

THE GOSPEL OF  
**MATTHEW**

**Date:** March 31, 2024

**Key Scripture:** Matthew 28:1-10

**He is Risen!**

1) Our faith is **strengthened** when we earnestly **seek** Jesus.

Jeremiah 29:13 ... *"You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."*

2) Our faith in Jesus does not **depend** on the **fulness** of our knowledge.

Hebrews 11:1 ... *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

3) Our faith does depend on the **truth** of the **resurrection**.

1 Corinthians 15:12–19 ... *"Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied."*

## From the Resources

““Tell me something,” she said with an edge to her voice. “Are you trying to poke holes in his story because you really think he’s a con man? Or are you raising objections because you don’t want his story to be true?” I jumped on the defensive. “Hey,” I shot back, “it’s my job to be skeptical!” To be honest, I didn’t want to believe that Christianity could radically transform someone’s character and values. It was much easier to raise doubts and manufacture outrageous objections than to consider the possibility that God actually could trigger a revolutionary turn-around in such a depraved and degenerate life. “

- **Lee Strobel**- *Case for Christ* (Pg. 143)

### Scripture to Pray

"Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

**Psalm 16:9–11**

### Questions to Discuss

- 1) How am I pursuing Jesus Christ?
- 2) Am I pursuing Him with passion and persistence? Why or why not?
- 3) Am I waiting to believe in Jesus until there is enough evidence? Why is the evidence God has given us not enough?
- 4) Why does the Christian faith depend entirely on the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ?