# April 17, 2022

The Tomb is Empty, So What? Pastor Brian Greenleaf, Lead Pastor



### Matthew 28:1-6, Mark 16:1-8. Luke 24:1-12, John 20, 1-12, 1 Corinthians 15

What does the empty tomb mean? It's God's guarantee that...

- 1. Beauty will not be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Truth will not be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Goodness will not be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Pandemics will not have the \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Don't believe in the empty tomb. Believe in the risen Christ.

"The cross, as poignant as it is, is understandable from a human perspective: an innocent man was murdered by crooked politicians and religious leaders. But the empty tomb – what can you say? Only a supernatural God could accomplish that."

~ Jim Cymbala

"The tomb was empty – the greatest security breach of all time. Yet that event gives lasting security to all God's people."

~ David Jeremiah

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### Sermon Talks:

- 1. What caught your attention in this week's sermon? Was there something you had never heard before or something you had a question about?
- 2. What do you love most about Easter? What could you do without?
- 3. When we tell stories (especially about ourselves), there's this weird truth that the more specific something is, the easier it is for someone else to relate to it. Like, you could say, "My parents are crazy," and lots of people would agree with you. But if you told a specific, wild story about your parents, that's even more relatable.
  - What do you need from a story to make it more believable for you?
- 4. If you had a chance to ask Jesus anything about the Easter story, what would it be?
- 5. For many people, difficulty in believing the story of the empty tomb centers around two areas: "Did it really happen?" and "What does it mean?"
  - Do you struggle believing that Jesus really rose from the grave?
  - Do you struggle with what the empty tomb means for you?
  - Do you know people who are wrestling with similar questions?
- 6. If you have asked Jesus into your life as Savior and Lord:
  - Recall when that happened.
  - How have you seen changes in your life?
  - What are the benefits of having a relationship with Jesus?
- 7. If you have not asked Jesus into your life as Savior and Lord:
  - What are some concerns you have?

### Pray about it:

Eternal life does not come from believing in an empty tomb, but in the One who made it empty – Jesus. If you do not have a relationship with Jesus, would you consider asking Him into your life today? Simply ask Jesus to come into your heart and save you from your sins. Acknowledge the fact that He died for you to give you life. If you pray that, Jesus <u>will</u> come in, and you <u>will</u> be saved. Your life will be changed for eternity!