

**JESUS LIVES!**

READ FOR YOURSELF: Mark 16:1-9 and John 20:1-18

After the days of rest that are set for Passover, some women go to the tomb ...



The stone has been rolled away!

Why do you look for the living one among the dead? He has risen. Go and tell his disciples!

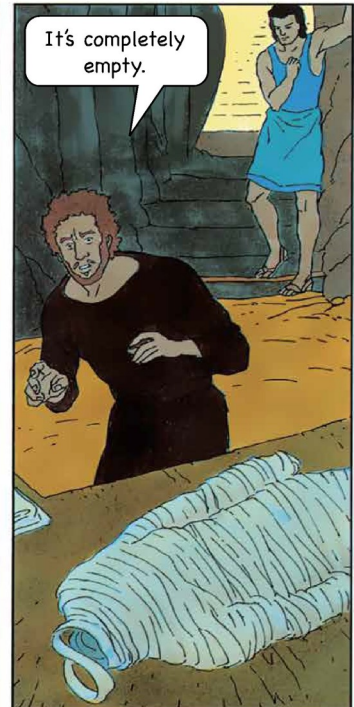


When they hear this, Peter and John run to the tomb...

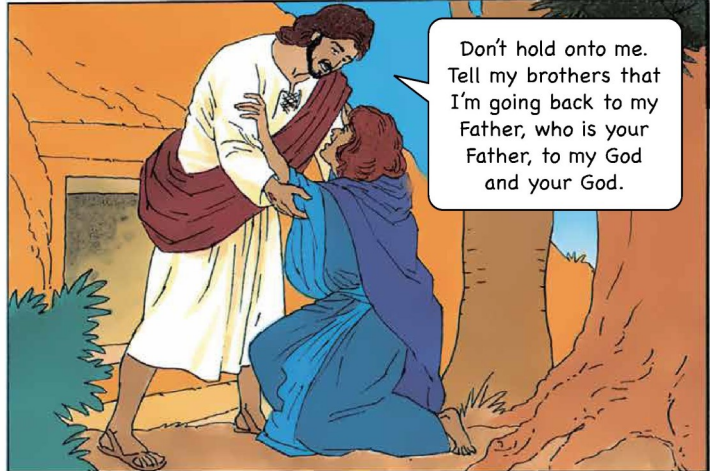
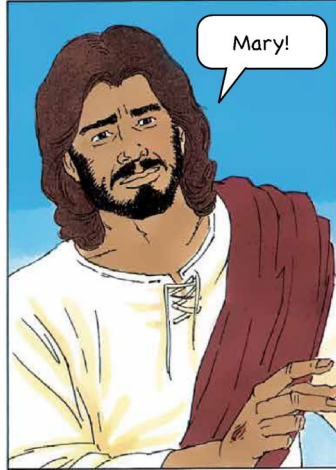
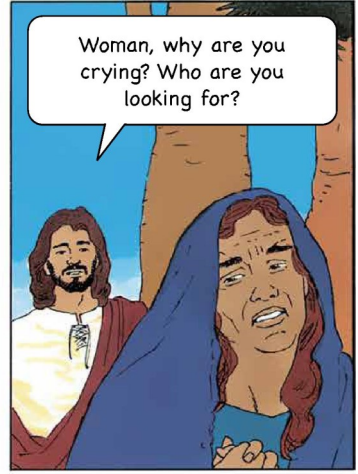
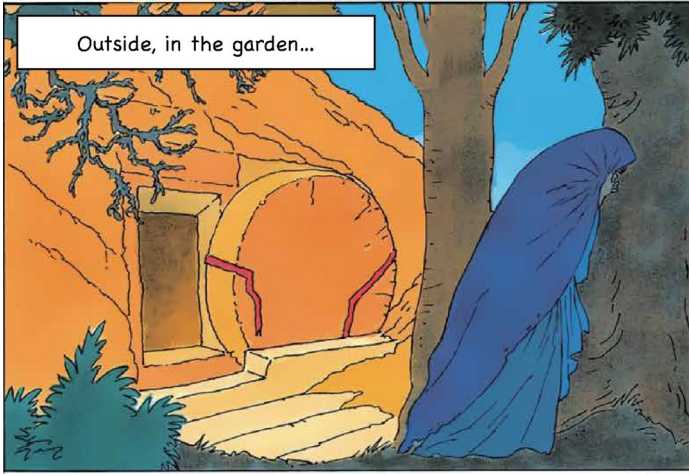


What happened?

It's completely empty.









