

**Gospel Lesson Text: Luke 24:1-12**

1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" 8 Then they remembered his words. 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. 12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

**Gospel Lesson: "Why's Christianity Still Around?"**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the center and reason for Christianity—the reason people are \_\_\_\_\_ (1-12, Revelation 5).
2. Why is Christianity \_\_\_\_\_ around \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. There was no \_\_\_\_\_-cross plan that \_\_\_\_\_ had organized and set in place \_\_\_\_\_ His death (1, 3, 5, 6, 9-12).
  - b. Christianity did not get its start by an orchestrated plan of the \_\_\_\_\_-cross disciples, regarding a \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (1, 3, 5, 6, 9-12).
  - c. Christianity is around today because, to the \_\_\_\_\_ of His followers, Jesus rose from the \_\_\_\_\_, and His followers \_\_\_\_\_ with Him (24:13-53).
  - d. Christianity is around because those who saw Him alive after Jesus' death on Good Friday \_\_\_\_\_ others that they had interacted with Him, risen from the dead (Acts).

- e. Christianity is around today because people who interacted with the resurrected Jesus refused to say He \_\_\_\_\_ risen, even when they knew persistence in saying it would cost them \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 4, 5, 7, 12, 16, 21, 23, 28).
3. A person should be a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity—and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus—because:
  - a. Jesus wasn't a lucky son of a \_\_\_\_\_, surprised to "\_\_\_\_\_ up, alive."
  - b. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ He would be crucified in Jerusalem and \_\_\_\_\_ He would rise from the dead (6-7, 9:22, 44, 12:50, 17:25, 18:31-33, 24:44-46).
  - c. No one \_\_\_\_\_ this.
  - d. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ know what would happen and Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ rise from the dead because He isn't merely a \_\_\_\_\_. He is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 1) He \_\_\_\_\_ to die.
    - 2) He died to give \_\_\_\_\_ life to all His followers (John 3:16, Mark 10:45, Luke 19:10, John 18:11).
    - 3) So, \_\_\_\_\_ Him—have eternal life.

Summary: Christianity is around today because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead.

Its existence apart from this holds no weight.

\_\_\_\_\_ faith in Jesus and be \_\_\_\_\_ in your faith.

It's not living in \_\_\_\_\_. It's being \_\_\_\_\_ with the facts of \_\_\_\_\_.