# He is Risen! Matthew 28:1-15

Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendor.

-Charles Spurgeon

I. The Reality of the Resurrection

II. Responding to the Resurrection

### **Small Group Study Questions**

#### Into the Bible

1. Angels as God's messengers stepped into space and time in 1st century Palestine to testify to God's miraculous work. What are the key similarities between the accounts of the angelic messages given at Christ's birth (Luke 2:8-11), and after his resurrection (Matthew 28:5-8)? The key difference of course is that the first message was "He is here" and the second was "He is not here".

2. The reaction of the women to the news of Christ's resurrection was one of "fear and great joy." Contrast that with the reaction of the Jewish authorities. (Matthew 28:11-15) Why would people continue to believe the lie they promoted when the penalty for failing to keep watch would have been execution for the Roman guards?

# **Application**

3. We are familiar with the charge to take the Gospel of Christ into all the world. What is the very heart of that gospel message which we are to testify to? (I Corinthians 15:1-4, 20-21)

4. "The *gospel* or 'good news' means essentially the news of Christ's resurrection. The message that flashed across the ancient world, set hearts on fire, changed lives and turned the world upside down was not 'love your neighbor.' Every morally sane person already knew that; it was not news. The news was that a man who claimed to be the Son of God and the Savior of the world had risen from the dead."

### For Families

5. Talk with your children about why Jesus had to die and why it is so important that he did not stay in the grave.