



Discussion Guide

Sermon Synopsis

History records a host of notable victories on the battlefields, in the courtrooms, and on sports fields all over the world, but there is no greater victory than the victory won by Jesus when He died on the cross for the sins of the world and rose again from the grave. Through the resurrection, Jesus conquered sin, death, Satan, and even hell itself. We could study all the pages of history and never find a greater victory that has such power and impact on our lives today. There is nothing in your life that can't be changed by the power of His resurrection. The power of the resurrection assures us of hope, peace, joy, love, and even eternal life. As you listen to the message, we pray that you will personally experience the power of the resurrection in your life today!

March 31, 2024

John 20:19-31

One Liner of the Week

“While the world looks to all these other things for power, the truth is that these things cannot do for you what only the resurrection of Jesus can do for all who believe in Him.”

Food for the Soul

Monday: Matthew 28:1-15

Tuesday: Mark 16:1-13

Wednesday: Luke 24:1-12

Thursday: Luke 24:13-35

Friday: Luke 24:36-53

Saturday: John 20:1-18

Sunday: John 20:19-31

The great difficulty of the Christian life lays in this: To constantly be “looking to Jesus” as the center and point of fulfillment for our entire being. Far too often, real Christians can get to a place where God doesn't seem to be upholding His end of the bargain. Life is still hard. It may even be harder than it was before you were saved. We tend to think that shouldn't be the case. After all, Christ is in the business of setting all things right, isn't He? Yes, dear friend, He is in just such a business as this! However, His business of setting all things right occurs in the context of our souls and not necessarily in this temporal world. Yes, Christ intervenes in the world around us, but are not our souls more important? The world around us is volatile. Our emotions are volatile. Life is vacillating and volatile. As a group, read *Philippians 3:1-11*. **We were made for eternity and not mere mortality. Why do we focus our attention so long and hard upon frivolous earthly things instead of Christ through whom the hope of resurrection comes?**

The truth is, having Jesus as the center point, the defining attribute of who you are, the starting point of all your thinking and doing is the only way we can navigate this difficult life in a meaningful and joyful way. You may be a socialite and long for relationships, but people will leave. You may be a masterful businessperson, valuable in the marketplace. But your wealth will evaporate before your eyes. Such a list can go on and on. But Christ is the arbiter of hope for the soul. You see, He gives what we cannot attain in and of ourselves. He gives righteousness which is the very thing we need above all. And, since He is eternal, since He is risen, since He lives forever to make intercession for us before the Father, and since the righteousness that He gives belongs to Him, that is a gift that cannot and will not leave, will not evaporate, and will endure for eternity. Read John 4:7-13. **Just how satisfied will those be who come to Jesus, cling to Him, look to Him always? Just how satiated will their thirst for something that fulfils be according to the Lord Christ?**

Spend the remainder of your time together discussing the things that get in the way of a Christian “looking to Jesus always.” The list could be enormous. If a Christian finds themselves in such a place, what concrete steps can he or she take to get back on track?