

Sermon Outline / Matthew 28:1-10

1. Why do people strive so in life and in their relationship with God? Why do so many choose the tree of the knowledge of good and evil rather than the tree of life? Often it is because they have never heard the good news of God's life giving favor that you are hearing now. Or perhaps they have heard, and are unwilling or unable to receive from God. Even those who truly desire to know and follow God can fall into the trap of eating from the tree of knowledge.
 - a. As you consider the two trees from today's lesson, ask yourself, "From which tree have I been eating?" _____
2. Is there anything new that you learned today about man's fall into sin? Why do you think the Lord revealed that to you?

3. **Point to ponder** - If you asked a hundred people to explain how they came to know God, you would probably not find many who would say they were so intelligent that they found their way to God, but rather that God found them. What's more, some of these same people would probably tell dramatic stories about how they first rejected God before finally coming to know Him! Asking a large number of people about their spiritual journey might not bring you any closer to resolving the age old theological tension between God's control and man's choice. However, it might bring you to a conclusion similar to this: We are all free to reject God, but no one really finds God apart from His divine initiative and intervention in the course of their life.
4. 1 Peter 1:19-21 *He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him for this purpose long before the world began, but now in these final days, he was sent to the earth for all to see. And he did this for you. Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And because God raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory, your faith and hope can be placed confidently in God. **What do these verses mean to you?***

5. The empty tomb means that Jesus is alive. Why is this so important?

6. Why was the stone rolled away?

7. The empty tomb means there is f_____
8. There is a lot to process in our message today. What is the Lord saying to me in our message today? What is He teaching me? The third and most important part is this... what does God want me to do about what he has just communicated to me?

Going Deeper into Discipleship Matthew 28:1-10

1. Read the passage and ponder on it for several minutes praying that God would give you further revelation about this passage. What is something the Lord revealed to you during this time of meditation?
2. COME AND GO

The angel who announced the good news of the Resurrection to the women gave them four messages:

- a. “Do not be afraid.” The reality of the Resurrection brings joy, not fear. When you are afraid, remember the empty tomb.
 - b. “He is not here.” Jesus is not dead and is not to be looked for among the dead. He is alive, with his people.
 - c. “Come and see.” The women could check the evidence themselves. The tomb was empty then, and it is empty today. The Resurrection is a historical fact.
 - d. “Go quickly and tell.” They were to spread the joy of the Resurrection. We too are to spread the great news about Jesus’ resurrection.
3. What are the above questions so important? Take time to review each one and write down what the Lord is telling you about each statement.

4. **28:7** “Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.”

The women who had come to anoint a dead body were given another task—proclaiming the Resurrection to the frightened disciples. Mark explained that the angel made special mention of Peter to show that, in spite of Peter’s denials, Jesus had not disowned and deserted him. According to Luke’s account, several women ran to tell the disciples: “Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened” (Luke 24:10–12 NRSV). John, in his personal account, added that he too dashed in amazement to the tomb (John 20:3–5).

The disciples had deserted Jesus in the hour of trial, but the angel’s words held hope of renewal and forgiveness. The disciples had deserted, but they were directed to meet Jesus in *Galilee*. This was exactly what Jesus had told them during the Last Supper that he would go ahead of them into Galilee after his resurrection (26:32).¹

¹ Barton, B. B. (1996). *Matthew* (p. 572). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

- What is the Lord telling you in this verse? What is the most important concept in this verse? What does this verse mean to you?

5. List the key or most important words in this passage and then describe in your own words what they mean.

6. Look up Hebrew 1:14...what does God reveal to you about the purpose of angels?

7. What is the Lord teaching me in the passage to day? What is He show me? What He like me to do with what He has revealed to me?
