

So what?

Some facts make no difference in your life:

- Average temperature on surface of Saturn: -178°C , -288°F
- My middle name is the same as my mom's dad's middle name

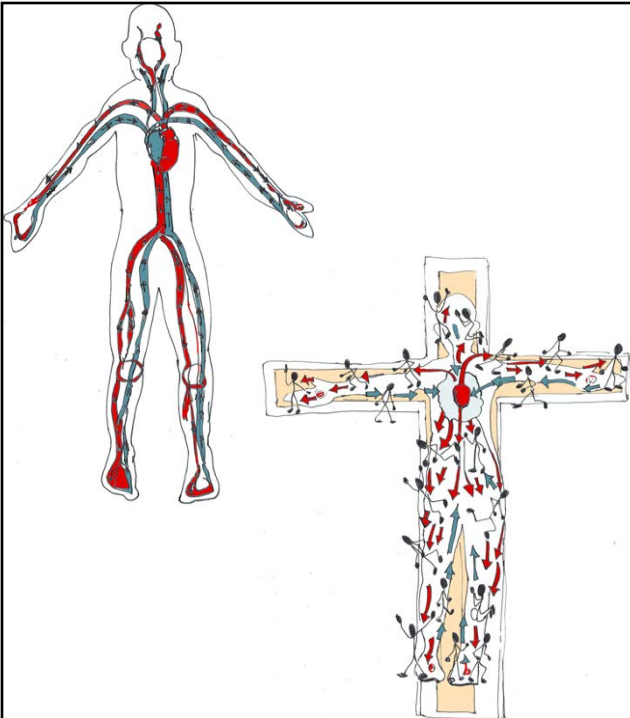
Some facts make a big difference in life:

- Final exams are the week of April 26
- A tornado warning

Easter: we celebrate the actual resurrection of Jesus Christ

What difference should that make in our lives?

1



Come and Go!
Matthew 28

bib.ly/Ma28.NIV
tiny.cc/cmchandouts

2

The Setting

Friday: Jesus was...

- tried, then unjustly tortured and crucified
- abandoned by the Father because of our sin
- buried in a new stone tomb, closed over by a large rock
 - Mary Magdalene & the other Mary watched the burial

Saturday (Sabbath):

- Jewish religious leaders feared that the disciples might steal the body and claim that Jesus was resurrected
- So they got permission to post a guard and to seal the tomb (“as secure as you know how”)

3

Matthew 28:1-4

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

Sabbath = the Jewish holy day, when no work can be done

4

*Matthew 28***1-4: The angel opened the tomb and terrified the guards**

- An angel from heaven very easily opened the tomb and neutralized the guards
 - Resulted in a great earthquake
- Jesus was already alive and gone
- Irony: the ones guarding the tomb of a dead man became like dead men while the dead man lives

5-7:

8-10:

11-15:

16-20:

5

Matthew 28:5-7

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. **Come and see** the place where he lay. Then **go quickly and tell** his disciples:

‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’

Now I have told you.”

6

Matthew 28

5-7: The angel sent the women to tell the disciples

- Effectual word: “Do not be afraid”
 - Women were fine while guards were like dead men!
- **Come and see** the evidence of the resurrection
 - “Just as Jesus said”: **discipleship**
 - A call to remember and trust God’s Word
- **Go and tell** the disciples
 - Women are honored as the first messengers of this humanity-altering news!
 - A call to tell others to trust God’s Word

8-10:

11-15:

16-20:

- “So be it!”

7

Matthew 28:8-10

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They **came** to him, clasped his feet and **worshiped** him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. **Go and tell** my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

8

Matthew 28

8-10: Jesus also sent the women to tell the disciples

- As the women were obeying...
 - Fear mixed with great joy!
- Jesus surprised the women
 - Personal encounters rather than global revelation
 - The women received the highest honor: the first people to experience Jesus' presence
 - We might expect Jesus to surprise others as well
- The right response: **worship!**
 - Yet an amazing thing to worship a man who is God
- “Don't be afraid. **Go and tell**”

11-15:

16-20:

- “My brothers” are the ones who hadn't yet demonstrated any change or faith

9

Matthew 28:11-15

While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

10

*Matthew 28***11-15: The guards testified & the counsel devised a lie**

- “Went and told”: unlikely witnesses of resurrection!
 - Irony: they were supposed to prevent the body from disappearing, yet they ended up testifying that it had
- Intentional action against the truth
 - Compelling evidence of resurrection had no effect
 - Change of heart is very hard!
- We should seek God’s help! = **discipleship**

16-20:

11

Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

12

Matthew 28

16-20: Jesus gave the disciples a global mission

- They went where Jesus said = **discipleship**
- Even for the first disciples, belief was not automatic
 - Seek God's help! = **discipleship**
- Jesus' universal authority leads to global mission
 - Peoples of every tribe and nation
- **Jesus' main command: disciple all people**
 - Includes starting the journey: **baptism**
 - Includes the lifelong journey: **obey every teaching of Jesus**
- With Jesus' presence the whole of every day
 - Keep doing it until He comes bodily again

