



#### 4.12.20 Pulpit Curriculum: The Victor

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Main passage: Matthew 28:1-10

1. **The Story-** Despite their doubt that they would even be able to get to Jesus's body and their fear of the religious and military powers that killed Him, the women who followed Jesus went to the tomb to honor Him. There they found reason to hope that Jesus was alive – had actually risen from the dead – and then, they came face to face with Him!
2. **The Facts-** If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, the New Testament is a fraud, our faith is futile, we are still in our sins, and of all people, we are "most to be pitied" (1 Cor.15:17-19)

But he arose! We know, because:

- a) His tomb was discovered empty.
- b) No one ever found a body.
- c) There were many who reported seeing him (1 Cor. 15:3-8).
- d) The Apostles flipped from hiding out of fear they would be next to boldly defying both the religious and military authorities who killed Jesus. (And for that matter, Paul flipped from persecuting Christians to being an Apostle and evangelist.)
- e) The Apostles never changed their story even under torture and the threat of imminent execution.

\*\*\*NOTE: None of the above facts are in dispute by serious historians.

3. **The Victor-** 1 Cor. 15:24-25 He won. He is the victor. He reigns now in Heaven, and in the end, He will deliver "the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power...and put all His enemies under His feet."
4. **The Crown-** Rev. 1:4-8, 11:15-18, 19:16

*Will you crown Jesus as King?* That decision is an eternity shaping and life shaking decision. To see and live and know him to be King, changes everything.

## **Meditation Questions**

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1. What do you find most remarkable about the resurrection account?
2. What facts and evidences of the resurrection are most persuasive to you?
3. How should our worship grow in light of His resurrection?
4. What changes as I truly acknowledge His position on heaven's throne?

## **Prayer/Scripture Guide**

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### **The Persecuted Church**

Pray for the many believers throughout the world who are experiencing real persecution. Pray for the gospel to advance through their bold witness.

### **John 20:1-10**

**Families** (Ephesians 6:4) Pray for christian families with young children, for Christ saturated studies as the children are at home. Pray for sweet times of fellowship and connection. Pray for the beauty of the nuclear family to shine and be restored to in this country. Pray for the strength of parents to deal with the schedule changes.

### **Luke 24:1-12**

**Singles** (1 Corinthians 7:32-35) Pray for a heightened focus on the Lords work for Christian singles. Pray for their satisfaction in Christ to be amplified during this time. Pray for fruitful opportunities of kingdom service to abound to the glory of God.

### **Mark 16:1-8**