

# **Are Christians April Fools**

## **... for believing in the resurrection?**

*Most fairy tales begin with the words, "Once upon a time ..." For many people today, the story of Jesus' resurrection from the dead is about as "real" as the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy. It's a nice little myth that points to the hope of some sort of life-after-death. The kind of "hope" that only weak-minded people really need. So, why, after 2000 years are there still 2.2 billion people who believe this? Are they all just April Fools?*

Mark 16:1-8

There were no \_\_\_\_\_ at the cross!

### ***Why I believe in the resurrection:***

1. Eyewitness testimony. It takes at two corroborating \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ to be established.
2. No one produced a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. No one \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***My Count Me In! Commitments***

- I want to learn more ... I'll attend the April 15 Getting Started Lunch
- I want to go deeper ... I'm ready to sign up for the Directions Discipleship Course
- I believe and want to be baptized
- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend

### **Additional Notes**

# Digging Deeper, Going Further

## Monday

**Read:** John 7

1. Why do you think Jesus' family wanted him to go to Judea?
2. In this chapter, what sorts of answers did people give about who Jesus was?

**Reflect:** Who do you say Jesus is ... and what reason do you have for that belief?

## Tuesday

**Read:** John 8

1. According to 8:31, who are Jesus' disciples?
2. Jesus said that the Jewish leaders were slaves. What were they slaves of?

**Reflect:** In 8:47 Jesus says that those who belong to God hear what God says. What is God saying to you these days ... and what are you going to do about that?

## Wednesday

**Read:** John 9

1. Did the man born blind ask Jesus to heal him?
2. Why so you think Jesus healed the man born blind?

**Reflect:** Why do you think Jesus suggested that the Pharisees were blind? What could they not see?

## Thursday

**Read:** John 10

1. According to John 10:10, why did Jesus come to earth?
2. What did Jesus mean when he said "I and the Father are one"? (10:30)

**Reflect:** Why did Jesus say people should believe in him? What "evidence" did he offer?

## Friday

**Read:** John 11

1. In 11:8, why did the disciples not want Jesus to go to Jerusalem?
2. Of the disciples, who demonstrated the most commitment to Jesus and his plans (see 11:16)?

**Reflect:** What do you do that shows your commitment to Jesus and his plans?

**Saturday:** *Who will you invite to worship with you tomorrow?*