



“TIME TO GO TO TRIAL”

John 20:1-20

By: Pastor Samuel Williams

Day 1: The Ultimate Witness

Devotional

In any courtroom, the strength of a case depends on the credibility of its witnesses. The resurrection of Jesus Christ has the most compelling testimony in human history. From the cross that held the Son of God to the Roman centurion who declared 'Surely this was the Son of God,' each witness adds undeniable weight to the truth. The evidence isn't just historical—it's personal. Every transformed life, every answered prayer, every moment of peace in chaos serves as ongoing testimony to His resurrection power. You don't need to defend what's already been proven. The case is closed, the verdict is in: Jesus is alive. When others question your faith, remember that you're not sharing an opinion—you're sharing testimony backed by the most documented event in history.

Bible Verse

'The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.' - John 20:1 (King James Version)

Reflection Question

What evidence of Jesus' resurrection power have you personally witnessed in your own life or the lives of others around you?

Quote

When truth is on trial, you don't need opinions, you need a testimony.

Prayer

Lord, help me to be a faithful witness to Your resurrection power. Give me boldness to share my testimony with confidence, knowing that Your truth stands firm.



Day 2: The Cross Remembers

Devotional

The cross wasn't just wood—it was a witness. It felt the weight of divinity, the blood of the Savior, and the burden of humanity's sin. What seemed like an instrument of death became the foundation of life. The cross reminds us that sometimes our greatest struggles become our most powerful testimonies. That difficult season you're walking through isn't the end of your story—it might be preparing you to carry something greater than you ever imagined. Just as the cross held the weight of the world's salvation, God can use your current burden to bring breakthrough for others. Your pain has purpose, your struggle has significance, and your cross can become someone else's bridge to hope.

Bible Verse

'Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.' - John 20:2 (King James Version)

Reflection Question

How might God be using your current challenges to prepare you for a greater purpose in His kingdom?

Quote

I realized I was not holding a victim. I was carrying the weight of the world.

Prayer

Father, help me see my struggles through Your eyes. Transform my pain into purpose and use my story to bring hope to others.



Day 3: The Stone Moved for You

Devotional

The stone wasn't moved so Jesus could get out—He had already risen. It was moved so we could see in. God doesn't remove obstacles from our lives just to make things easier for Him; He moves them so we can witness His power and glory. That closed door, that impossible situation, that mountain you're facing—God isn't intimidated by it. When He's ready to reveal His glory, nothing can stand in His way. The same power that moved a massive stone from Jesus' tomb is working in your life today. Whatever is blocking your breakthrough isn't strong enough to stop God. He's not just opening a way for Himself; He's opening a way for you to see His faithfulness and for others to witness His power through your testimony.

Bible Verse

'Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.' -
John 20:3 (King James Version)

Reflection Question

What 'stones' in your life might God be preparing to move so others can witness His power and glory?

Quote

I was moved not so Jesus could get out, but so that y'all could see in.

Prayer

Lord, I trust that You are working even when I can't see it. Move every obstacle that blocks Your glory from being revealed in my life.



Day 4: From Lamb to Lion

Devotional

Jesus entered the tomb like a lamb—gentle, sacrificial, surrendered. But He rose and left like a lion—powerful, victorious, unstoppable. This transformation reveals the beautiful paradox of our faith: strength through surrender, victory through sacrifice, life through death. In your own journey, there are seasons when you must be like a lamb—humble, trusting, yielding to God's will even when it's difficult. But remember, that's not where your story ends. The same resurrection power that transformed Jesus from lamb to lion lives in you. Your season of surrender is preparing you for a season of strength. Your time of sacrifice is setting you up for victory. Don't despise the lamb season—it's preparing you for the lion season that's coming.

Bible Verse

'So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.' - John 20:4 (King James Version)

Reflection Question

In what areas of your life do you need to embrace the 'lamb season' of surrender to prepare for the 'lion season' of victory?

Quote

He entered me like a lamb. But he rose and left like a lion.

Prayer

Jesus, help me trust You in seasons of surrender, knowing that You're preparing me for seasons of strength and victory.



Day 5: Your Resurrection Moment

Devotional

Because Jesus got up, you can get up too. The resurrection isn't just a historical event—it's a present reality and a personal invitation. Whatever grave you're lying in—despair, fear, disappointment, failure—it's not your final resting place. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to raise you from whatever is trying to keep you down. You don't have to wait for Sunday to experience resurrection power. Every day is an opportunity to get up, dust yourself off, and walk in the victory Christ has already won for you. Your past doesn't define your future, your failures don't determine your destiny, and your current circumstances don't dictate your conclusion. Because He lives, you can live abundantly. Because He rose, you can rise again.

Bible Verse

'And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.' - John 20:5 (King James Version)

Reflection Question

What area of your life needs resurrection power today, and how will you step into that victory?

Quote

And because I got up, you can get up, too. Get up from despair, get up from fear get up from the grave of yesterday.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I receive Your resurrection power in every area of my life. Help me walk in the victory You've already won for me.