



# All Christians' Fellowship International

## INTERACTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

**TOPIC:** The Son Is Up!

**TEXT:** John 20:1-31

**Instructions** - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

**Introduction:** The story circulated for days in the hospital where my brother worked. An orderly was told to take a body to the morgue. Simply out of habit, the orderly felt the man's wrist for a pulse. When he realized his mistake, the orderly quickly dropped the arm, but not before his sensitive fingers told him something his mind struggled to believe. There was a pulse! The doctors were called, and the man revived. That story may or may not be true. But I know of one account of a man coming back to life that is true. The man lived for years after the event. In fact, he is still alive, as we will see in this passage.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How would you react if a friend told you he had seen someone raised from the dead?
2. John records three witnesses to the empty tomb: Mary Magdalene, Peter and "the other disciple" (John himself). What important details do we learn from each one (vs. 1-9)?
3. Why is it important to prove the tomb was empty?
4. John also records three appearances of the risen Christ: to Mary, to his disciples and to Thomas. Why do you think Mary doesn't immediately recognize Jesus? After she does recognize him, what impresses you most about their encounter (vs. 16-18)?
5. When Jesus appears to his disciples, what specific gifts and promises does he give them (vs. 19-23)? What do you think is the significance of each gift or promise?
6. Finally, Jesus appears to Thomas (vs. 24-29). How does Thomas's attitude, both before and after Jesus appears to him, add credibility to the resurrection?
7. How does Thomas's exclamation "My Lord and my God" (v. 28) provide a fitting best moment to John's Gospel?
8. What can we learn from Jesus' encounter with Thomas about dealing with people who have doubts about Christianity?

9. Is believing that Jesus rose from the dead as important as believing that he died on the cross for our sins? Explain.

10. John tells us why he has written his Gospel in verses 30-31. Of all the "miraculous signs" John has included, which have been most convincing to you? Why?