

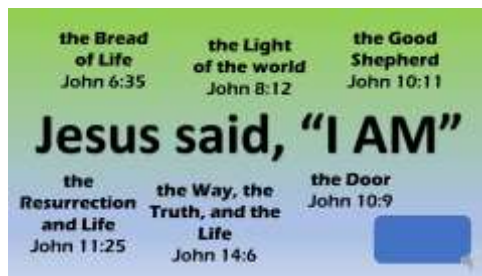
# Jesus is the the Way, the Truth and the Life



Hi everyone. We have been looking at the things that Jesus said about himself while he was here on earth. We started out with Jesus saying he was the Light of the World, then the Bread of Life, then the Good Shepherd and the Sheep's Gate and then last month we talked about Jesus being the Resurrection and the Life.



Through the story of Lazarus we talked through how Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. He could have gotten their quicker and healed him while he was still alive, but He waited until Lazarus died so that God's power could be seen through Jesus. It was all for God's glory.



Jesus had spent the last 48 hours being tortured, denied, and betrayed. The trial, if you can call it that, they had for Jesus quickly found him guilty and he was to be punished by death on the cross. He was led out to the hill where they were to kill him. The soldiers took his clothes and divided them among themselves. But the inner garment, woven in one piece without seams was too valuable so they played a game to see who would win it.



Near the cross, Jesus' mother Mary stood with Mary Magdalene another woman named Mary and the disciple John.



Jesus looked down at Mary His mother and said, "Here is your son," and then he said to John, "here is your mother. And from that time on John took Mary into his home to look after her.

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Those who passed by hurled insults at Jesus shaking their heads and saying, “You said you would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself.” The Chief Priests and elders mocked. “He saved others but He cannot save Himself.” The soldiers also joined in and made fun of Jesus.



One of the criminals joined in with those insulting Jesus. “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”



But the other criminal scolded the first criminal and said, “Don’t you fear God? We are getting our just punishment but this man has done nothing wrong.” The he turned to Jesus and said, “Remember me when you come into your kingdom.”



Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, today you will be in paradise with me.”



At noon, darkness came over the land until three in the afternoon.

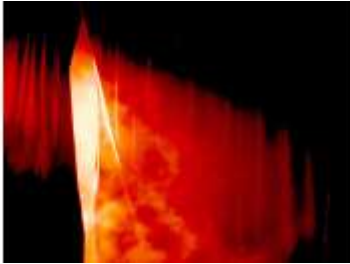


At around 3 in the afternoon, Jesus called out in a loud voice, “My God, my God why have you forsaken me?” The soldiers offered him a sponge filled with vine vinegar for Jesus to drink, but he refused. Then, in a loud voice, Jesus exclaimed, “Father into your hands I commit my spirit. Then he breathed his last breath.

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The Roman centurion, in charge of the crucifixion, who had been watching Jesus die, suddenly praised God and said, "Surely this was the Son of God."



Back in the city of Jerusalem, in the inner part of the temple, the curtain that partitioned off the Holy of Holies was torn from top to bottom. The earth shook and rocks split.



A good and upright man named Joseph of Aramethea, who was a member of the Jewish council, went to Pilate and asked permission to bury Jesus. Pilate allowed him to do that.



Joseph took the body down from the cross, wrapped it in linen cloth and took it to an empty tomb cut in a rock.



A large stone was rolled over the entrance. The Pharisees aware that Jesus had said, "After three days I will rise again," asked Pilate to post a guard on the tomb. The tomb was sealed and a guard set on it.



Three days later, on a Sunday morning, the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and another woman brought spices to anoint the body of Jesus

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When they arrived, they found the large stone rolled away from the tomb. (There had been a violent earthquake and the angel of the Lord had descended and rolled it back. The guards were so frightened and shook up that they ran away.)



The women were shocked. When they looked inside the tomb they found it was empty.



Suddenly two men in clothes that were whiter than lightning appeared. The women cowered in fright. "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" they asked. "He is not here."



The women rushed back to tell the disciples who did not believe them.



Peter and John however, got up and ran to the tomb.



John reached the tomb but didn't go in.



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Peter caught up and went right into the tomb.



They saw the strips of linen and the cloth that had been around Jesus' head and wondered what had happened.



John joined Peter in the tomb and when he saw the evidence, believed that Jesus was alive. Neither of them at this time understood from the scriptures that Jesus had to rise from the dead.



Mary remained outside the tomb crying.



And she wept she looked into the tomb and saw two angels seated where Jesus' body had been. "Why are you crying?" they asked.



"They have taken my Lord away and I do not know where they have put Him."

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A voice behind her asked, "Why are you crying? Who is it that you are looking for?"

She turned around thinking she must be talking to the gardener, "If you have carried Him away, tell me where you have put Him and I will get Him." Mary declared.

"Mary," said Jesus.



"Teacher," she cried out.

"Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father," Jesus told her. "Go and tell the disciples that I am ascending to your father and to my father, to your God and my God."



Mary went to the disciples with the news. "I have seen the Lord," she announced and told them the things He had spoken to her."

## Digging In Questions

### Choose the best answer

1. True or False One of the thieves on the crosses believed that Jesus was the Messiah.
2. True or False Jesus said that thief would be in heaven after he died.
3. True or False A man named Joseph buried Jesus in his grave.
4. True or False Jesus in one of many ways to get to heaven.
5. True or False If we just do enough good things we can go to heaven.

### **Things to think about**

What are your favorite things about Easter?

