

## Seedling Group Questions for the week of April 12 – The Resurrection of Our Lord

The sermon for April 12, “Where We’re Expected”  
can be found at [www.saidanotherway.org](http://www.saidanotherway.org)

### Questions for opening up

Where was the best hiding place when you were a kid?

What are your favorite Easter traditions? Why?

### Read Colossians 3:1-4

What do you think the writer of this letter means by “things that are above, where Christ is”? What types of things does that mean? How does one go about seeking them or setting one’s mind on them? (if you read ahead to verse 5 there may be clues).

The writer tells the Colossians that they “have died.” What is he referring to?

What does it look like to have a life that is “hidden with Christ”? Where have you seen examples of people proclaiming or embodying life and hope in the midst of decay or despair?

### Read Matthew 28:1-10

Other gospel accounts of the resurrection claim the women took spices to the tomb. What reason does Matthew give us for the women’s trip to the tomb? What, if any, significance does that have?

The other places in his gospel where Matthew records an earthquake (“seismos” in Greek) include the stilling of the storm on Lake Galilee (Matthew 8:24) and in Jesus’ sermon to his disciples about the end times (Matthew 24:7). Do these things have anything in common with this earthquake on the morning of the resurrection? Why would only one gospel writer report an earthquake?

Why do the women leave the tomb filled with fear and great joy? How can you explain that mix of emotions?

### Putting things together

Matthew is clear to record that fear can be a response to Jesus’ resurrection. Why do you think that is? Have you ever experienced fear at the news of Easter? Why or why not?

Pastor Phillip says, *“The point is—whether we are here [in our sanctuary] this year or not, the church’s place is out in the world. The church’s stance is unafraid, ready to learn, full of hope, ready for the earthquake.”* What emotions have you had about Easter this year? What has been similar to years past? What is different?

### Making it personal

Where have you found God’s grace and love where you didn’t expect it?

In what ways have you experienced this time of pandemic as a schooling for Christian faith and practice?

**Colossians 3:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**Matthew 28:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."