

**"Fooled?"**  
April 1, 2018



## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-15  
John 20:1-18, John 20:19-29 John 21:1-14

### DAY 1

**Read: [Matthew 28:1-10](#)**

- **Why is it so important for the words, "Do not be afraid" to be heard at the tomb on the morning of the resurrection?**

The women were disciples of Jesus, and they had experienced all of his miracles and embraced his teaching.

- **What is holding them back from believing he had risen like he said? Why are they looking for the body of Jesus at the tomb?**

The ancient world was a patriarchal system where a woman's testimony wasn't given as much weight as a man.

- **Why is it important that the testimony of women is used in the Bible to substantiate the truth of the resurrection?**

### DAY 2

**Read: [Mark 16:1-8](#)**

Matthew records that the angel rolled the stone away from the tomb's entrance as the women arrived but Mark says otherwise.

- **Why do you think there is a difference in what was reported?**

The angel specifically mentions Peter when he tells the women to go and share the news about the resurrection.

- **What is the significance of this?**
- **What do you think was the response of the other disciples upon hearing the news from the women?**

## **DAY 3**

**Read: [Luke 24:1-12](#)**

Matthew and Mark record that one in "glowing clothes" rolled the stone away and yet Luke reports it was two.

- **What do you feel was behind this difference in details?**

Peter is the only disciple who goes back to the tomb to verify what the women have said about Jesus' resurrection.

- **Why do you feel the other disciples refused to go?**

Resurrection was a foreign concept in the ancient world and Jesus proved it to be real. In verses [Luke 24:13-15](#) we learn Jesus appears to two disciples walking to Emmaus.

- **Why didn't they recognize Jesus by his appearance? What happened that opened their eyes?**
- **Where have you seen Jesus in your midst?**

## DAY 4

### Read: [John 20:1-18](#)

The synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke) report that many women went to the tomb that first Easter morning only to discover Jesus was not there. John, however, only mentions Mary Magdalene.

- **What is the importance of this with regard to the understanding of John's Gospel?**

When Mary is alone she sees someone who resembles a gardener at the tomb.

- **What is the significance of Jesus being seen as a gardener?**
- **How are you and I like Mary Magdalene, and why is it so important she was the first to see the resurrected Jesus?**
- **What is behind John's message at this point?**

[John 20: 19-29](#) conveys more stories of Jesus being seen by his disciples.

- **What finally triggered the disciples' belief that Jesus was indeed the Son of God? Why did they doubt?**

Living as an educated person in the 21st century, we often forget that miracles still happen.

- **Where do you need a miracle in your life today? How is God responding to that need?**

## DAY 5

### Read: [John 21:1-14](#)

The disciples had just experienced the miracle of Jesus' resurrection when they encountered Jesus while they were fishing.

- **Why was it important for Jesus to remind them how to fish?**

On the Road to Emmaus as well as on the shoreline over breakfast, Jesus breaks bread.

- **How do the disciples respond to this action? Why is it so important?**

When you receive holy communion, it is a means of God's grace which transcends everything there is within us. At that very moment, the one receiving the bread and the cup is closer to Christ than any other time in life. We call this "real presence."

- **Why is it so important for you to experience the real presence of Jesus daily?**

Pray today that you will feel the presence of Jesus in your life and look for those miracles that show you he is here. Give thanks for God's most precious Gift.

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