

Life Group Discussion Material - Sunday, September 20th Message

Resurrection Confidence (John 20)

21 Weeks with Jesus

1. Before today's message, was your belief in Jesus based on faith alone (which isn't wrong)? After hearing the message, how has your faith been impacted knowing that so many pieces of evidence point to the resurrection of Jesus historically?
2. How does the resurrection of Jesus set Christianity apart from all other belief systems? *Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-19*
3. Why did the religious powers want to cover Jesus' life, ministry, and resurrection up? Think back upon events that unfolded in John's gospel. How does this relate to people who reject or disregard Jesus today?
4. The gospels give recognition to women as being the first ones to discover the empty tomb. Culturally in first century Israel, why would this be an inferior record? How does that give even more credit to the historicity of Jesus Christ?
5. People will not willingly die for a lie. The disciples went on to be martyred for their faith, as well as many believers throughout history. How is the Christian martyr different than a radical Muslim who kills themselves for their belief? *Hint: One of these groups is deceived and believing a lie, thus they are not willingly dying for a lie but are deceived*
6. What is the significance of Thomas declaring, "My Lord and my God" in verse 28?
7. The Swoon Theory says that Jesus did not really die and was able to escape from the tomb. Why is the Swoon Theory false?

Recommended reading:

Gary Habermas – *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus* (academic reading)

Lee Strobel – *The Case for the Resurrection* (much smaller)