

Home Group Questions

the week of 04/21/2019

John 20:24-31

EASTER - THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING!

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday was our Easter celebration, as we rejoiced over the truth that Jesus is alive and that He has accomplished victory over death due to His sacrifice on the cross for our sins.

- Talk as a home group about Easter. What are some of the questions that you hear in our culture today about Easter and the resurrection? Share answers to these questions, or at least ways in which you have resolved these questions in your own mind.

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-28. Paul ties in the resurrection of Jesus Christ with our own resurrection one day (see verse 12-13). How does the reality of the resurrection change the way in which you live today? Why does Paul give such a strong case for the resurrection (listing all those Jesus appeared to) if we are to believe in the resurrection by faith? What should be the balance of faith and reason in your daily walk with Christ?

2. Read Philippians 3:10-11. Paul talks about the resurrection from the dead in this passage as well. What do you think Paul is referring to when he writes, "that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection"? What does that look like in daily living as a Christian? How do you know that you are really experiencing the "power of His resurrection" in your daily life?

3. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. The Bible and Jesus Himself are very forthright about what the walk of Christ will be like. This

passage tells us not to be surprised when we encounter trials. Why does God allow these trials to occur? How does that relate to what Jesus experienced on the cross and what His disciples and Thomas experienced during and immediately after Jesus' crucifixion?

Take time to share other principles that you discover from the passage in 1 Peter 4.

4. Read John 20:24-31. Jesus is very patient when He appears to Thomas. When Thomas sees Jesus, he believes and testifies, "My Lord and my God." This is not only a great testimony of the deity of Jesus Christ, but can highlight the fact that Jesus wanted Thomas to investigate the evidence of the marks on his body. How can we be more diligent in knowing the evidence for the resurrection, yet still realize it will be an act of faith? What are questions you may be struggling with that you need to get answered in your heart so that you can walk more confidently by faith?

- Perhaps this would be a good time to have a few group members share how they came to know Christ. Our stories of how we came to Christ should be very fresh in our minds. (Remember, the most effective testimonies when sharing with others are about 3-4 minutes.)

- Your testimony should emphasize what your life was like before you came to Christ (even for those who were saved at an early age), how you came to Christ, and how Christ changed your life.

5. Read Colossians 4:3-6. What are some things we should be doing to make our witness more effective for Christ?

MOVING FORWARD...

Pray that your faith would be strengthened in your daily walk so as to really experience the power of the resurrection!