

Faith Fact

Jesus defeated death.

Faith Verse

Romans 5:8 (NLT)

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Question of the Day: What happened to Jesus' body after He died?

Read about It

Read: Matthew 27:62–66; Matthew 28:1–10; Luke 23:50–56; John 19:38

After Jesus died on a Friday, a man named Joseph asked permission of the Roman leader to take Jesus' body off the cross and bury it. Witnesses saw the body placed in the tomb. The religious leaders thought someone might try to steal the body, so they asked that guards be placed near the sealed tomb.

But on Sunday morning, a miracle took place. Jesus came back to life! Also, an angel appeared, rolled away the stone, and sat on it. The angel frightened the guards so much that they fainted. Some women went to the tomb to finish preparing Jesus' body for burial, but His body wasn't in the tomb because He was alive. On the way to tell others that He was alive, they met Jesus! Many people saw the risen Jesus and shared the good news that Jesus is alive.

Think about It

Question 1. Why did Joseph of Arimathea not follow Jesus openly? **Answer 1.** Because he feared the Jewish leaders (John 19:38)

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Question 2. Why did the religious leaders want the tomb to be sealed and guarded? **Answer 2.** They feared that someone would steal the body and say that Jesus had risen from the dead. (Matthew 27:64)

Question 3. What did the women do when they saw where Jesus had been buried? **Answer 3.** They went home and prepared spices and ointments to anoint Jesus' body. (Luke 23:56)

Question 4. Why did the women delay their preparation of the body of Jesus? **Answer 4.** The Sabbath day had begun, and that meant they had to rest instead of finishing the preparation. (Luke 23:56)

Question 5. When the women returned to the tomb on Sunday morning, what did they learn?

Answer 5. The tomb was empty, and an angel told them Jesus had risen from the dead! (Matthew 28:5–6)

Talk about It

- What do you think these women were feeling as they waited to anoint Jesus' body?
- What do you think they felt when they heard the message of the angel and saw the empty tomb?

Pray about It

Thank You God for giving us so many details concerning the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Help me to remember that I can have new life because Jesus is alive. Amen.

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Question of the Day: Did Jesus defeat death?

Read about It

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:21–22, 54–57; Revelation 1:17–18

Sin came into the world because Adam and Eve sinned. And the bad news is that death came with their sin because sin leads to death. But the Bible tells us good news about how Jesus defeated death. When Jesus died and came back to life it gave us a promise—because Jesus is alive, we can be alive through Him. When we die, our bodies will be changed into bodies that will last forever. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death!

Think about It

Question 1. How did death come into the world?

Answer 1. Through the sin of Adam and Eve

Question 2. How did the death of Jesus change the power of death?

Answer 2. Jesus defeated death when He rose from the dead. (1 Corinthians 15:21–22)

Question 3. What power does Jesus have over death?

Answer 3. He is alive forever and has the keys to death and the grave. (Revelation 1:18)

Question 4. What promise does the resurrection make for our physical bodies?

Answer 4. Our physical, dying bodies will be transformed into bodies that will live forever. (1 Corinthians 15:54)

Question 5. How does the resurrection affect the power of sin and death over us? **Answer 5.** It provides us victory over sin and death. (1 Corinthians 15:57)

Talk about It

- Should a Christian fear death?
- What part of eternal life are you looking forward to the most?

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Pray about It Thank You, Jesus, for dying and coming back to life so I can have eternal life. Help me to not fear death, but to remember that You have already defeated death. Someday, I will be with You forever. Amen.

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Question of the Day: How can we share in Jesus' victory over death?

Read about It

Read: Romans 8:11; 2 Peter 1:2-4

Jesus is victorious over death! The Bible tells us how Jesus died and rose to life again. Because of His resurrection, we too have the hope of eternal life. His victory over death gave Him spiritual authority over everything related to death. We can receive eternal life by coming to know Him. Jesus has promised these things to those who follow Him and He always keeps His promises.

Think about It

Question 1. According to Romans 8:11, who raised Jesus from the dead? **Answer 1.** God, through His Spirit, raised Jesus from the dead.

Question 2. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the Christian's life according to Romans 8:11?

Answer 2. The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian and gives life to their body just as He did for Jesus.

Question 3. In 2 Peter 1:3, what did Peter say God has given us?

Answer 3. Everything we need to live a godly life

Question 4. How do we receive what we need for a godly life?

Answer 4. By knowing Jesus as Savior (2 Peter 1:3)

Talk about It

- If you are a Christian, how does it make you feel to know the Spirit of God is living in you?
- Since God has given us everything we need to live a godly life, how can we use that?

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Pray about It Thank You, God, for sending Your Son. Jesus gave Himself so that I could enjoy the benefits of His victory over death in my life today. I am thankful that one day I will get to spend forever with You because of what Jesus has done. Amen.

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Question of the Day: How does Jesus' victory over death in the Resurrection affect me today?

Read about It

Read: Romans 8:1-2, 11, 14-17

Is there anything worse than having to wait for Christmas morning or your birthday before you can open your presents? Waiting for good things can be hard. When we think of Jesus' resurrection, it's exciting because it means we can spend eternity with Jesus. But it can feel like a long time away. But Jesus' resurrection should also make a difference to our lives right now.

Jesus' resurrection means that we worship a God who is alive! It means that our sins can be forgiven, and we can enjoy a relationship with God today. We can live our life confident that God has a good future for us. In fact, Jesus' resurrection means that we can receive new life, purpose, and even a new identity as His follower.

Think about It

Question 1. What are we freed from when we belong to Christ?

Answer 1. Condemnation for our past sins (Romans 8:1)

Question 2. According to Romans 8:2, what has the power of the Holy Spirit freed us from?

Answer 2. The power of sin that leads to death.

Question 3. What are some ways we can benefit from Jesus' resurrection today? **Answer 3.** New life, new purpose, new identity in Him (Other answers may be acceptable.)

Question 4. How does Jesus' resurrection affect our relationship with God and our access to Him?

Answer 4. We are called children of God and heirs with Christ of all of God's best. (Romans 8:14–17)

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Talk about It

- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is alive?
- How should our identity, as children of God, change the way we live our lives?

Pray about It

Thank You, Lord, for not only having victory over sin and death but for sharing that victory with me. I am victorious because of Your love and sacrifice! Help me to remember that no matter what happens, You are always with me. Amen.