

# Crossword Puzzle

## Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

April 21, 2019

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
Luke 24:1-12

### Easter Sunday



Do you like mystery stories? When I was a kid, I loved to read mystery books. My favorites were the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew. How about Scooby Doo? That was a great mystery show! Today we are going to hear the most exciting mystery story ever told. I call it "The Case of the Empty Tomb." The story begins very early in the morning on the first day of the week. Jesus died on the cross and was buried. Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus' followers, went to the tomb where Jesus was buried. When she got there, she saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Peter and John and said to them, "They have taken the Lord's body from the tomb and I don't know where they have put him."

Peter and John raced to the tomb. John got there first. He looked in the tomb and saw the linen wrappings lying there. Then Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linens that John had seen lying there. As he investigated further, he saw the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was also folded and lying apart from the other wrappings. After Peter looked around for a few minutes, John joined him inside. When they were sure that the tomb was empty, they left and went home.

Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she looked inside the tomb and saw two angels sitting there. One of them was sitting at the head and the other at the foot where the body of Jesus had been lying. "Why are you crying?" the angels asked.

"Because they have taken my Lord and I don't know where they have put him," she answered.

Then Mary turned and was about to leave when she saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. "Woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her.

Mary, thinking that he was a gardener said, "Sir, if you have taken my master away, tell me where he is so that I can go to him."

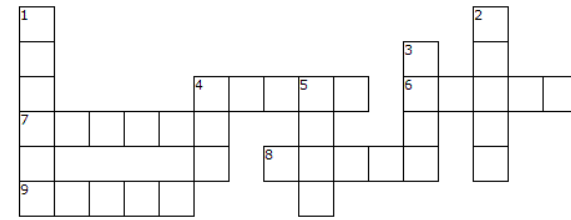
"Mary!" Jesus said.

When Jesus spoke her name, Mary knew who he was. She turned to him and cried out, "Teacher!"

"Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I have not yet ascended to my Father. Go and tell my brothers that you have seen me and that I am going to return to my Father and your Father, my God and your God."

Mary found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord." Then she gave them the message that Jesus had told her to tell them. And that solves "The Case of the Empty Tomb." The tomb is empty because Jesus is not dead, he is alive! He is risen just as he said!

Holy God, the empty tomb is no mystery to us. Jesus is risen! We rejoice in his name. Amen.



#### ACROSS

4. A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool, or other fibers
6. Not dead
7. The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
8. To have nothing inside
9. What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus' tomb

#### DOWN

1. Messengers from heaven
2. The color of snow; the opposite of black
3. The woman who found the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb
4. To produce tears; to weep
5. A grave or a room where someone is buried

EMPTY	ANGELS	EASTER	CLOTH	WHITE
STONE	ALIVE	TOMB	CRY	MARY

**Activity:** Let children HUNT for items that might have something to do with today's story and Jesus' resurrection, such as a stone, linen, cloth, picture of an empty tomb, etc. After the children have found all the items, let the children hold up their item as the Resurrection Story is told.

**Discussion Question:** Mary Magdalene was the first person to see the Risen Christ and she told people her story. Because of Mary, many people came to believe in Jesus. How will you share your story with someone so that they also believe in Jesus?

#### Family Table Prayer for April:

God of rain and God of Spring,  
Thank you for the gifts you bring  
To our table that we may be  
Fed by your hands so graciously. Amen.

**April Memory Verse:** Psalm 150:6 – Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

# Coloring Page



HE IS NOT HERE! HE IS RISEN!