Jesus predicts His resurrection 3 times in Mark 8:31; 9:31; and 10:32-34.

Without the resurrection there is no salvation. The Gospel messages proclaimed in Acts include the death and resurrection of Jesus.

• There are two groups of people: those <u>who refuse</u> to come to the Father through Jesus and those <u>who come</u> to the Father through Jesus, John 14:6.

A short explanation of Mk. 16:1-8: V1: Mary Mag., Mary, and Salome bought spices for the body of Jesus. Jesus' body would not decay according to Ps. 16:10, but they unknowingly desired to do this. They wouldn't have known about the guards stationed there nor the issue of the tomb being closed according to Matt. 27:62-66. There was an earthquake and the angel had moved the stone away and met the women there. They were alarmed at the man in the white robe. The white robe symbolizes Jesus' glory, heaven, glory at His transfiguration, of the angels at His ascension, of His hair and head in Rev.1:14, of purity, perfection, walking worthy of God in Rev. 3:4, elders in white in Rev. 4:4, martyrs wearing white in Rev.6:11, armies of heaven with Jesus in white in Rev. 19:14.

What do we have to offer God? Nothing, Rom. 3:23. We may have cleaned the outside but inwardly we are dead and full of uncleanness (Matt.23:27). Our works are as filthy rags, Is.64:6.

• We Must be Reconciled to God. Three Questions We Must Answer:

**Q1:** Who Will Reconcile You to God? V6, the angel gives <u>clear identification</u>: Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified is not here; <u>clear short understanding</u>: He is risen, He is not here; <u>clear evidence</u>: See the place where they laid Him. This is a simple Gospel message as well as 1 Cor.15:3-4.

V7, Jesus was going to Galilee as He had told them in Mk.14:28. He was seen by over 500. Many of whom were still alive when Paul wrote his letters to Corinth, 1 Cor. 15:6. Jesus commanded them to make disciples Matt. 28:16-20.

V8, they were afraid and went to speak with the disciples. Matt. 28:8 says they were afraid and had great joy.

**Q2:** Who Will Take Away Your Fear? V3, Jn. 10:17-18 says Jesus was able to take up His life and lay it down. He needed no help to resurrect Himself. We need someone to resurrect us and to wash us clean and as white as snow, Is.1:18.

**Q3:** Who Will Roll Away Your Stone and Enter into Your Tomb? John the Baptist came dressed in camel's hair looking like a wild man. This angel at Jesus' tomb was dressed in a white robe. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He will resurrect us.

• Three Answers:

A1: V7, Jesus reconciles us to God. He reconciled Peter and His disciples. We are reconciled to God through Christ as told us in 2 Cor. 5:18-20.

A2: V6, Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. Become aware of judgement and fear God. Mk. 5:36, "Do not fear, only believe." John. 14:27, "let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

A3: Jn. 11:25, Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He is the creator and originator of life. Although we die, in Him we shall live. The dead in Christ shall rise first, 1 Thess. 4:16.

!Rom. 10:9-10 is our response to belief in Christ! Salvation in Christ.

## Further Discussion and Application

The Gospel is a simple message because it doesn't require us to fully know all there is to know about God to believe it. The Gospel tells us of a holy God, sinful man, a perfect Savior, an atoning sacrifice, and a coming kingdom. Write your own Gospel message below:

Jesus is the only way to God. From John 10, Jesus describes Himself as the true shepherd and the good shepherd. What are some promises to believers from Jesus for His sheep?

What joy will we experience at the end of our lives knowing the Scriptures we have learned and been taught and obeyed? What hope will we have as we get closer to the day when we come to meet our God and King? How are we preparing for that day?

What message can we provide to others of the hope within us? How can we share that message and live life with that hope in us?

Spend a few minutes and pray an evangelistic prayer for the lost in your life. Who might you proclaim the Gospel to? Who might you disciple and teach so that you and the person you are discipling grows closer to Christ and deeper in the knowledge of Christ?

The cruel death of Christ is detailed in the Gospels and Is. 53. Spend a few moments and list the things you have been forgiven of because Jesus took your place and bore your sins. How can your worship and devotion increase to show your love and appreciation for what you have been given by His sacrifice and death on the cross?