 1432. What did the angel look like? (28:3)
- 1433. What effect did the angel have on the guards at the tomb of Jesus? (28:4)
- 1434. What amazing news did the angel announce to the women at the tomb? (28:5-6)

1435. What invitation did the angel give the women? (28:6)
1436. What command did the angel give Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary"? (28:7)
1437. How did the women feel as they left the tomb? (28:8)
1438. What kind of meeting took place as the women were going to tell the disciples about Jesus? (28:9)
1439. How did the women respond when Jesus met them? (28:9)
1440. What words of challenge and comfort did the women receive? (28:10)

Lesson 117 - The Guards' Report - Matthew 28:11-15

MT 28:11 While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. [12] When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, [13] telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' [14] If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." [15] So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 117 - The Guards' Report - Matthew 28:11-15

1441. While the women were going out to spread the good news, what did the guards from the tomb do? (28:11)
1442. What groups met to discuss the "emergency" of Jesus' missing body? (28:12)
1443. What did the meeting of religious leaders produce? (28:12)
1444. What did the chief priests give the soldiers? Why? (28:12-13)
1445. Whom did the chief priests bribe? Why? (28:12-13)
1446. Whom did the chief priests and elders use? Why? (28:12-13)
1447. What did the religious leaders tell the soldiers to say? (28:13)
1448. How did the religious leaders reassure the guards that they would not get in trouble with the Roman government? (28:14)

1449. What did the soldiers think about the plot? (28:15)

1450. To what degree was the story made up by Jesus' enemies spread and believed? (28:15)

1451. How do you think the soldiers felt as they made their way back to headquarters?

1452. To what do you account the Jewish leaders' stubborn unwillingness to acknowledge the Resurrection?

Lesson 118 - The Great Commission - Matthew 28:16-20

MT 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. [17] When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. [18] Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in* the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 118 - The Great Commission - Matthew 28:16-20

1453. Who went to Galilee? When? (28:16)

1454. Where did the disciples gather? Why? (28:16)

1455. Why did the disciples assemble on the specific mountain they chose? (28:16)

1456. Who appeared to the disciples? When? (28:16-17)

1457. What responses did Jesus' appearance elicit? (28:17)

1458. What did Jesus say about Himself? (28:18)

1459. Where did Jesus tell His disciples to go? (28:19)

1460. What did Jesus tell His disciples to make? (28:19)

1461. What activities were the disciples to be involved in? (28:19-20)

1462. With what words of comfort did Jesus leave His disciples? (28:20)

1463. What does it mean to "make disciples"?

1464. What role do you have in making disciples?

Bibliography

New International Version
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Lesson Maker
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