

# "H E I S R I S E N "

Gospel of Matthew 28:1-15 / Pastor Matt Jones / Del Rey Church

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## I. Jesus Communicated in Matthew (Matthew 1-27)

A. The Visuals of Tanakh

B. The Victim was Tortured

C. The Vicarious Treasure

D. The Veil is Torn

E. The Victor Triumphs

## II. Joy Comes in the Morning (Matthew 28:1-15)

A. Mourners: The Sadness of Emotions (28:1)

B. Miracles: The Severe Earthquake (28:2a)

C. Messengers: The Servants of Elohim (28:2b-7)

D. Merriment: The Saints Exalt (28:8-10)

E. Media: The Subversion Extends (28:11-15)

## III. Jesus Conquers Our Mourning

A. Sight: There is Reality

B. Sabbath: There is Rest

C. Siblings: There is Restoration

D. Sickness: There is Resurrection

E. Spread: There is Reception

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

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1. This week, we studied the beginning of the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew. As we get into this chapter, it is helpful to harmonize the chapter with the other 3 gospels (Mark, Luke and John). With this in mind, please read together: Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-13, Luke 24:1-35, and John 20:1-29. Discuss the content that overlaps in these accounts and the content that is distinct within them. Study together and talk about what you see in these texts.

2. Having just read the gospel accounts that detail the moments before and after the resurrection of Jesus, discuss what these narratives say about the doubts of the disciples. It seems as though none of them were expecting the resurrection to occur. Even seeing Jesus post-resurrection, Thomas still wrestled with doubt. Discuss the blinding power of sin and the confusion of doubt. More practically and specifically, discuss the intellectual and spiritual doubts you had before Christ and as a new believer. Even now, what sorts of doubts do you experience in your faith or just in life in general (e.g. relationships, confidence at work, emotions, etc.)? Along with the 'what,' discuss the 'when' of doubt, i.e., when do you experience doubt (e.g. is it around certain people, social settings, seasons/holidays, familial stress, or other factors)? Discuss.

3. Jesus confronts the doubts of the disciples with grace and truth; He gives evidence and explanation to them which calms their hearts, equips their minds and moves them to action. In Matthew 28:9 we see the disciples worshipping Jesus as God and in verses 10-11 we see them overcoming their fears to leave for Galilee to share the news of the resurrection. In these verses we see some core values for God's people, specifically: fellowship, worship, joy and mission. In what ways do you want to grow deeper in these core values as an individual and alongside others in church as we share the good news together? What can you do to grow in this regard?

4. As we get into the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew, we are brought to the very heart of the church's gospel, which is the resurrection of Jesus. With the resurrection in mind, please turn to 1 Corinthians 15. In this chapter, the Apostle Paul says if Jesus Christ had never risen from the dead, the Christian faith would be worthless (see 1 Cor. 15:1-19)? Discuss why this is true.

5. With the doctrine of Christ's resurrection before us, discuss how the certainty of Jesus Christ's resurrection gives you hope and strength today in the midst of challenges or stresses you are facing or burdens you are carrying? Speaking of burdens, stresses and challenges, what's on your plate these days? How can your Community Group pray for you and help?