



## Week of Dec 31 - a

### Scripture: Mt 28:11-15

**Main Idea:** After Jesus' resurrection the soldiers go and tell the chief priests what happened. Instead of investigating and possibly putting their faith in Jesus, they pay the soldiers to lie and tell people his body was stolen. How sad it is when people are determined not to believe.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** There will always be people that don't believe in God. Does that mean that we shouldn't share our faith with them?

**Grade school:** Do you think greed was the only reason the soldiers took the money? Probably not. They would possibly have been killed for letting that grave be found empty. And the chief priests are so afraid of no longer being a 'chief' they won't even try to believe in Jesus.

**Teen:** The Priests should have been leading people to God, but they led them away. Are there times still today that people say they are working for God, but what they say is not Biblical? How do you guard against such false teachings?

**Adult:** A grandmother was once telling her granddaughter how the CPA exam is run, with incorrect information. When the granddaughter explained how it really worked, (since she had taken it) the grandmother would not believe her. Have you known someone who heard the truth and maybe agreed with portions of it but refused to believe it? Usually, they refuse to believe the most important parts. The chief priests and elders, who knew the law, were willing to commit perjury rather than to believe in Jesus. How do people today get hearts so hard they are unwilling to open them to the truth? How do we help them soften their hearts so that they will hear and believe in our Lord?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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#### December Memory Verse:

**Romans 8:28 (NIV)**  
And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.



## Week of Dec 31 - b

### Scripture: Mt 28:16-20

**Main Idea:** After the resurrection we have recorded a special moment when Jesus gives his apostles final instructions. Their job is to take the good news of Jesus to the world. They are to make disciples, baptize them, and teach them to obey all that they had been commanded. And lastly, that Jesus would be with them always.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** Do you think the apostles were eager to go share the good news with everyone?

**Grade school:** Before His Ascension, Jesus gave the disciples an important task: they were to go into “all the world” and spread the Gospel to others. This was not just a command for the twelve, but for all of us. Sharing the Good News is not a chore, but a blessing. We help carry out God’s will, and we have opportunities to serve Him and make His name known to those near and far! What can you do to share the love of Jesus?

**Teen:** Where does Jesus have authority? What is the significance of this? For how long is Jesus with you? To what end is Jesus with you? How does knowing this help you?

**Adult:** These disciples had been with Jesus for a long time, hearing his teachings, watching his miracles, yet fleeing when the chief priests and elders got a crowd to arrest Jesus. Why do you think some of these eleven still doubted? Do you think Jesus' words reassured those doubters? If you knew you were getting ready to give your last words to your family, what would they be? If we had undeniable signs that Jesus is with us, would it be easier or harder to live a Christian life? Do you think this gave the disciples comfort or were they discouraged because he was leaving?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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