



WEEK1 Matthew 28:1-10



The Blindfold Challenge

Preparation:
blindfold

random small items available in the house (e.g. toy car, clay dough, gummy candy, stuffed toy, food, sponge, fruits, liquid soap)

We are going to play a game! In this game, you will have to be blindfolded so first, let me cover your eyes with a blindfold.

I have here some stuff that is just available around the house, objects that you touch everyday, and some that you wouldn't go near without a blindfold on. Now I will let you touch each of the objects and you have to tell me what it is. Let's see how many you can guess.

Was that fun? How does it feel when you don't see the object and you are uncertain of what it is?

Yes, we usually feel anxious and afraid if we are uncertain of the things around or maybe if things did not happen as we expected. This was the reaction that Mary and Mary Magdalene had when they went to Jesus tomb and felt an earthquake. Let's read about their story.



Matthew 28:1-10

1 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Mary and Mary Magdalene went to see the tomb but everything that took place was not what they expected - an earthquake, an angel from heaven as white as snow and no body of Jesus in the tomb! But their fear turned to joy when the angel reassured them and told them that Jesus had risen from the dead and they would get to see Him. And the best part is, they actually got to see Jesus! He is truly alive!

With so many uncertain things that have been happening around us, it is not surprising if there are times that fear creeps in and occupies our thoughts and emotions. But we must not let these things overwhelm us because when Jesus rose from the dead, He conquered all these things. Whatever situation may hound us, we can know for certain that Jesus is alive and He is with us.



Parent to Kid/s:
2-6 years old

- When was the last time that you were afraid? What were you afraid of?

7-12 years old

- What is/are the things that you are most afraid of? Why?

Kid/s to Parent:

- Is there something you are afraid of or afraid for?
- What do you do when you feel afraid?

Knowing that Jesus is alive spells a whole of difference for us, His followers. It means that Jesus' power is beyond death. And for us, we can be assured knowing that Jesus has overcome whatever situation we are fearful of - calamity, financial situation, broken relationships, etc.

If you are afraid for anything, you can come to Jesus, bring it to His feet and ask Him to give you peace.



Dear Jesus,

Thank You because You rose from the dead. We believe in Your power over everything. Please help us to remember to come to You every time we become afraid of anything because You are more powerful than anything. We pray in Your name, Jesus...

Amen.



It is interesting to note that while Matthew described an earthquake, the other 3 Gospels only mentioned the stone that covered the grave being rolled away.

Why is this significant? Did the stone have to be rolled away so Jesus can come out from the tomb?

Bible scholars believe that Jesus did not need for the stone to be rolled away. If He could rise from the dead, the stone certainly could not stop Him from coming out. But the stone was rolled away so that Mary and the others who came to the tomb could go inside and actually see for themselves that indeed Jesus is not there, that He is risen!

Source:

1) <https://www.icr.org/article/greatest-earthquakes-bible/>

2) <https://www.bible-studys.org/Bible%20Books/Matthew/Matthew%20Chapter%2028.html>