

How We Know God Loves Us

An Easter Object Lesson

Matthew 27:11-54

During this time together, you are going to ask the children a lot of questions.

Begin by asking them if they saw the sunrise this morning. No? How do they know the sun is up? It's light outside; the sun is coming through the windows; you can SEE your shadow on the ground; it's warm outside.

Do you think the ocean is still out there? Can you hear it? Have you ever seen the ocean? How do you know it's there? Someone told you about it? (Or, substitute a famous landmark near you or a mountain — whatever works for your area.)

Do you think your parents love you? How do you know that your parents love you? They tell you, they take care of you and you can feel their love. Even when they are not playing with you or reading you a story or even when you are not with them, you know they love you.

What about God? How do we know God loves us? Because other people have told us, because of this beautiful world God created and because God's Son, Jesus, came to live among us.

Perhaps we know God loves us because Jesus died for us and rose again on Easter.

Even though we cannot see the ocean, we know it's there.

So, too, we know God loves us.

Then close with a prayer:

"Thank you, God, for giving us Jesus and the joy of new life because of Easter. Amen."

THE EMPTY TOMB

After the Sabbath day, on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to Jesus's tomb early in the morning. Guards were keeping watch over the tomb as Pilate had feared someone might steal Jesus's body.

As the women approached the tomb, they felt the earth shake terribly underneath them and suddenly they saw an angel of the Lord, dressed all in white, sitting on the stone door of the tomb. But, to their surprise, the stone had been rolled away from the opening of the tomb. The shaking of the ground, and the appearance of the angel scared the guards so badly they fainted!

Then the angel said to Mary and Mary Magdalene, "Don't be afraid. I know you're looking for Jesus who was crucified. But, He is not here. He has risen just as He said He would. Come and see the place where His body was. I also want you to tell His disciples that He has risen. Go to Galilee where you will see Him."

So Mary and Mary Magdalene left, and although they were afraid, they were filled with joy and went to find Jesus's disciples to tell them what they had seen. As they were on their way, suddenly, Jesus appeared to them and greeted them while on their journey. They stopped and worshiped Him. Jesus told them to not be afraid, but continue on to Galilee where Jesus said His disciples will see Him.

When the women had left the tomb, the guards that had fainted at the site of the angel woke up and told others what had happened to them — that they had seen an angel, and that Jesus was no longer in the tomb! But their leaders did not want the truth to be told, so they paid the guards money so that they would say that Jesus's body had been stolen, which was not the truth.

The angel spoke to the women. He knew they were looking for Jesus. He said these words to them:

Turn the letters
right side up to find what
he said to them.



“ $\frac{H}{6} \frac{I}{2} \frac{U}{0} \frac{f}{6} \frac{p}{6} \frac{L}{6}$;
 $\frac{H}{6} \frac{p}{9} \frac{2}{2} \frac{L}{I} \frac{2}{6} \frac{U}{U}$.”

Write a word to fit each definition. Write the letters on the lines below.

1. What a caterpillar becomes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

2. It rises in the morning

10	11	12
----	----	----

3. A puppy grows into one

13	14	15
----	----	----

4. Opposite of black

16	17	18	19	20
----	----	----	----	----

5. A grown-up boy

21	22	23
----	----	----

The women ran from the tomb to tell the disciples.
Suddenly Jesus met them! He said ...

“15 6 5 5 3 18 12 15 10 ! 13 14 12 14 4 1 5

$$\overline{22} \overline{7} \overline{6} \overline{22} \overline{18} \overline{13} \overline{} } \cdot \overline{15} \overline{14} \overline{22} \overline{12} \overline{13} \overline{3} \overline{5} \overline{8} \overline{8}$$

