

04 April

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Resurrection Sunday 2021

 Let's hear your story

1. Have you ever had to explain to a friend or family member that Jesus was resurrected from death?
2. True or false; Jesus' resurrection was prophesied in the Old Testament? (**True, see Ps.16:10 and Isaiah 53**).
3. True or false; Jesus said that He would rise from death? (**True, Mark 8:31; 9:31 and 10:33 – 34**).
4. True or false; Jesus' body was stolen? (**False, see 1 Corinthians 15**).

 Let's go deeper

5. Was the location of Jesus' tomb well known? (**Yes, see Isaiah 53 and John 19:38 – 42**).
6. Was Jesus' tomb found by women? (**Yes, see John 20:1; Luke 4:10 and Matthew 28:1**).
6. Did Jesus' family worship Him as God after He was resurrected? (**Yes, see Acts 1:14; book of James and Jude**).
7. How did one of Jesus' enemies; Saul who became Paul, suddenly believe in Jesus? (**The resurrected Jesus appeared to him in Acts 9**).

 Let's apply this

9. Jesus is alive and changing lives to this day:

One of the most powerful ways to testify about the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the testimony of a believer; who I was before Jesus rescued me, how I met Jesus, and how Jesus has changed my life.

- **Thank Jesus for revealing Himself alive to you.**

- **Share your testimony with friends and family as a witness that Jesus Christ is alive today.**

SUMMARY:

- **Resurrection Sunday**

The central concept of Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is the hope of our resurrection. When we talk about resurrection, we are talking about where we are going; we are talking about eternity.

What is resurrection?

Resurrection is, you are alive and then you were dead and then you're now alive again, but it's a brand new completely transformed you, it's a glorified you, it's a perfect you never to see death again, that's resurrection. Lazarus was brought back from death, but he didn't get the perfect resurrected body to live eternally.

20 Reasons to believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

1. Jesus' resurrection was prophesied in the Old Testaments; (see Ps.16:10; Is.53).
2. Jesus told us that He would rise from death; (see Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33 – 34).
3. Jesus died; (see John 19:33 – 36).
4. The location of Jesus' tomb was well known; (see Isaiah 53; John 19:38 – 42).
5. Jesus' empty tomb was found by women; (see John 20:1; Luke 24:10; Matt.28:1).
6. Jesus' disciples were transformed from cowards to courageous men; (Acts 4:33).
7. Jesus appeared to crowds upwards of 500 people over 40days; (Acts 1; 1 Cor.15).
8. Jesus' followers remained loyal to Him; (see Acts 5:40 – 41; Fox book of martyrs).
9. Jesus' tomb was not enshrined; (the tombs of all other dead religious leaders are)
10. Jesus' followers worshipped Him as God; (see 1 Corinthians 15:4 – 8).
11. Jesus' family worshiped Him as God; (see Acts 1:14); book of James and Jude).
12. Jesus' followers changed the sabbath from Saturday to Sunday.
13. Jesus followers use communion & baptism in remembrance of Jesus; (Acts 2:42).
14. Jesus' enemy Saul, who later became Paul was converted; (see Acts 7 – 9).
15. Jesus' resurrection was recorded shortly after it happened; (Gospel of Mark).
16. Jesus' resurrection is unique in history; (no other religious leader claim this).
17. Jesus' resurrection is verified by history; (historians Josephus; Tacitus).
18. Jesus' church has stood the test of time; (Christianity is the largest movement).
19. Jesus is alive and changing lives to this day; (this is the testimony of a believer).
20. Jesus' resurrection defies any alternate explanation; (Historian Thomas Arnold, Christian life, its hopes, its fears, and its close, 6th ed. (London: T. Fellows, 1859).

What are the primary objections to Jesus' resurrection?

1. The swoon theory; Jesus didn't die on the cross, He passed out.
2. Some would say that Jesus had a spiritual resurrection in their hearts not a physical resurrection in their world.
3. Some say everybody went to the wrong tomb.
4. Some would say that Jesus' body was stolen.
5. Some say Jesus had a body double.
6. Some say Jesus' resurrection was a mass hallucination.
7. The concept of a bodily resurrection was borrowed from pagans.