## **JESUS LIVES!**

The most unbelievable thing happens. Something that no one thought would happen: However the Lord God had already planned it from the very beginning. Watch! Jesus has risen from the dead! Hear! He speaks! Feel it! He lives!

On the first day of the week, Jesus breaks the power of death. Through God's strength He is raised from the dead. He has a new, exalted body. After the Lord Jesus has left the grave, angels roll the stone away from the grave. Now the women, Peter and John can all see it with their own eyes: the grave is empty. They see the linen bandages lying there just as they had been wrapped around the body of Jesus. But the body is not in there anymore. Something very extraordinary must have happened to Jesus.

The first one to meet the Lord Jesus on Easter morning is Mary of Magdalene. She sees Him, but she doesn't recognise Him, because she doesn't expect Him. Until He calls her by her name: "Maria!" Then she gives the strongest testimony about Jesus that a person can ever give: "I have seen the Lord!"

## **MEMORY VERSE**

*"That while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience He brought us to life with Christ. It is by God's grace that you have been saved."  
(Ephesians 2:5)*

## **WHO IS JESUS?**

### **The Living One**

*"Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? He is not here; He has been raised. Remember what He said to you while He was in Galilee." (Luke 24:5-6)*

The Lord Jesus is the first person who receives a new, eternal life with a new, heavenly body, just as God meant it. With His death and resurrection He took care that the God's plans with you and me could be fulfilled. Thanks to Jesus you may always live in God's presence.

That is why Jesus in Revelation 1:17-18 says:  
*"Don't be afraid! I am the first and the last. I am the living one! I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I have authority over death and the world of the dead."*



## OLD TREASURES

When the Old Testament speaks of the Messiah, it also speaks of His victory over death. In Genesis 3:15 it already speaks of how He will crush the head of the snake (of Satan). And in Isaiah 53 is written how He will offer his life, but then He will live again to be able to see many children (verse 10-12). In Psalm 16 David, who died 1000 years before the Lord Jesus came, writes about the Messiah's victory over death.

*"Because you protect Me from the power of death. I have served you faithfully, and you will not abandon Me to the world of the dead." (Psalm 16:10)*



## EXTRA INFORMATION

### Easter celebration

Christians have something to celebrate! Christ rose from the dead! Because this happened during Easter, Easter has become the most important Christian feast. Because Jesus gave His life as an offer lamb for the whole world, Easter has gotten a richer meaning than it had in the Old Testament. Then it was just a feast for the Israelites.

Now it is celebrated all over the world. Everyone says to each other:

*"The Lord is risen indeed!"*

Because Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, Sunday has become the most important day of the week for Christians.

## YOU WILL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE WITH JESUS!

Do you believe that Jesus rose from the dead? Then you can believe that you will rise just like Him. Death will not be the end. Your current temporary body will become an eternal, heavenly body.

John says it like this:

*"My dear friends, we are now God's children, but it is not yet clear what we shall become. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He really is" (1 John 3:2).*

## TIP

In nature it also happens that the body from some living beings change into another body.

Have you noticed how the caterpillar becomes a butterfly?

This transformation can not really be compared with the change that we will undergo.

However whenever you see a butterfly, you can meditate on the fact that once we will live in a new and perfect body.



### DO YOU KNOW...?

1. On which day of the week does Jesus rise from the dead?

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2. Who rolls the stone away from the grave (Matthew 28:2)?

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3. Look at the picture story. What does the roll of bandages look like in the empty grave?

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How could Jesus have gotten out of that?

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4. How is it that Jesus has already left the grave when the stone is rolled away?

- a) He took a different exit.
- b) He has received a different body, that can't be stopped by anything.
- c) He rolled the stone away Himself and then rolled it back again.

5. Who is the first person whom Jesus meets after His resurrection?

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6. Why is Jesus called the Living one? (Revelation 1:18)

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7. Why do you not have to be afraid of death?

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### BIBLE READING

Sun	Mark 16:1-9
Mon	John 20:1-18
Tue	Luke 23:54-24:9
Wed	Matthew 27:62-28:8
Thu	Psalm 16
Fri	Colossians: 1:13-23
Sat	Ephesians 2:1-10



### ACTION POINT!

Think about dying. Everybody dies. Is that completely normal? No, death is not normal. Everybody knows that. Nobody is happy with death. Are you afraid of the moment that you will die? Talk to the Lord Jesus about dying. He has conquered death!

- a. Thank Him for rising from the dead.
- b. Thank Him that He has power over death.
- c. Thank Him that after death you live with Him for eternity.