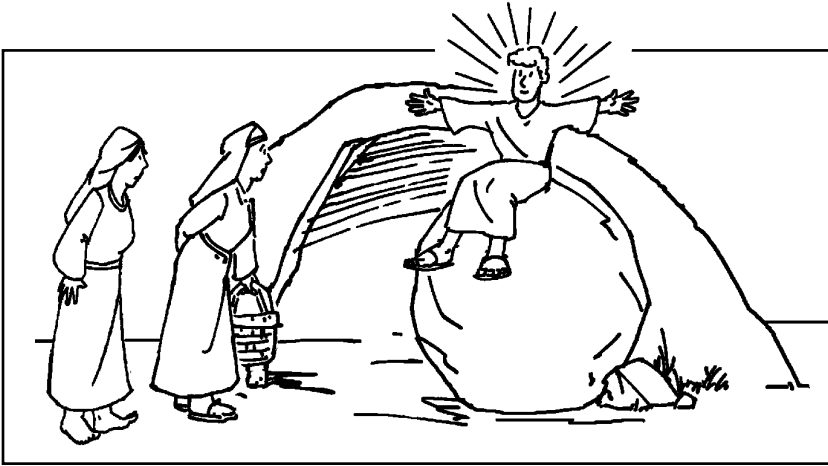
<u>21</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>
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$$\frac{\quad}{15} \frac{\quad}{22} \frac{\quad}{8} \frac{\quad}{18} \frac{\quad}{8} \frac{\quad}{5} \frac{\quad}{5}; \quad \frac{\quad}{4} \frac{\quad}{17} \frac{\quad}{5} \frac{\quad}{6} \frac{\quad}{5} \quad \frac{\quad}{3} \frac{\quad}{17} \frac{\quad}{5} \frac{\quad}{9}$$
$$\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} \overline{16} & \overline{18} & \overline{8} & \overline{8} & \overline{10} & \overline{5} & \overline{5} & \overline{21} & \overline{5} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{''} \\ \cdot \end{array}$$

Name _____

Two Marys went to Jesus' tomb.

What did the angel say to the 2 Marys who went to see Jesus' tomb?



Use the code to find out.

a = 

i = 

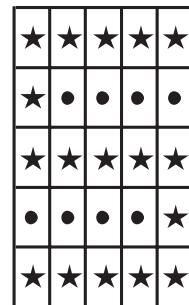
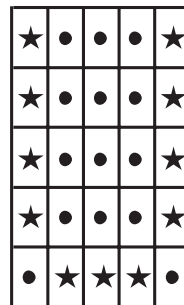
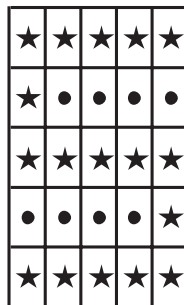
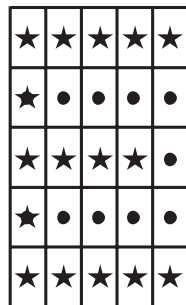
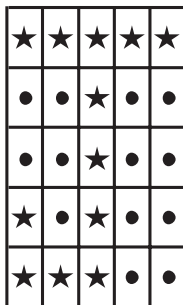
e = 

o = 

"D_____ n_____ t b_____ fr_____ d.
     

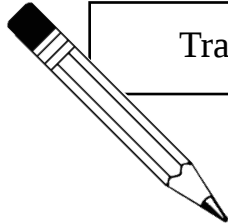
H_____ s r_____ s_____ n."
   

When the Mary's left the tomb, whom did they meet? Color the blocks with a ★ .

