

Luke 24:1-12 ¹ Very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the entrance to the tomb, ³ so they went in; but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ They stood there puzzled about this, when suddenly two men in bright shining clothes stood by them. ⁵ Full of fear, the women bowed down to the ground, as the men said to them, "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? ⁶ He is not here; he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and three days later rise to life.' ⁸ Then the women remembered his words, ⁹ returned from the tomb, and told all these things to the eleven disciples and all the rest. ¹⁰ The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; they and the other women with them told these things to the apostles. ¹¹ But the apostles thought that what the women said was nonsense, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; he bent down and saw the grave cloths but nothing else. Then he went back home **amazed** at what had happened." (TEV)

AMAZING REALITIES ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

1. I can be FORGIVEN and FORGIVE others.

Colossians 2:13 "You were dead because of your sins and because of your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you **alive with Christ**, for He forgave our sins." (NLT)

Colossians 3:13 "Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." (NLT)

2. I can know the TRUTH.

Acts 2:32-36 ³² **God raised Jesus from the dead**, and we are all witnesses of this. ³³ Now He is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as He had promised, gave Him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today ... ³⁶ So let everyone in Israel

know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom your crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!" (NLT)

John 14:6 "Jesus told him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." (NLT)

3. I can actually CHANGE.

Romans 6:5-11 "5 Since we have been united with Him in His death, we will also be raised to life as He was. 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. 8 And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with Him. 9 We are sure of this **because Christ was raised from the dead**, and He will never die again. Death no longer has any power over Him. 10 When He died, He died once to break the power of sin. But now that He lives, He lives for the glory of God. 11 So you also should consider yourselves dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus." (NLT)

4. I can live with a PURPOSE.

Philippians 3:7-14 "7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of know Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ 9 and become one with Him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with Himself depends on faith. 10 **I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised Him from the dead.** I want to suffer with Him, sharing in His death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! 12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed in me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." (NLT)

5. I can FACE whatever comes my way.

1 Peter 3:3-7 “³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by His great mercy that we have been born again, **because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead**. Now we live with great expectation, ⁴ and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. ⁵ And through your faith, God is protecting you by His power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. ⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.” (NLT)

BOTTOM LINE

I can have an amazing FRIENDSHIP with God.

Romans 5:9-11 “Now that we are set right with God by means of this sacrificial death, the consummate blood sacrifice, there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way. If, when we were at our worst, we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of his Son, now that we’re at our best, just think of how our lives will expand and deepen by means of **His resurrection life!** Now that we have actually received this **amazing** friendship with God, we are no longer content to simply say it in plodding prose. We sing and shout our praises to God through Jesus, the Messiah!” (Mes)