

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

An Easter Devotional

2026

The Hope of the Empty Tomb

Easter is the turning point of the Christian story. It's the day that changed everything! It reminds us that the cross was not the end—Sunday was coming. After the sorrow of Good Friday and the silence of the tomb, the resurrection declares a powerful truth: death does not have the final word. Life does. This couldn't be better news!

Imagine the disciples in those early hours after Jesus' crucifixion. Their hopes seemed shattered. The One they believed to be the Messiah had been nailed to a cross, buried in a borrowed tomb, and sealed away behind a heavy stone. Fear, grief and confusion filled their hearts. From their perspective, the story appeared finished. Maybe you've felt like that.

But God was not finished.

On the morning of the third day, the stone was rolled away—not to let Jesus out, but to show the world that He had already risen. The empty tomb became the greatest announcement in history: Christ is alive. The resurrection was not just a miracle; it was a declaration that sin had been defeated, death had been conquered, and hope had been restored.

Easter reminds us that God often works in ways we cannot see while we are still in the darkness of Friday or the silence of Saturday. There are moments in our own lives when things feel hopeless—when prayers seem unanswered, when circumstances seem final, or when loss feels overwhelming. Yet the resurrection tells us that God specializes in bringing life out of what appears lifeless.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that renews hearts, restores broken lives, and gives us a future filled with hope. Easter is not only about what happened long ago; it's about what God continues to do today. Because Jesus lives, forgiveness is real. Because Jesus lives, grace is available. Because Jesus lives, we can face tomorrow with confidence.

The empty tomb also calls us to respond. The resurrection is not simply good news to admire—it is truth that transforms the way we live. When we truly grasp that Christ has overcome death, fear begins to lose its grip on our lives. We no longer live as people trapped by despair, but as people marked by hope.

Easter invites us to live differently: to walk in faith when circumstances are uncertain, to show love when bitterness would be easier, and to trust God even when we cannot see the whole picture. The resurrection reminds us that God's story is always bigger than our present moment.

Today, as we reflect on Easter, we remember that the stone was rolled away, the tomb was empty, and Jesus is alive. That truth still changes lives. It means our past can be forgiven, our present can be filled with purpose, and our future can be secure in God's hands.

No matter what season you're walking through right now, Easter whispers a powerful reminder to your heart: the darkest night will never overcome the light of the risen Savior. Hope has risen—and because of that, hope is alive in us.

He is risen!

PRAYER: Risen Lord, I bring my heart to You today with deep hunger and gratitude. So often I feel the ache of my own weakness and the longing to be made whole, yet the empty tomb reminds me that Your life is stronger than all my broken places. Thank You for meeting me in my need and offering not shame, but new life and hope. I surrender the weary and searching parts of my heart to You, trusting that Your resurrection power can renew what feels tired and lost in me. Fill my soul with Your living presence and teach me to walk each day in the freedom and healing You have won. Amen.