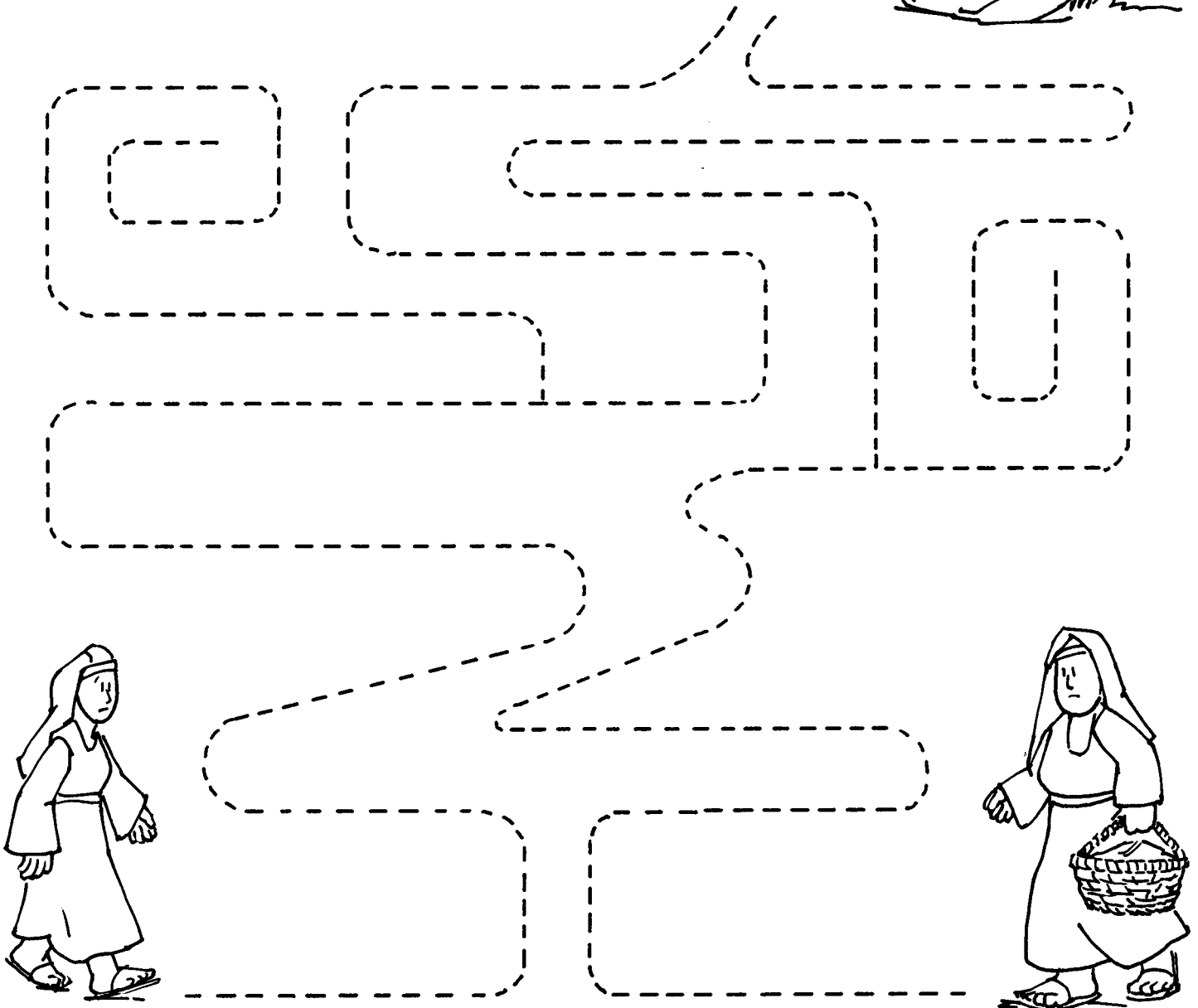


Name _____

Two Marys went to Jesus' tomb.



Trace their paths.



Name _____

The angel spoke to the women.
He knew they were looking for Jesus.

When the women came to Jesus' tomb in the morning, they found something amazing had happened.
Circle all the underlined words from the story in the wordsearch.
Place the remaining letters in the blanks to find what the angel said.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the
Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb,
rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance
was like lightning and his clothes were white as
snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they
shook and became like dead men. The angel said to
the women at the tomb,

" _____."

E B A C K D S A T A
N A O L E N O O N P
O F R O T T M G B P
T R N T I B E E F E
S A E H H L O R D A
D I V E W Q O A E R
R D A S O M U F A A
A R E A N A I A D N
U D H W S H O O K C
G N I N T H G I L E

Cross out every M, P and V in the grid. Write the remaining letters
in order in the blanks to find what else the angel said.



I	K	M	N	O	P	W	T	H	V
A	T	Y	O	M	U	A	P	R	E
L	M	O	P	O	K	V	I	N	G
F	O	M	R	J	E	S	P	U	S
W	H	O	W	A	V	M	S	C	R
U	C	I	P	F	I	E	D	H	E
I	V	S	N	M	O	T	H	E	R
E	H	E	H	A	P	S	V	R	I
M	S	E	N	J	U	P	S	T	A
S	H	V	E	S	A	M	I	D	P

" _____

_____."

The chief priests paid the soldiers to lie about what had happened.
What did the soldiers say? Using the wheel, write the letter that follows each given letter.



