



# Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

*OurMDC.org*  
(925) 354-1096  
1641 Bixler Road,  
Discovery Bay  
California 94505

***Program for Sunday, March 31, 2024***

***Happy Easter! Jesus Christ is risen!***

***Please thank JoAnn for leading worship music this morning!***

**Call to Praise: *Overcome***

*Revelation Song*

**Welcome, announcements, and prayer:**

- **Good morning and thank you for joining our Worship Service Palm Sunday!**
- **PLEASE JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY THIS WED., April 3rd, at 6 P.M.**  
We will start lesson 5 of the series about; "Where is God in the midst of suffering?" A copy of the study is on the back table. We meet at the Green Painted Fellowship House located at 1641 Bixler Road, Discovery Bay, **or ONLINE** with **Zoom**. Please give us your E-mail Address on a Connect Envelope or contact the Church office (925-354-1096) for more information.
- **Attention ALL Ladies** -Join us for breakfast this Sat. April 6th, at 9 A.M.  
**NOTE:** Location changed to Marina Grill at Discovery Bay Marina.
- **Attention ALL Men** - Mark your calendar for this Sat. April 6th, at 9 A.M. for Breakfast at Jalisco's Restaurant in Brentwood.
- If you're interested in becoming a member of MDC or getting baptized, please contact Pastor Larry or a Board Member.
- **Thank you to those who are providing bottles & cans for recycling.** We use the money from that for the Children's Ministry. Contact Gary or Lois for any questions.
- **Please pick up Connect Cards/Envelopes** in the back for offerings, prayer requests and place it in one of the offering boxes. **Please note**, for pledge card donations, please mark your gift "BF" or "Building Fund."
- **Please contact us** for any needs, suggestions, or prayer requests:
  - Pastor Larry Quinnell - PastorLarry@OurMDC.org
  - General Info. - Info@OurMDC.org
  - Prayer requests - PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

**Celebration of Worship: *Holy Forever***

*Forever*

**Message: *Easter: What's the Point?***

**Response / Invitation: *Good Good Father***

**Celebration of Joy/ Sending Out: *Our God***

**Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues**

## Message Notes:

**Friday Devotional:** Mark 15: 21 They pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross.

There are a few takeaways from this event.

- Jesus opens opportunities to do things for Him.
- The things that we can do may be uniquely suited for us.
- Doing the unexpected can bring a blessing far beyond the discomfort of the act.
- We can be blessed even though we may be compelled to do something for someone or something we do not respect.
- We can look for the hand of God in those things and events that are thrust upon us. They can end up being one of the significant moments that define our life.

### Jacob: Wrestler for all of his life.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With Esau in utero.</li><li>• For the birthright.</li><li>• For the blessing.</li><li>• With Laban.</li><li>• With wives, children.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With Yahweh.</li><li>With his past.</li><li>With tragic deaths.</li><li>With faith, obedience.</li><li>With himself.</li></ul>
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### Who or what are you wrestling?

Inner Peace. Hope. Healing. Forgiveness. Truth. Purpose. Guidance. Growth. Meaning. Salvation. Have I found what I want?

### Making the case:

- C = Crucified and laid in a borrowed tomb, found empty, except for the grave clothes.
- A = Appearances of a “believed-to-be-risen” Jesus leads to transformed lives.
- S = Skeptics and enemies are converted.
- E = Early attestation, where it happened.

### Death by crucifixion, subsequent burial

**Mark 15:42-47** When evening had already come, because it was the preparation day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathea came, a prominent member of the Council, who himself was waiting for the kingdom of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. 44 Pilate wondered if He was dead by this time, and summoning the centurion, he questioned him as to whether He was already dead. 45 And ascertaining this from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. 46 Joseph bought a linen cloth, took Him down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. 47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses were looking on to see where He was laid.

### Laid in a tomb, guards posted, seal affixed.

**Matthew 27:61b-66** ... the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, 63 and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.' 64 "Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first." 65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how." 66 And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.

### Just the facts, Ma'am.

- Crucified by experts.
- Declared dead by an expert.
- Buried in a borrowed tomb of a rich man.
- Tomb was sealed.
- Tomb had a large stone.



- Guarded by professional guards, under penalty of death.

### **An angel appears.**

**Matthew 28:1-5** Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. 2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. 3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

### **Two disciples see..**

**John 20:1-7** So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." 3 So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb. 4 The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; 5 and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. 6 And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.

### **Guards report.**

**Matthew 28:11-15** Now while they were on their way, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened. 12 And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 and said, "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep.' 14 "And if this should come to the governor's ears, we will win him over and keep you out of trouble." 15 And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews, and is to this day.

### **Just the facts, Ma'am.**

- There is an earthquake.
- An angel appears.
- This angel moves the stone.
- Guards experience the earthquake, see the angel, become very afraid.
- Two disciples run to see the empty tomb.
- The grave clothes are still there, and in place.
- Guards report to the Jewish leaders, and are bribed to say they fell asleep and the disciples stole the body.

### **Risen Jesus Christ appears.**

**John 20:19-20** So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and \*said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

**John 20:26-29** After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." 28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

**John 21:3b** ...They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 So Jesus \*said to them, "Children, you do not have any fish, do you?" They answered Him, "No." 6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find a catch." So they cast, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter,

“It is the Lord.” So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on (for he was stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about one hundred yards away, dragging the net full of fish. 9 So when they got out on the land, they \*saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have now caught.”

### **Just the facts, Ma’am.**

- Disciples are afraid.
- Jesus appears to two disciples walking on Emmaus road.
- Jesus appears to the 10 disciples in the upper room.
- Jesus appears to the 11 disciples (Thomas!) in the upper room.
- Jesus appears to disciples on shore of Galilee. They have a charcoal BBQ fish feed.
- 1 Corinthians 15: Appears to Peter, James, 500, Paul.

### **Evidence:**

- Guards were bribed to lie.
- Seal was broken.
- Stone was moved.
- Tomb was empty.
- Grave clothes remained.
- Multiple eyewitness testimonies, different places, different times, multiple people.
- Fearful disciples transformed into bold proclaimers, when and where it happened.
- Skeptics and enemies were converted and were willing to die for their belief.

### **Explanations?**

- Jesus was not dead, just passed out, despite getting a heart wound (water and blood). Jesus moved the stone and appeared completely healthy, excepting the wounds.
- Fearful Jewish disciples moved the stone without disturbing the guards, stole the naked body, but putting back the grave clothes.
- Mass hallucinations, but if they are done like this, they are miracles (multiple people with visual, auditory, kinesthetic, olfactory, all at the same time).
- **Jesus Christ was risen from the dead as vindication that His sacrifice was adequate to pay for my wrongdoings. The risen Christ was experienced by many and their testimonies are trustworthy.**

### **What does the risen Jesus Christ mean for believers?**

- His sacrifice demonstrates His love for me.
- His resurrection demonstrates that His sacrifice has paid for all of my wrong-headed wrong-doing: past, present, and future.
- His resurrection is the demonstration that all of His promises to me are worthy of trust.
- His resurrection is also the down payment of my resurrection someday.

### **Why don't they believe? Why won't they believe?**

There are implications if Jesus Christ rose from the dead. He has a claim on my soul, my heart, and my will.

### **Only a relationship with Jesus can fill:**

Inner Peace. Hope. Healing. Forgiveness. Truth. Purpose. Guidance. Growth. Meaning. Salvation.

### **You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.**

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