

# BONUS CHAPTER:

## *Memorial Stone*

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# LIFE *after* LOSS

30 Days of *Hope for Moms*  
Grieving After Miscarriage





## MEMORIAL STONE

Luke 24:1-3, 6 NIV

*On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus...“He is not here; he has risen!”*

—Luke 24:1-3, 6 NIV

This Scripture fascinates me. I have heard it preached numerous times for Easter (or Resurrection Sunday). The pastor often reflects on verse 6 of this passage: “He is not here; he has risen!” What I find interesting is that the people who first discovered the empty tomb were women—women who had experienced the loss of someone they loved.

These women knew Jesus: Mary Magdalene, who experienced the healing power of Jesus and then went on to travel with Him; Joanna, who had been healed by Jesus and left her aristocratic position in the palace to become a female disciple who also traveled and supported Jesus and the apostles (Luke 8:1-3); and Mary, the mother of James. They had just witnessed His crucifixion.

Now these women had front row seats to the miracle of His resurrection. The women who had just grieved the loss of our Lord and Savior were witnesses to the angels who said:

*“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’” (Luke 24:5-7)*

**Why do I share this passage? Because sometimes the people who were there for our loss and grief will also bear witness to our resurrection. How Jesus chooses to bring life after loss may look different in each person, but rest assured, He will resurrect you.**



As I reflect on the significance of the stone that was rolled away, I'm reminded that when those women who came to anoint Jesus' body became sad about Him no longer being there, Jesus' words that He spoke long before He died would bring them solace. While the situation may seem to be dead, you are bearing witness to the resurrecting power of Jesus' love so that you can share with others. This is all a part of your testimony that others will bear witness to. "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:55 NIV).

## **PRAYER STARTER:**

**Jesus, things have happened differently than I had planned. In this season, please help me to reflect on the miracles that You have done in my life up to this point. Please help me to trust in Your resurrecting power. And when I feel the pain of death, may I experience the healing power of Your life. Thank You for bringing life and victory to every situation, even Your death and burial. Please help me to see Your life and victory in my own circumstances. In Jesus' name. Amen.**