" _____
G H R C H R A H O I D R A Y L D C T P H M E
S G D M H E G S Y M C R S N I D G H L
Y U Y W U G H I D U D U D P D Y R I D D O _____"

Name _____

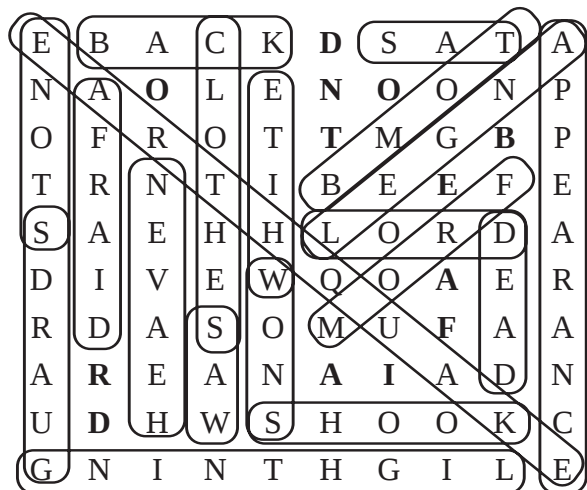
THE EMPTY TOMB

New Testament Lesson #112

ANSWER KEY:

“Do not be afraid. He is risen”

JESUS



“Do not be afraid.”

“I know that you are looking for Jesus Who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen just as He said.”

“His disciples came during the night and stole Him away while we were asleep.”

The angel spoke to the women. He knew they were looking for Jesus. He said these words to them:

Turn the letters
right side up to find what
he said to them.



“ $\frac{H}{H} \frac{G}{G} \frac{I}{I} \frac{Z}{Z} \frac{U}{U} \frac{O}{O} \frac{f}{f} \frac{p}{p} \frac{G}{G} \frac{L}{L} \frac{G}{G};$
 $\frac{H}{H} \frac{G}{G} \frac{p}{p} \frac{g}{g} \frac{Z}{Z} \frac{L}{L} \frac{I}{I} \frac{Z}{Z} \frac{G}{G} \frac{U}{U}.$ ”

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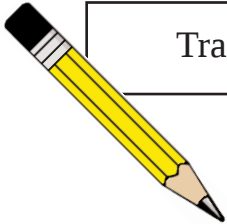
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Suddenly Jesus met them! He said ...

