

Why God?

How do we know that the resurrection really happened?

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"6 'As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. 7 And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' 8 And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' 9 Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. 10 And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.' 11 And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus." - Acts 22:6-11 (ESV)

"Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed." - 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (ESV)

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- On a scale to 1-10 how reliable is an eyewitness source to you?
- Do you need to see something to believe it? Or does it depend on what it is?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (written by the apostle Paul). Who are the eyewitnesses to the resurrection of Jesus?
- Read Acts 22:6-11. What else does Paul give us as evidence to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- Is the testimony of Paul impactful to you in any way? Why or not?
- How do we know that we can trust what is said here about Jesus and what He did?
- Is there any outside historical, archaeological, or philosophical evidence for the resurrection that you find compelling?
- How would you answer the question, "How do we know the resurrection actually happened?"

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- The next time you have a difficult obstacle this week, intentionally remind yourself that if God split the red sea, and rose from the dead, he can probably handle this too!
- Revisit your prayer journal if you have one, reminding yourself of how He has answered your prayers over the years and what things in your life He has brought His resurrection power to bear on.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another