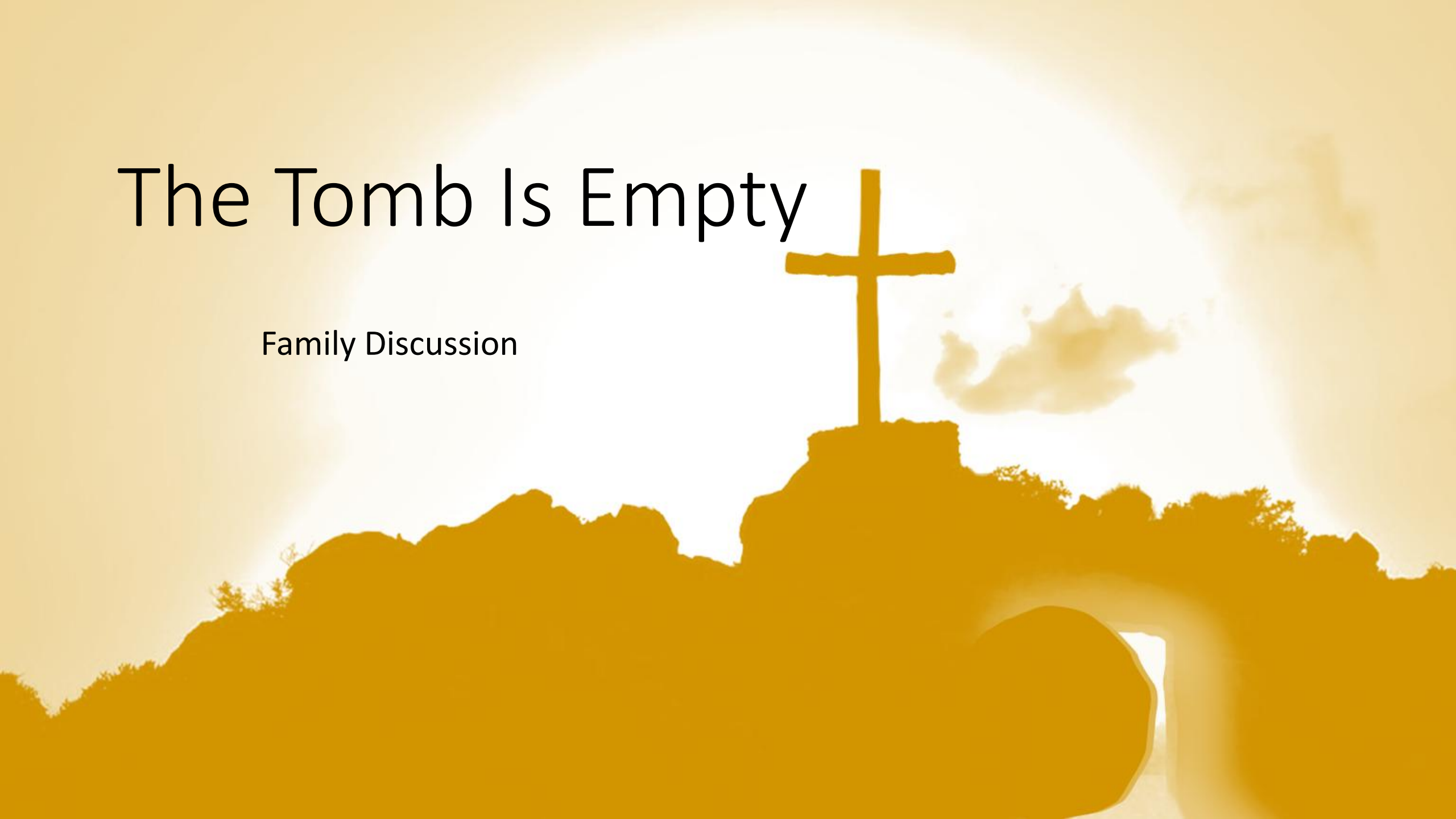
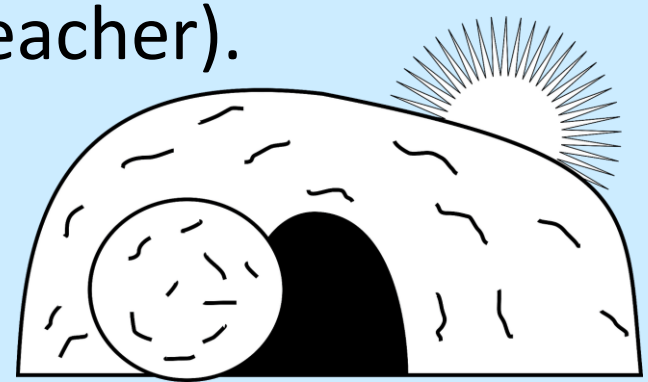
The Tomb Is Empty

Family Discussion



Finally the other disciple [John], who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. … At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

John 20:8-12, 14-16 (NIV)

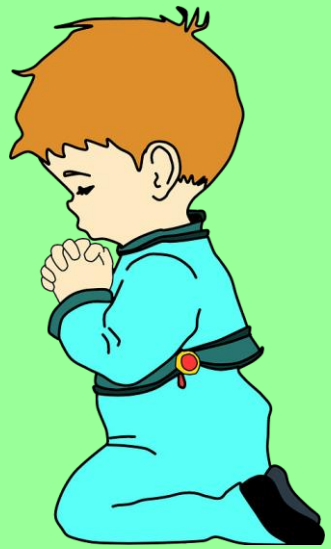


Discussion



- Why do you think John “saw and believed”, even though they didn’t fully understand from Scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead?
- Why did Mary stay at the tomb after Peter and John left? What does this show about her devotion to Jesus?
- Mary recognized Jesus when He spoke her name. How does Jesus call us today, and how can we recognize His voice?
- What fears or doubts might keep us from fully believing in the power of Jesus' resurrection? How can we overcome them?

Prayer



- Declare your praise to God that we worship a risen Savior, not merely a dead hero.
- Ask God to help you recognize when He speaks to you when you read and study His Word.
- Pray for people who are struggling with the Truth of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
- Pray that the Gospel message of sins forgiven will be preached and change people's lives around the world.