



## 5 DAY DEVOTIONAL

### Sermon: The Truth Came Alive

**SPEAKER: REV. CHRIS SMITH | 4/5/2026 | PAGE 1 OF 5**

#### Day 1: When God Moves Mountains

**Devotional:** Have you ever faced an obstacle that seemed impossible to overcome? The women walking to Jesus' tomb that Easter morning knew exactly how that felt. They carried spices to anoint His body, but one massive problem stood in their way - a huge stone sealing the entrance. As they walked, they worried: "Who will roll away the stone for us?" But when they arrived, they discovered something amazing. God had already moved what seemed unmovable. The stone was rolled away, and the tomb was empty. Sometimes we spend so much energy worrying about the obstacles ahead that we forget we serve a God who specializes in moving mountains. He sees the barriers that keep us awake at night, and He's already working on our behalf. What looks impossible to us is simply another opportunity for God to display His power. Today, whatever stone is blocking your path, remember that the same God who rolled away the stone from Jesus' tomb can move the obstacles in your life.

**Bible Verse:** "On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!'" - Luke 24:1-6

**Reflection Question:** What "stone" in your life seems too heavy for you to move, and how might God already be working to remove it?

**Quote:** Why are you seeking the living among the dead? He is not here, but risen.

**Prayer:** Lord, help me trust that You are already working on the obstacles I face. Give me faith to believe that what seems impossible to me is possible with You.

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SPEAKER: REV. CHRIS SMITH | 4/5/2026 | PAGE 2 OF 5

#### Day 2: Never Too Far Gone

**Devotional:** Mary Magdalene's story is one of the most powerful testimonies of transformation in Scripture. She had been tormented by seven demons - completely bound and broken. Yet when she encountered Jesus, everything changed. Her past didn't disqualify her from God's love; instead, it became a testimony of His incredible power to set people free. If you've ever felt like you're too far gone, that your mistakes are too big, or that your past is too dark, Mary's story speaks directly to your heart. The same Jesus who delivered her from seven demons can deliver you from whatever has you bound. Whether it's addiction, shame, fear, or any other stronghold, no chain is too strong for our Savior to break. Mary didn't just receive freedom - she became one of Jesus' most devoted followers and was chosen to be the first witness of His resurrection. God doesn't just rescue us from our past; He redeems it and uses it for His glory. Your story of brokenness can become a story of breakthrough.

**Bible Verse:** "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death." - Proverbs 14:12

**Reflection Question:** What area of your life feels too broken for God to heal, and how might He want to use your story of redemption to help others?

**Quote:** No matter how much the devil has beat you down or yourself to yourself or someone important in your life that should be a supporter of you and a lifter of you has beat you down or abused you or misspoken of you, let me tell you something. We can be set free the same way as Mary Magdalene.

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank You that no one is too far gone for Your love and power. Set me free from anything that binds me and use my story to bring hope to others.

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#### Day 3: Truth in a World of Confusion

**Devotional:** In our world of endless opinions and competing voices, how do we know what's really true? Jesus didn't just teach truth - He declared, "I am the truth." This isn't just a nice religious saying; it's backed by incredible evidence. Jesus fulfilled hundreds of specific prophecies with mathematical precision that's humanly impossible. The probability of one person fulfilling just 48 prophecies is astronomical - yet Jesus fulfilled over 300. This wasn't luck or coincidence; it was the deliberate plan of God unfolding exactly as promised. When everything around us feels uncertain and people claim that truth is relative, we can anchor our lives in the solid foundation of Jesus Christ. He proved His truthfulness through His perfect life, His sacrificial death, and His victorious resurrection. In a culture that says "your truth" and "my truth" can both be valid, Jesus stands as absolute truth that doesn't change with our feelings or circumstances. When we build our lives on Him, we're building on the only foundation that will never shift or crumble.

**Bible Verse:** "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" - John 14:6

**Reflection Question:** In what areas of your life are you tempted to rely on your own understanding rather than trusting in Jesus as absolute truth?

**Quote:** Everything that Jesus did and everything that Jesus said was truth.

**Prayer:** Lord, help me anchor my life in You as the unchanging truth. When the world's voices confuse me, remind me that You are my solid foundation.

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#### Day 4: Death Has Lost Its Sting

**Devotional:** Death is the one enemy that every human being must face, but Easter changes everything about how we view it. Because Jesus rose from the dead, death is no longer the final word in our story. Paul triumphantly declared that "death is swallowed up in victory," and this isn't just poetic language - it's our reality as believers. When we trust in Jesus, death becomes a defeated enemy rather than a terrifying unknown. This doesn't mean we won't grieve when we lose loved ones or that we shouldn't value life. But it does mean we can face the future with hope instead of fear. The resurrection gives us confidence that this life isn't all there is and that our relationships with fellow believers aren't ended by death but simply interrupted. This hope transforms how we live today. We can take risks for God's kingdom, love sacrificially, and face challenges boldly because we know that even if we lose our earthly life, we gain eternal life. The empty tomb reminds us that our Savior has already walked through death and come out victorious on the other side.

**Bible Verse:** "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'" - 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

**Reflection Question:** How does knowing that death has been defeated change the way you approach both daily challenges and long-term decisions?

**Quote:** Death is swallowed up in victory.

**Prayer:** Thank You, Jesus, that because You conquered death, I don't have to fear it. Help me live with the confidence that comes from knowing You've already won the victory.

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#### Day 5: Coming Home to the Father

**Devotional:** The resurrection isn't just about Jesus conquering death - it's about opening the way for us to come home to our heavenly Father. But this requires honest self-examination. Are we trusting in our own goodness, thinking we're "okay" compared to others? Or are we humbly acknowledging our need for a Savior? The heart can be deceptive, convincing us we're fine when we're actually far from God. But here's the beautiful truth: no matter how far we've wandered, when we turn back to God with genuine repentance, He receives us with open arms. Confession isn't about groveling or earning our way back - it's about agreeing with God about our condition and accepting His forgiveness. When we confess our sins, He is faithful to cleanse us completely. This isn't a one-time event but a lifestyle of staying connected to our Father through honest communication. The resurrection proves that God's love is stronger than our failures and His grace is greater than our sin. Today, if you've been trying to make it on your own or if you've been running from God, remember that He's waiting for you to come home.

**Bible Verse:** "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death." - Proverbs 14:12

**Reflection Question:** What keeps you from being completely honest with God about your spiritual condition, and what would it look like to come home to Him today?

**Quote:** No matter what we've done, no matter how far we've strayed, when we turn and say, you know what? I'm tired of this where I'm at, I'm ready to get in communion with my father. He receives us with open arms.

**Prayer:** Father, help me see myself honestly and come to You with genuine repentance. Thank You for receiving me with open arms no matter how far I've strayed.

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