

Week 9 - Why the Resurrection Matters

the book of
MARK
WHO IS JESUS?

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the discussion questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Discussion Questions:

Begin your study by sharing thoughts on this question.

Do you think we tend to emphasize the cross more than the resurrection? Why should both be emphasized?

Read Mark 16:1-8

- Describe how the women felt when they found the stone removed, the tomb empty and an angel sitting there. Why would they be afraid?
- What stones does God need to move in your life to make you free?
- Why would the disciples not believe that Jesus had risen? Why did Jesus rebuke them for their unbelief? How does God feel about unbelief? How does this apply to us?
- The resurrection is the heart of the gospel. What does it mean to you? What does it mean for your future?
- When you ponder your faith, or when you face doubts, what is the bottom line for you—what is your anchor? How do you give a brief answer to, Why are you a Christian?
- If you wanted to make up a story about a man being resurrected from the dead, how would it differ from Mark's account of Jesus' resurrection? Why is the difference actually evidence that Mark's account is true?
- Why do people create alternative explanations for Jesus' resurrection? Give two or three reasons.
- How does the martyrdom of ten of the apostles provide evidence for the resurrection?
- How does the founding of the church in the city of Jerusalem provide evidence for the resurrection?
- Hypothetically, what could the Romans or Jews have done that would have disproved the testimonies to the resurrection and stopped the Christian religion before it started? Why did they not do those things?
- How do the conversions of James and Paul testify to the resurrection of Christ?
- How does your own heart and personal experience give testimony to the resurrection of Christ?

Applying What We Have Learned

- Identify the "stones" that keep you from breaking free and experiencing the fullness of the Christian life.
- Commit each obstacle to God and ask him to help you "move" the stones from your life.
- Memorize key verses about Christ's resurrection from the dead. Let these be reminders to you that God can bring hope in seemingly hopeless situations.
- Write down the names of three or four people and pray for the opportunity to share the "Good News" of Jesus Christ with them.
- Pray about the possibility of going on a mission trip to impact another culture for Jesus Christ.

Next Steps

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it!

Go to www.mycornerstone.org/next to learn more about your next step