



It was early in the morning, on the first day of the week. Mary Magdalene and her friend, who was also called Mary, were on their way to Jesus' tomb. As they drew near, they saw two guards sitting there.

Without warning, an angel came down from the sky like a bolt of lightning. He was dressed in dazzling white clothes, and the earth shook as he landed and rolled back the stone at the entrance to the tomb.

The guards were terrified! First, they shook with fear, and then they fainted. 'Do not be afraid,' the angel said to the two Marys. He was sitting on the stone. 'I know who you're looking for. You came to see Jesus, who was killed on the cross. He isn't here any more; he's been raised from the dead. Come, and see where his body lay.'

The two Marys didn't know what to think. They were both scared of the angel, and excited by what he said. The angel continued speaking, 'When you have seen that Jesus is gone, go and tell the disciples the news. Jesus will go ahead of them to Galilee, and they will see him there.'

Still frightened, but also full of joy, the women ran from the tomb to find the disciples. They didn't get far, though, because suddenly, Jesus was there, standing in front of them. 'Greetings!' said Jesus. The women fell to the ground, took hold of Jesus' feet and worshipped him. Jesus spoke again. 'Do not be afraid,' he said. 'Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee. They will see me there.'