

EASTER: THE CHANGE OF PLANS

THINGS THAT CHANGE OUR PLANS

- ❖ Weather
- ❖ Emergencies
- ❖ People / family
- ❖ Easter

EARLY EASTER MORNING (Luke 24:1-12 NKJV)

- ❖ **The women at the tomb**
 - ◆ Taking burial spices for Jesus' body
 - ◆ Had to be a very sad job - appreciate what funeral homes take this off of us
 - ◆ Also faced a logistical challenge of the stone being too big for them to move
- ❖ **A perplexing situation - the stone was already rolled away**
 - ◆ The body of Jesus was missing and they were not thinking risen
- ❖ **A life changing message**
 - ◆ You are looking in the wrong place - He is alive not dead
 - ◆ Reminded them of Jesus' words and they remembered
 - ◆ A change of plans - not preparing a body (sad) but telling some great news (glad)

PETER'S CHANGE OF PLANS

- ❖ **No plans to go to the tomb**
 - ◆ Meeting with the other disciples - afraid and thinking what's next
 - ◆ The tomb was a dangerous and depressing place
 - ◆ For Peter a reminder of his failures - he had blatantly denied Jesus
- ❖ **But Peter ran - change of plans**
 - ◆ The ladies message stirred something in him
 - ◆ He ran, he saw and left amazed, wondering and probably with a sliver of hope

EASTER IS STILL CHANGING PLANS TODAY

- ❖ **Many carry the perspective of the woman at the tomb - life is sad**
 - ◆ Resigned to getting things done but very little expectation of good
 - ◆ Easter changes that
- ❖ **The angel's profound question still rings true today**
 - ◆ Why look for the living among the dead?
 - ◆ Easter changes that - a resurrected Jesus offers us a life that satisfies
- ❖ **Peter's perspective is still around**
 - ◆ For many their hopes and dreams have died, sealed, the stone rolled, too many obstacles
 - ◆ Easter changes that - if God raised Jesus from the dead ...
- ❖ **Many carry a sense of failure and guilt over past mistakes**
 - ◆ That nagging sense of missed opps and good intentions derailed - carrying that load through life
 - ◆ But Easter changes that - the cross was more than proving God's love, it was providing our forgiveness (*1 Peter 2:24 NKJV*)