# The BREAD OF LIFE

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A publication of Touch by the Word Ministries Apostolic Center



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#### What's INSIDE

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Don't just be a church member. Get involved! Inquire of yourself how you can make your church

## **The Empty Tomb**

Normally, when something is empty, it doesn't create unusual activity or attention. At one point or another, we encounter a situation where we search for something, only to find it empty. It probably did not create much of a situation unless it was the bank account. Other than something of that importance, we usually move on.

There was nothing unusually special about the sepulcher where Jesus was buried. It was a typical tomb prepared for the date when the owner would need it's use. The story of Jesus' death and burial is well documented. Jesus' body was placed in what many considered as His final resting place with great care. In fact, His accusers were such schemers, that they ensured the sepulcher was sealed and safeguarded (Matthew 27:63-66).

It is amazing how a carefully thoughtout plan doesn't always turn out the way it was intended. The religious rulers, undoubtedly, knew that their scheme was fool proof. They were witnesses of the crucifixion when Jesus took His final breath. The Bible doesn't mention anything of a celebration, but I can imagine they enjoyed a period where they elaborated on their perfect scheme.

I can imagine that they were proud of their accomplishments. They probably envisioned that things would return to normal. After their nemesis, Jesus was dead! Nothing stood in their way of propagating the religious system and brainwashing the people.

If there was ever clear undisputed evidence that God gets the final say, the death of Jesus closed the deal. The "empty tomb" created quite a stir throughout Jerusalem. The best laid plan was rendered powerless and ineffective. God had the final say.

There is no indication whether the authorities put out an all points bulletin to search for the body! We do know that the Pharisees and Scribes did not give up. The religious leaders obtained an immediate account of Jesus' resurrection (Matthew 28:11-12). This deserves repeating. The Jewish Sanhedrin received a play-by-play account of Jesus' resurrection. Rather than accept this phenomenal miracle as an act of God, they decided to execute a lie (Matthew 28:13-15)!

This even occurred over two thousand years ago. For some, much has not changed. Over the centuries, the proof

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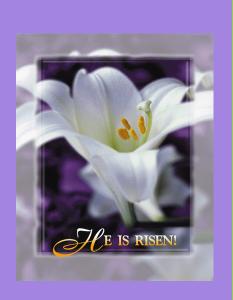
## **Memory Verse**

#### Mark 16:5-6 (AKJV)

And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. <sup>6</sup> And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.



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We serve a risen Savior! While He died for our sins. But the story didn't end there. The incredible part of this gracious act is that Jesus arose from the grave! That within itself, is wonderful news. We serve a risen Savior!



#### **Sunday Mornings:**

First Step: New Members Orienta-tion – 9:00

Worship Service: 10:30

Wednesday Nights:

First Step: New Members Orientation -6:30

**Training Center – 6:30** 

Intercessory Prayer:

#### **The Empty Tomb**

concerning the Resurrection of Jesus Christ events leading up to His death and His reshas been proven emphatically. Tragically, some still would rather hear anything but the truth.

Even today, that "empty tomb" continues to stir up debates concerning the reality of Jesus' resurrection. After all these years, something of this nature would not create such acrimony and hostility. Unless! Unless it is true! Why would such a preposterous story be allowed to survive all these years unless it really occurred?

After all, it's only an "empty tomb!" This is where skeptics miss it. The individual in the tomb, Jesus Christ, told everyone that He would come back! On at least twelve separate occasions, Jesus iterated the

urrection!

The Scribes and Pharisees, with malicious intent, planned and executed the death of an innocent man. They were blind by selfish ambition and jealousy. These individuals were experts in the Law. Despite their years of learning, they failed to discern the most incredible supernatural act known to humanity!

The "empty tomb" was the beginning! The Bible states that Jesus will return (Acts 1:11). Many don't believe in the "Empty Tomb!" Our faith affirms the credibility of the "Empty Tomb!" Our faith affirms credibility that Jesus will return. Will you be ready?

#### **The Prayer Room**

Christians are compelled to pray according to Philippians 4:6. Prayer is our lifeline to God. Prayer is important to every area of our lives. God did not assign a level of urgency to the situation. Our only commandment is to pray. Since that is the case, it behooves us to take everything to God in prayer (Luke 18:1).



