

### News Story Summary

In Sudan, Nyawan Gat Chai was attending a wedding miles away from her sons when civil war broke out. She was forced to cross the border into Ethiopia. Her three boys (Rech, Mat, and Goy) were being watched by a neighbor who took them to a shelter at a United Nations camp, separating the family.

The International Community of the Red Cross was able to find Nyawan in Maiwat. When reunited in celebration, Chai said, "It's been bad, but now I can be with them always." Mat, now twelve, was so overcome with joy that he broke down in tears at the sight of his mother.

(For more on this, search the Internet using the phrase "South Sudan family reunites".)

### Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, share the news story and ask: *Taking into account the tumultuous days of the crucifixion, what could we assume about the disciples emotions when they learned the tomb was empty? What thoughts might have overwhelmed them? Since they had first-hand knowledge of Jesus' promises, what buoyant joy would the disciples have had when Jesus, the Messiah, presented Himself?*

Explain to the group that the disciples were still unsure of how Jesus' death fit with His claims to be the Messiah. They were likely still in a state of shock and were alternating from despair to hope. Jesus' appearance as alive must have been a cause for great celebration!

### Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, remind group members of the news summary emphasizing the celebration of reunion. Ask: *How important is celebrating this reunion for this family? How important is celebration of the resurrection necessary to our testimony?* Lead the group to understand that the joy a person could feel for a reunion with a long-lost loved one cannot compare to the good news that we share on Easter. Explain that today, with God's help; we can purpose to recover that hope and have it ready to share with others.