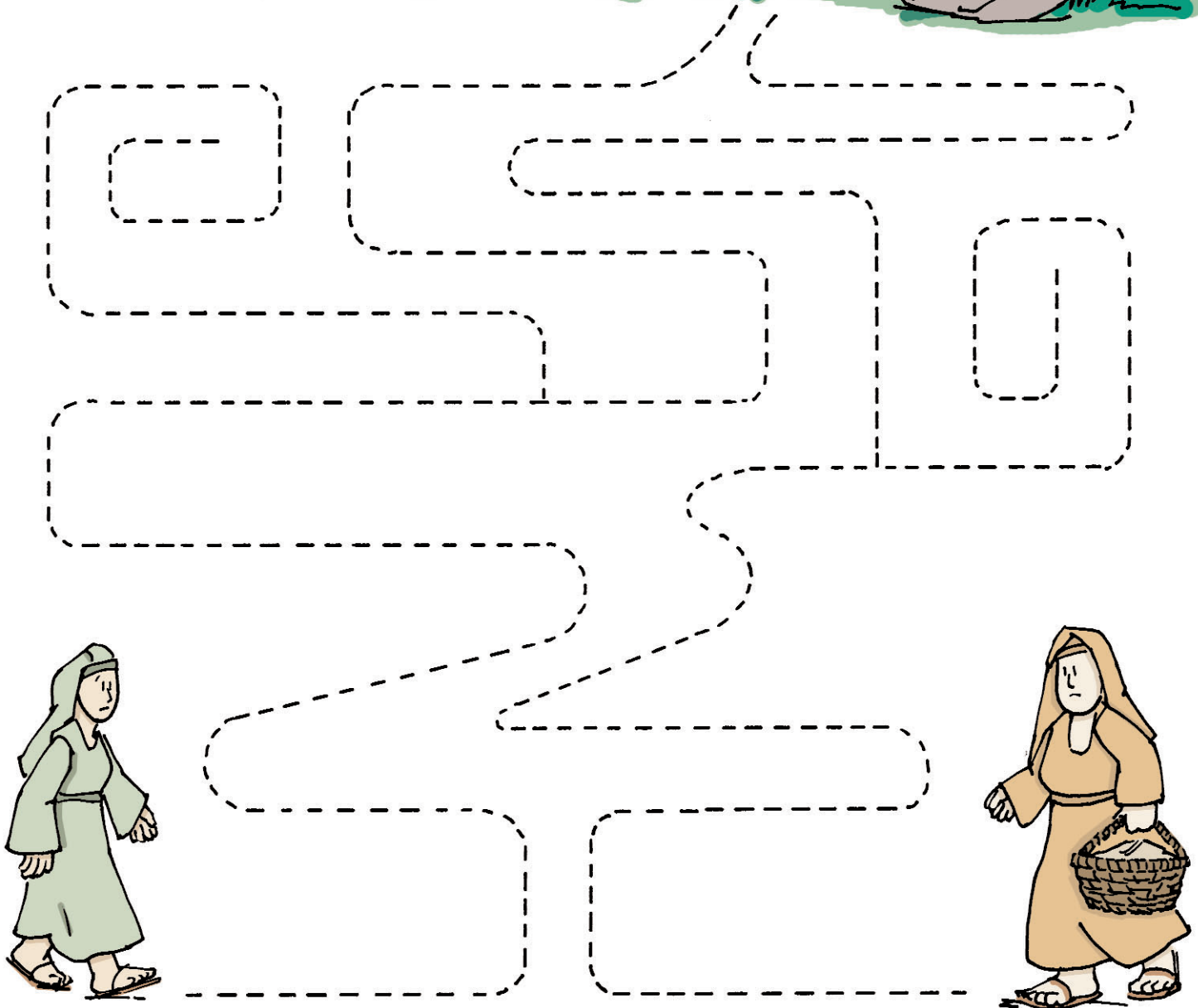
“
15 6 5 5 3 18 12 15 10 ! 13 14 12 14 4 1 5
22 7 6 22 18 13 . 15 14 22 12 13 3 5 8 8
21 9 1 6 14 4 17 5 6 10 3 14 15 14 3 14
15 22 8 18 8 5 5 ; 4 17 5 6 5 3 17 5 9
16 18 8 8 10 5 5 21 5 .”

Name _____

Two Marys went to Jesus' tomb.



Trace their paths.



Name _____

Easter Watercolor Painting

Matthew 28:1-15



Materials you will need:

- ☐ Card stock, watercolor paper or heavy copy paper
- ☐ Grease pencil or crayon
- ☐ Watercolor paintbrush
- ☐ Watercolor paints
- ☐ Cup of water

Instructions:

1. Using a pencil, draw a faint outline of a cross on your paper.
2. Take a crayon or grease pencil (we used white) and color the cross. **Be sure to press hard** to put down a lot of “wax” from the crayon or grease pencil onto the paper.
3. Paint a rainbow or a sunrise over the entire piece of paper using watercolor paint. As you paint over the entire page, the crayon part should “resist” the watercolors and remain white on the paper. If you find you have water drops like shown in the photo, simply use a piece of paper towel to wipe away the excess paint.
4. Let your painting dry.

WHY DO YOU SEEK
THE LIVING
AMONG THE DEAD?
HE IS NOT HERE,
BUT HAS RISEN.

LUKE 24:5-6

DO NOT BE ALARMED.
YOU SEEK JESUS OF
NAZARETH, WHO WAS
CRUCIFIED. HE HAS RISEN;
HE IS NOT HERE.

MARK 16:6