



Easter
The Power of the Resurrection
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April 1, 2018

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

The ongoing power of the resurrection deals with my past failures, my present struggles and secures my future.

1 John 4:10

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

1 Corinthians 15

For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

*But in fact, **Christ has been raised from the dead!***

So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.

3 Personal Applications of the Resurrection

1. The resurrection is the event our faith is built upon

- There is a vast amount of historical evidence for the resurrection, but the believer's life is an epistle, a letter, people are reading! We bear witness to Jesus resurrection power.

2. The resurrection empowers us to live an overcoming life today

- **Romans 6:4-9**

Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

*Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. **We are no longer slaves to sin.***

*For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. **We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again.***

- **Ephesians 1:19**

*I want you to know about the great and mighty power that God has for us followers. **It is the same wonderful power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in heaven,***

- **Romans 8:11**

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you.

3. The resurrection will have the last word (every enemy defeated)

- **1 Corinthians 15:51-58**

*But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. **For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever.** And we who are living will also be transformed. For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die;*

Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled:

*“Death is swallowed up in victory.
O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”*

For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Is there a specific Easter that stands out as significant in your life? Perhaps a special family memory attached to it, or a time God encountered you in a significant way.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 3:2-3. Your life is evidence of the resurrection power of God for others to see. How do you want your life to “read”? What might be some of the key chapters, key victories?
3. According to Romans 8:11, the same power that raised Jesus from the grave lives in believers, therefore we don’t have to live in a perpetual state of defeat. Do you find it easy, or difficult to wrap your mind around this truth? How can we practically apprehend this reality, in other words, how can we lay hold of this reality on a daily basis? What are the obstacles involved?
4. What area of your life do you want to see the resurrection power of God overcome?

5. Because of the certainty of the resurrection, we can have the certainty of walking in victory. Yet, Satan will try to convince us that the “Friday message” (death, apparent defeat) is the final message. It isn’t! What steps will you take this week to confront any limitations to what you’ve believed God can do in your life?