

## WHY EASTER MATTERS

April 4, 2021

### The Relevance of the Resurrection- 1 Corinthians 15:14-19

If Jesus didn't physically rise from the grave:

Christianity is \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 14

The Scriptures are \_\_\_\_\_ - v.15

Forgiveness is \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 17

Everyone ends up as \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 18

Christians are \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 19

### The Reasonableness of the Resurrection

The evidence of...

... fulfilled \_\_\_\_\_

... \_\_\_\_\_ testimony

... the empty \_\_\_\_\_

... extraordinary \_\_\_\_\_ of lives

### Responses to the Resurrection- Matthew 28

The religious leaders \_\_\_\_\_ the evidence- vs. 11-15

The two Marys worshiped with \_\_\_\_\_ - vs. 1-10

Some disciples worshiped in spite of some \_\_\_\_\_ - vs. 16,17

"Faith is when the unexplainable meets \_\_\_\_\_."

"Faith is not believing the unbelievable; it's \_\_\_\_\_ upon the evidence."

## Life Group Questions for the Week of April 4, 2021

1. Looking back at your notes from this Sunday's message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

2. Have you ever watched the celebration that takes place on New Year's Eve when the ball drops in Times Square at midnight? What are they celebrating? How does this compare with our celebration of the most significant event in history, the resurrection of Christ? Do most Christians get that excited on Easter? Why or why not?

3. Read Luke 24:1-12. What was Jesus' closest followers' initial response to the empty tomb? Can you identify with the disciples' doubts about the resurrection? How does their subsequent belief affect the credibility of their testimonies?

4. Take the negative implications found in 1 Cor. 15:12-19 of no belief in the resurrection and turn them around to positive statements and discuss the truths we can hold on to. Which of these is the most meaningful to you and why?

5. Read Heb. 2:14-15. How have you seen the fear of death enslave people? How can meditating on the resurrection help those who fear death?

6. In reality, living out your faith is the best proof of a resurrected Jesus. How do the following verses reinforce this idea and describe what this looks like?

Matthew 5:13-16

1 Peter 2:15-17

Philippians 2:1-5

Which of these passages encourages you the most to live like Jesus?

7. It's been said that the evidence for Jesus' resurrection is so strong that nobody would question it except for two things: First, it is a very unusual event. And second, if you believe it happened, you have to change the way you live. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

8. Who do you know who needs to hear about Jesus' resurrection and its significance? Pray for them and an opportunity for you to share it with them.