What is the most important things about Easter?

If you were one of the women who came to the grave to put spices on Jesus' grave would you have believed that he was risen from the dead, or would you think someone stole his body?

After you spoke with Jesus in the garden would you still have a hard time believing he was risen?

I don't know about you but after seeing Jesus die, it would be hard to believe that I actually saw him alive and talking to me. Jesus did some extraordinary things, but none so extraordinary as coming back to life and conquering death. And he did that for YOU!!

Easter is a celebration of Jesus rising from the dead and being our living Savior. Enjoy your time praising God for all the great things he has done for us.

Happy Easter

Answers to the Questions:

1. True 2. True 3. True 4. False 5. False

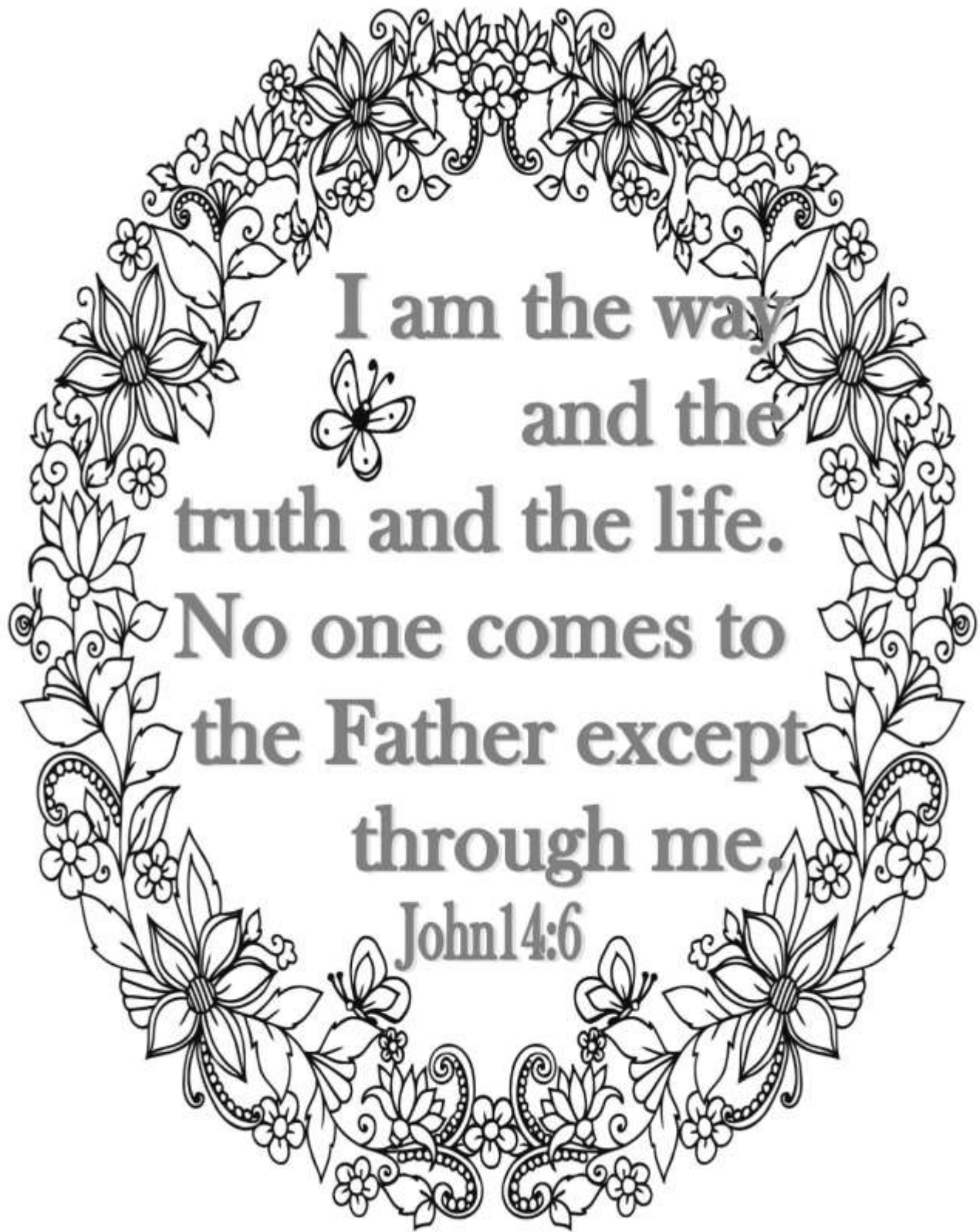
# Easter Word Search

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- ANGELS
- APOSTLES
- BETRAYAL
- BLOOD
- CALVARY
- CROSS
- CROWN OF THORNS
- CRUCIFIXION
- DARKNESS
- DEATH
- EARTHQUAKE
- EASTER
- GOLGOTHA
- HIGH PRIEST
- JESUS CHRIST
- JOSEPH
- JUDAS ISCARIOT
- KING
- LAMB

- MARY
- NAILS
- PASSOVER
- PIECES OF SILVER
- PIERCED
- PILATE
- RESURRECTION
- ROBE
- ROMANS
- SACRIFICE
- SIMON OF CYRENE
- SOLDIERS
- SON OF GOD
- SPEAR
- STONE
- TEMPLE
- THIEVES
- THREE DAYS
- TOMB





I am the way  
and the  
truth and the life.  
No one comes to  
the Father except  
through me.

John 14:6