### **Feel Good About You**

Everyone has a moment! We are living in times when even the most faithful have a moment. Please do not believe for a moment that everyone has it together. Challenges are a way of life. The key is how we handle the challenges. The Apostle Paul told the church at Phillip that their thoughts should be specific and strategic Philippians 4:8.

Our minds are constantly bombarded

with thoughts, situations, and circumstances. Let's face it. Some of these things are not good. Take time to consider the situation and make adjustments. Do not allow yourself to be overwhelmed with things that you cannot change. Pray and meditate daily to maintain a healthy balance! It you take a hit mentally, it can set you back. Balance everything out and continue to pray!

## **Stay Connected**

Please ensure that the church has your updated contact information. Your contact information (address, email address, and telephone number) are for official use only. This information is protected and the access is limited. The Pandemic created extenuating circumstances. Having all the correct contact information of our members and constituents was an important lesson. Our goal is to continue to improve our lines of communication. Help us to stay in contact with you!



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## **Reinforcing Doctrinal Beliefs**

Christianity contains specific doctrinal beliefs that defines our faith. Each Christian should be familiar with these basic doctrines and follow them. Doctrines such as the Virgin Birth, the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, are all critical aspects of the Christian faith.

To deny any of the basic tenets of the faith, is to deny all that God has given for us to experience eternal life. Therefore, it is imperative that we reinforce the basic doctrines of the faith. We must, without the slightest hesitation understand what is critical to our faith.

Some Christians are still struggling with the reality of the Cross. They struggle when the Holy Bible declares that Jesus is the only way to the Father (John 14:6). Christians must demonstrate a lifestyle that lines up with the Holy Scriptures. We are living in the last days.

As such, there is a flood of false teaching which has penetrated the church. To offset the false doctrine, we must possess a clear understanding of the Scriptures and God's will for our life (2 Peter 3:9).

#### Jesus Christ: Your Thoughts

For centuries, the mystery continues! The mystery about the man from Galilee. Some consider him to be a great prophet! Others see him as a great teacher! What about you? What are your thoughts on the man from Galilee?

He was more than a prophet and he was more than a teacher. God sent Jesus on a mission that only He could fulfill. God sent His only Begotten Son (John 3:16) in order that we might have eternal life. Sounds like He was more than a prophet and a good teacher.

You can be assured of this one thing. He's coming back for His church. Our prayer is that you would consider your eternal salvation!

## **False Doctrine**

The proliferation of false doctrine that has invaded the church is astounding. Christian leaders have an obligation to feed the flock of God (Acts 20:28-31). False doctrine is not new to the church. The Apostle Peter (2 Peter 2:1) warned us that such would be the case in the last days. The Apostle Paul also provided insight that such activity would occur.

He warned us that there would be false leaders (2 Corinthians 11:13). Paul iterated that even Satan could transform himself as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). Since this is the case, the end result is for us to be on our guard. Know what you believe!





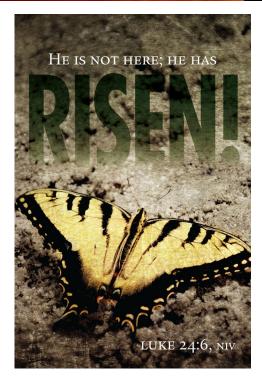
I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection:

God has given us an opportunity to spend eternity with Him. The price has been paid. All you have to do is to accept the invitation!



#### **Birthdays**

Sister T. Span April 2 Brother Demario Houston April 13 Minister Jutta McCaulley April 18



## **Reflect On This**

Easter is considered to be one of the most recognizable events of the year. It is recognized by Christians around the world. Non-Christians also recognize Easter and Good Friday. Because of the limited space, we will not debate the genuineness of Easter in this edition. Our goal is for you to see that Easter is recognized throughout the world!.

Irrespective of the day, let's recognize that God sent His only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to lay down His life for us. Please, don't get hung up on a specific day or what others are doing to celebrate it. Our focus should be on what Jesus Christ came to do. He came to save you and me!

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