Road to Calvary – L.8  
“The Tomb”  
Matthew 27:57-60  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the uniqueness behind the tomb of Christ.

Intro: 1. We have seen Christ’s walk from entering the city, to his trial, his death and now we arrive at His temporary tomb.  
2. The tomb of Christ was not like other tombs, the events that took place at the sealing of His tomb were not normal.

I. Deaths on the cross  
A. Quickening the death of the thieves (Jn 19:31-33)  
   1. The crosses of these men were to be empty.  
   2. To make these men pass more quickly their legs were broken so that they would die and then could be removed from their crosses.  
B. Proving Christ’s death (Jn 19:34-37)  
   1. Christ had not merely “swooned” or fainted. He gave up His spirit. There was no life in His physical body at that time.  
   2. Spiritual symbols of the water and the blood  
      a. How does a Christian come in contact with the blood of Christ? (Romans 6:3-4)  
      b. In baptism are sins are washed away by the blood of Christ, but we cannot have our sins washed away until we are buried with him in the watery grave of baptism.

II. The preparation and tomb of the King  
A. Joseph of Arimathea  
   1. This disciple (secretly), asked and received the body of Christ from Pilate (Jn 19:38)  
   2. Joseph had a new tomb that would be used for Christ (Jn 19:41)  
B. Preparing of the body.  
   1. It was the custom of the Jews (Jn 19:40) to anoint the dead with such items (Jn 19:39)

III. The uniqueness of the Tomb of Christ  
A. It was new  
   1. It was not uncommon for tombs to have more than one person in them.  
   2. The providing of a new tomb may be another sign to show the wealth of Joseph of Arimathea (Mt 27:57)  
B. The guards at the tomb.  
   1. They weren’t ignorant concerning Christ and His teachings (Mt 27:62-63).  
   2. There purpose was clear and one that shows they did not believe Christ would be resurrected (Mt 27:64-66)

Application & Conclusion:  
1. Christ was and is anything but ordinary. Everything about Him was and is unique, even His death.
2. Christians are called to be unique as well. You are called out of the world and to a life of righteousness in the body of Christ.
3. Are you living worthy of the cross of Christ?
4. Full Invitation