



STUDY GUIDE

April 17, 2022

Message Series:

COME ALIVE

Message Title:

Resurrection

Teaching Pastor:

Brian Hughes

Warm-up/Icebreaker:

- What was your favorite Easter tradition or memorable experience growing up?

Pray:

Dear Lord, we celebrate our Savior Jesus, resurrected, and restored! May we realize afresh today what Your death and resurrection mean for us. Forgiveness, freedom, and the ability to walk with You through this fallen world into eternity. We ask that You increase our faith, knowledge and wisdom of the greatest love story ever told. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Get Started:

“Every single one of the disciples insisted, to their dying breaths, that they had physically seen Jesus bodily raised from the dead. Don't you think that one of those apostles would have cracked before being brutally tortured and beheaded? None did. That pathway for many of them was gruesome suffering and all they had to do was confess they had the body. But they boldly endured because they knew...Jesus was alive. They had seen him.

Four Indisputable Facts:

1. Jesus lived.
2. Jesus was tortured and crucified under Roman authority.
3. Jesus actually died.
4. Jesus was sealed in the tomb.

There is no debate about these 4 facts. But this is where the agreement ends. The dividing line comes with what happens next. Did he stay dead or did he become alive again? Read the following accounts.” -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 and Luke 24:36-49.

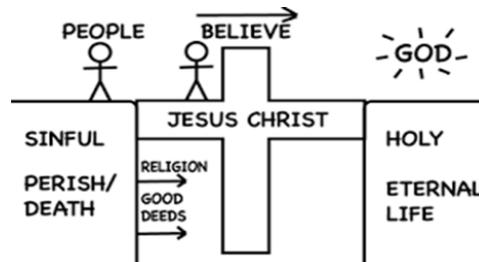
- Do you have confidence that your faith is grounded in verifiable facts? Why or why not? What type of proof is offered for the resurrection of Jesus and how does it affect your belief?

Read John 20:24-27.

- How does Jesus handle Thomas' doubt, demands, and conditions? What do we learn about the nature and character of Jesus in this text? Is it wrong to need proof in order to believe? Why do some people require more evidence compared to others?
- How did you come to faith in Christ? Was it a simple process for you? Or did you need time to think more deeply about the claims of the Bible and have some of your most important questions answered before you could believe?

Watch and Discuss Video: (running time 10 minutes)

According to **Romans 3:23**, “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” The world is broken, and we broke it. There’s a chasm between me and God and I helped create it. Because the rules were broken, and God is a God of justice, there had to be some penalty paid to make things right, i.e. if you get a speeding ticket, you have to pay a fine (a repercussion). The eternal relationship was broken, and the penalty was death, and the only way to restore that eternal life to us was that Jesus paid the penalty for us. God is a God of justice **and** a God of love, and Jesus was the penalty for our sins. Jesus’ obedience paid the price for our disobedience. All because of - and through - Jesus. Jesus is the bridge between heaven and earth.



Read John 3:16-21.

- What stands out to you the most from the scripture and/or the bridge illustration?

Reflect and Commit:

"What seals the deal for me is how there is a consistent pattern of life change from that first Easter to this one. Billions of people, including some people around you right now. Including me. I have experienced the presence of the resurrected Jesus. I have known his loving comfort, his overwhelming blessing, his care for me in my brokenness, his patient coaching to make me better, his conviction of my immoral thoughts and actions and his grace to forgive them in my remorse. And when I am reminded of these things, when I hold them up like a photo file and scroll through them, I realize that there is no way I can be so familiar as to be careless or casual. No, this truth never gets old to me. And it should never get old to you, either. But above all that Jesus does for each of us, His Resurrection is the ultimate answer to the one obstacle ALL of us have in common: Death. But not just physical death- the kind that happens when we stop breathing. Jesus came to offer life on both sides of eternity. Once, Jesus said, "I've come that my followers would have life - overflowing life, full and powerful and joy-filled life." That can be true for you because of the Resurrection and ONLY because of the Resurrection." -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read 1 Peter 1:3 and Romans 6:8-11.

- How would you describe the phrases "living hope" and "alive to God?" How do these play out in your lives?

Pray:

Dear Lord, thank You for the miracle of life—abundant life here, and eternal life with You in Heaven. Help our spirits **come alive** and celebrate that life every day as we seek You and follow Your plan. Today, we say with the Apostle Paul, "Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?" You have removed the sting of death and now we will live in Your presence forever. We rejoice and pray all this in Jesus' name, Amen.