

The empty tomb

BIG QUESTION

Did Jesus really come back to life?



On Friday, Jesus was nailed to a Roman cross at nine in the morning, and at three in the afternoon he died. Joseph of Arimathea laid his body in a tomb cut out of rock and rolled a stone against the entrance.

On Sunday, women came back and found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. In that world, a woman's word counted for little. If you were making the story up, you'd never pick them as your witnesses.

That evening Jesus stood among his friends and showed them his hands and side. Thomas wasn't there, and he said he would not believe. A week later Jesus told him, "Put your finger here; see my hands." Thomas said, "My Lord and my God!"

Later, Paul wrote down a list of people who saw Jesus alive, including more than 500 at the same time.



What happened next?

Number the events from 1 to 6 to put the story in order.

☐

Thomas said, "My Lord and my God!"

☐

Joseph laid Jesus in a tomb cut out of rock.

☐

Paul wrote down a list of people who saw Jesus alive.

☐

Jesus died on the cross at three in the afternoon.

☐

Jesus showed his friends his hands and side.

☐

Women found the stone rolled away.

Answers: 1. Jesus died on the cross at three in the afternoon. 2. Joseph laid Jesus in a tomb cut out of rock. 3. Women found the stone rolled away. 4. Jesus showed his friends his hands and side. 5. Thomas said, "My Lord and my God!" 6. Paul wrote down a list of people who saw Jesus alive.

Memory verse

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

John 11:25–26

Fill it in: “I am the _____ and the _____. The one who _____ in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will _____ die. Do you believe this?” John 11:25–26

I can say it! ☆ ☆ ☆ Color a star each time you say it.

★ Bonus verse

“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” 1 Corinthians 15:3–4

Look it up!

Find each verse in a Bible. Write the answer on the line.

Mark 16:6

What did the young man in white tell the women?

Luke 24:39

What does a ghost not have?

Luke 24:42–43

What did Jesus eat in front of them?

1 Corinthians 15:6

How many people saw Jesus at the same time?

Talk about it

1. Why does it matter that women were the first witnesses?
2. What made Thomas change his mind?
3. Jesus asked Martha, “Do you believe this?” How would you answer?

Answers: 1. He has risen! He is not here 2. flesh and bones 3. a piece of broiled fish 4. more than five hundred



Watch the video