13

Matthew 28

1-4: The angel opened the tomb and terrified the guards

5-7: The angel sent the women to tell the disciples

8-10: Jesus also sent the women to tell the disciples

11-15: The guards testified & the counsel devised a lie

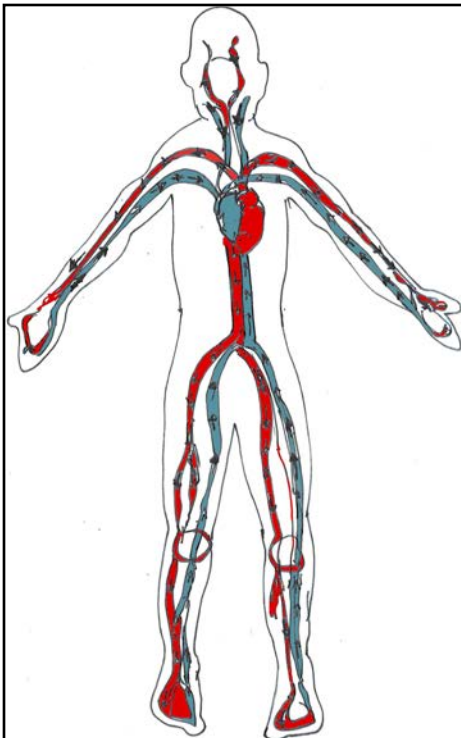
16-20: Jesus gave the disciples a global mission

14

The Big Idea

**Because of Jesus' resurrection
God calls every person
to come and worship
AND
to go and disciple**

15

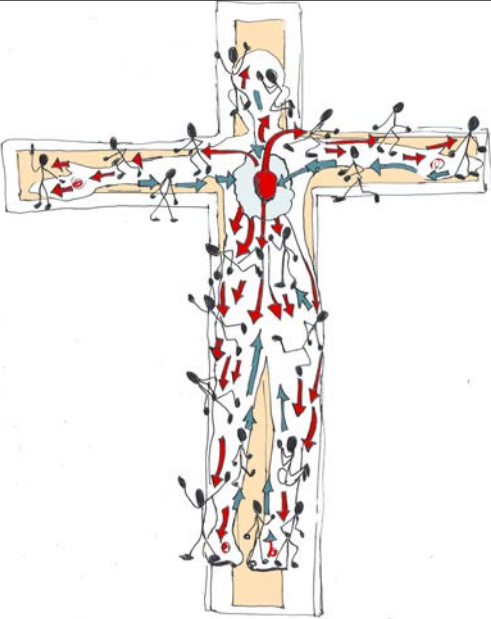


A functioning human body involves
coming and **going**

- **Coming:** blood comes to heart & lungs
 - Leave CO_2
 - Pick up O_2
- **Going:** blood goes to the rest of the body
 - Take O_2
 - Pick up CO_2

If the rhythm stops, the body dies
If the rhythm slows, the body suffers

16



The functioning body of Christ involves **coming** and **going**

- **Coming:** gathering in Christ's presence
 - Be washed in confession
 - Be nourished by the Word & worship & fellowship in the Spirit
- **Going:** into our lives & all the world
 - Empowered by the Spirit
 - Giving the grace and love of Christ

If the rhythm stops, the body dies
If the rhythm slows, the body suffers

17

The Big Idea

**Because of Jesus' resurrection
God calls every person
to come and worship
AND
to go and disciple**

18

*Application***Come and Worship → the angel said “Come and see”**

- **Seek God who changed the world through death and resurrection**
 - **Because Jesus actually rose from the dead to bring us life, we can truly live forever**
 - **No trouble in this life, or in me can separate us from the love of God in Christ**
 - **We have hope in every circumstance, in every loss**
 - **Because death and evil and suffering no longer have the final word**
 - **“Because He lives, all fear is gone!”**

19

*Application***Come and Worship → the angel said “Come and see”**

- **Now all are called to come to see and worship! Even those who...**
 - **abandoned Jesus**
 - **doubted Him (or still have doubts)**
 - **are afraid**
 - **are weak**
- **A “good Christian” is someone who knows they aren’t good enough, and who seeks Christ’s love and forgiveness as a gift**
 - **Jesus’ death pays the way for us to be welcomed by the Father**
 - **Then, having been saved, we are called to follow Christ**
- **We seek God’s help!**

20

Application

Come and Worship → the angel said “Come and see”

- **Keep coming and coming...**
 - “Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may **receive mercy and find grace** to help us in our time of need.” *Hebrews 4:16*
- **Failing to **come** to Christ leaves us lost and with little to offer**

**The call to action is empty
unless we are first transformed and empowered
by the presence of God in worship**

21

Application

Come and Worship → the angel said “Come and see”

Go and Disciple → “Go and tell/make disciples” together

- **Make disciples = make people more like Jesus**
 - **Joining the work of the Holy Spirit → seek God’s help!**
 - **Starting the journey (baptism): Finding new life in Christ**
 - **Continuing the journey: Becoming more like Christ**
 - **Especially...learning to love sacrificially across differences**
 - **Among all peoples of all nations, both near and far**
 - **Together as we each bring different gifts to do different parts**
- **The point is not to reform the world**
- **Rather it is: to add to and to form the people of God who seek His ways in the world**

22

GROWING +
in Christ
together
through all of us

Come and worship
Go and disciple

How is God equipping you to help the church follow this call of Christ to add to and to form the people of God to seek His ways in the world?

23

The Big Idea

Because of Jesus' resurrection
God calls every person
to come and worship
AND
to go and disciple

Will you come and worship Jesus?
Will you go and disciple, asking God for help?

24