

Let's Talk: Day 316-One Story

Jesus' Death & Burial – Jesus' Death on the Cross & Burial by Joseph of Arimathea

Today's Reading: Matthew 27:45-66; Luke 23:45-56; Hebrews 2:9-18

Google a picture of the inside of the historical Jewish temple. Talk about the purpose of the curtain between the Holy of Holies and the rest of the inside. Google details on the curtain to help understand the significance of today's reading.

Questions:

1. For how long was there darkness over the land? If you had been there what would you have been thinking?
2. What happened at the temple when Jesus died? What does this picture about the separation between God and man?
3. What crazy thing happened at some of the graves? Can you imagine what that would have been like?
4. What did Joseph of Arimathea do? He used what he had to serve Jesus. How did he show great courage in doing this? How can you use what you have to serve Jesus?

Let's Talk: Day 317

Jesus' Resurrection – The Empty Tomb, Appearing to Mary, & Ascending to Heaven

Today's Reading: Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18; Hebrews 9:16-28

Although we don't know for sure where Jesus was buried, the Garden Tomb is one possible location. Go here to see photos: <http://gardentomb.com/galleries/>

Questions:

1. At first, what did Mary, Peter and John believe had happened to Jesus?

2. Later, who did the group of women meet when they arrived at the tomb? What did the disciples say when the women told them what they saw?
3. What do you think you would have thought if you had heard the women's story?
4. Who did Mary meet later? This is very against the cultural norm to have the first person Jesus shows Himself to be a woman. What do you think God might be revealing to us through this passage?

Let's Talk: Day 318

Jesus' Resurrection – Jesus Appears Repeatedly to His Unbelieving Disciples

Today's Reading: Matthew 28; Luke 24:13-53; John 20:19-31

Do you like surprises? What is the biggest surprise you have had in your life? From the disciples' point of view, today's reading tops any other surprise! Thomas says he had to see to believe but our sight sometimes tricks us. Perform these simple magic tricks with your kids:

<http://www.essortment.com/five-easy-magic-tricks-kids-57070.html>. Good thing we walk by faith and not sight!

Questions:

1. How did Jesus first appear to His disciples? If you had been one of them, what would have been your first thoughts as you saw Jesus appear?
2. What were the soldiers bribed to do?
3. How did Jesus reveal Himself to two men walking on the road to Emmaus? What do you think they talked about as they walked back to Jerusalem?
4. What was Thomas's perspective on the resurrection? When did He change His mind? Can you identify with Thomas at all?

Let's Talk: Day 319

Jesus' Resurrection – Jesus Proves His Resurrection over 40 days

Today's Reading: John 21; Acts 1:1-4; 1Corinthians 15:1-19

Eat goldfish crackers as you talk about today's reading. Discuss as a family: how many witnesses do you need to believe an event happened?

Questions:

1. What did Jesus tell the unsuccessful fishermen to do? What happened? How did Peter respond?
2. What does Jesus ask Peter? How many times does He ask Peter this question? Why do you think He does this? (Hint: remember Peter's denial)
3. When Peter asks what is going to happen to John how does Jesus reply? What can that teach us when we are looking at the lives of other people?
4. Who were all the different people that Jesus appeared to after His resurrection? At the time of the writing of 1 Corinthians, several of these witnesses were still alive. How does this help prove or validate the resurrection?

Let's Talk: Day 320

Peter – Ascension & New Apostle – Promises about Jesus' Return & Prophecies about Judas

Today's Reading: Acts 1; Luke 21:25-28; Psalms 109

Buy a helium balloon and attach a short note like "Jesus loves you" on it. Go outside and watch it ascend into heaven like Jesus did. Pray that whoever receives that balloon would be encouraged.

Questions:

1. For what did Jesus tell the disciples to wait?
2. What do the angels tell the men after Jesus ascends to heaven? Do you believe this is still going to happen?
3. Who replaced Judas? How was this selection made? How did Psalm 109 prophesy about the end of Judas?
4. What does Psalm 109 say will be the end of people who wrongly accuse us? How can we take comfort in this? What does the psalmist choose to do toward God in the meantime?

Let's Talk: Day 321

Peter – Pentecost – The Miracle of Tongues & the Purpose of Tongues (for Unbelievers)

Today's Reading: Acts 2; Joel 2:28-32; 1 Corinthians 14:18-25

The disciples were given the instant ability to speak in different languages. Go to <https://translate.google.com/> and learn how to say “hello,” “love” or other simple words in different languages.

Questions:

1. What happened to the people in the upper room when the Holy Spirit came to them?
2. What was the purpose speaking in tongues (languages they had not learned) in Acts 2? According to 1 Corinthians 14, are tongues meant for believers or unbelievers?
3. How did the Jewish crowds initially respond? How did Peter answer them?
4. How many people were added to the church that day? What does Acts 2 say this new congregation did together? What do you do together with your church? Does your church seem similar or different from the early church?

Let's Talk: Day 322

Today's Reading: Weekly day OFF

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? As a family, pick a verse from the week to meditate on or memorize.