

# JESUS HAS RISEN

**BIBLICAL PASSAGE:** Matthew 28:1-15

*Jesus'*  
LAST TEACHINGS  
**FAMILY DEVOTIONAL**

When has your family experienced moments when life would never be the same? Your parents probably experienced it when they married or when they had children. Other such times might have occurred when your family faced a crisis or a parent's job change had consequences for the whole family. How did you respond? There are few events that change the course of human history; today's lesson is one of those moments.

Read Matthew 28:1-15. Jesus' death and resurrection are the foundations of the Christian faith. If these two events had not occurred, Jesus would have been just another profoundly wise teacher and mentor, a good man, like Gandhi or the Dalai Lama, but not the Savior of the world. Jesus' resurrection from the dead proves God is all-powerful, even over life and death. Jesus' resurrection proves that He is the Son of God, just as He said He was. In fact, it proves that we can trust that Jesus will do everything that He said He would do. Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost" (1 Cor. 15:17-18). The fact that Jesus died for our sins and was raised from the dead changes everything. We no longer have to be defeated by our sin. This life is not all that there is; it's just a shadow of the glory to come.

People responded differently to the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection on that first Easter morning. The disciples huddled in a room scared, wondering what to do next. The women went into action, met Jesus along the way, and answered the call to be witnesses. The soldiers were paralyzed by their fear and acted irrationally, and the religious leaders lied to cover up the truth.

## CONNECTION QUESTIONS

- Which reaction most closely matches your response to the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection?
- If you believe Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for your sins, what difference does that truth make in the way you live?
- If you believe Jesus rose from the dead, what difference does that truth make in the way you live?
- As a family, pray for that your lives will glorify God and draw others to you to find out why you are different from the rest of the world.