

Devotion 1: A Brilliant Sunrise

April 6, 2026

Scripture: *Matthew 28:1–3*

“Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.”

Devotion

Have you ever watched a sunrise? Some mornings the sky is overcast and the light just slowly creeps in—you can’t even tell when night ended and morning began. But other mornings, the sun breaks the horizon in a blaze of gold and you have to shield your eyes from the glory of it. Matthew’s account of Easter morning is that second kind of sunrise. There is nothing quiet or uncertain about it. The earth shakes. An angel descends from heaven. He rolls the massive stone away from the tomb and sits on it—not in a hurry, not anxious, just sitting there in triumph. His face shines like lightning and his clothes are white as snow. There is no doubt about what has happened: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Sometimes our faith can feel like that gray, overcast morning—we believe, but everything seems foggy and uncertain. Easter is God’s reminder that the resurrection is not a cloudy maybe. It is a brilliant, earth-shaking, lightning-bright reality. The tomb is open. The stone is rolled away. And the angel sits there as if to say, “It is finished. Death has lost.” This week, let the brightness of Easter cut through every fog of doubt in your heart.

Discussion Questions

1. What kind of “sunrise” does your faith feel like right now—gray and overcast, or bright and clear?
2. Why do you think God made the resurrection so dramatic—an earthquake, an angel, lightning?
3. How can remembering the resurrection help when life feels dark or uncertain?

Closing Prayer

Risen Lord, thank You for the brilliance of Easter morning. When our faith feels cloudy and uncertain, remind us that Your resurrection is real, powerful, and world-shaking. Open our eyes to see the empty tomb and believe. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Family Action Item: Step outside together as a family this week for a sunrise or an early morning moment. As the light grows, read Matthew 28:1–3 aloud and thank God for the brilliant reality of the resurrection.