

# Week of Apr 21, 2019 – Easter Sunday

## Introduction

What would the Christian faith be like without the resurrection of Jesus? Why is it so important?

Turn to 1 Corinthians 15 as a group:

- 15:3-8: How does Paul summarize the big points of the gospel?
- 15:17-19: What does he say here? Why?
- 15:20-22: How does he clarify things?

## Sermon Questions

### Vindication

Pastor Jonathan mentioned in his sermon that the resurrection vindicates what Jesus said.

- How does it do this? What does raising from the dead show?

Do you have doubts about the resurrection accounts the Bible presents? What are they and how could you pursue putting them to rest?

- Does searching out the truth harm our faith?
- What did Jesus say about truth? (ex. John 8:31-32, John 14:6)

Rather than seeking the truth of something, sometimes we prefer ignorance of the issue instead! Why do we do this?

- Are you willfully ignorant of something in your life right now? What is it? Why?

What does Jesus accomplish by his *death*? What does he accomplish by his *resurrection*?

- Why are **both** important to the Christian faith?

### Power to Change

Not only are we saved from our sins and adopted into God's family, he gives us his Spirit and empowering to live life as his children *now*.

Read Ephesians 1:15-23.

- What does Paul pray that the Ephesian church would know?

- How did God show his power? (v. 20)
- How does this encourage us as God's children?

Pastor Jonathan mentioned things like the power to overcome sin, to forgive others, and generally be like Jesus:

- What do you need God's power for in this season of your life?
- How are you "missing the mark" as a child of God (being like Jesus)? Are you depending on God's power in that area?

### **Hope (now and to come)**

Jesus may be the first one to rise from the dead, but those who trust him will rise too! (1 Cor 15:23). Whatever hard things we may face in this life, we know there is something better coming.

- What does Paul say is the opposite of this hope in 1 Cor 15:19?
- How does this hope of resurrection inform both our *future* and *present* circumstances?

What hard things are you facing right now? How can the hope of the resurrection change your attitude/perspective?

### **Prayer**

- Thank God for the resurrection and the hope that it brings!
- Ask for a greater assurance and an eternal perspective to impact your life now
- Confess trying to do things on your own strength and ask for God's help in your life's situations
- Pray for all the guests who heard the message of the gospel. Pray for faith and response to the Spirit's working