

THIS IS NOT THE END (Easter 2022)

Happy Resurrection Day! He is risen ... He is risen indeed! ⁽²⁾ Thanks for spending Easter Sunday with us at NCFF. We're really glad you're here and super delighted to celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ conquering death as He rose from the grave to live eternally. Place your faith in Him and you will be able to do the same.

Jesus said, "I am the source of resurrection life. If you believe in Me as your God and Savior you will live with Me forever in Heaven after you die on Earth. (John 11:25)

But did you know that Easter is not the end of the story? Rather, it is the *pivot point* of history. In other words, the story doesn't start with Easter and it doesn't end with Easter. There's more to history, a lot more. When fully understood, history is the unfolding of *God's plan* for the ages, including the here-and-now, as well as the hereafter. This is why history is sometimes referred to as *His-story*. And by the way, it includes your story. Everything that came before Easter was designed to show the world how much humanity needed "someone" to *light the way* to a better life. Easter tells us who that "someone" is. That's why Jesus referred to Himself as *The Light* of the world and as *The Way*. For this Easter-2022, let's look at the flow of history through God's perspective and allow Him to provide us with the light we need to find our way to the better life that Jesus wants us to enjoy today and forever.

(Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:23)

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(Ephesians 4:17-19; Romans 5:12)

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(Galations 4:4-5; John 6:40)

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(John 1:1; 13:35; 1 Timothy 3:15)

P______(John 14:2; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 2 Peter 3:13)

HOW TO BECOME A FOLLOWER OF JESUS

REALIZE ... that God has a loving plan and purpose for your life.

Jesus said, "I came to give you a full & satisfying life. (John 10:10)

God loved the world so much that He gave his only Son (Jesus) so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

RECOGNIZE ... that sin separates us from God and His plan for our lives.

There is a problem ... our sin has separated us from God. (Isaiah 59:2) All of us have sinned and the wages of that sin is death ... eternal

separation from God in Hell. (Romans 3:23 & 6:23)

REPENT ... of your sin by asking Jesus to forgive you.

Forsake your sinful ways and evil thoughts. Retrun to the Lord. God will show you mercy and forgive you freely.

(Isaiah 55:7)

Confess your sins to Jesus. Her is fatihful and just to forgive your sins and to cleanse you from all wickedness. (1 John 1:9)

RESPOND ... to Jesus by surrendering your life to Him as your God and Savior.

As a Christian, Christ is alive in me. Therefore, my life today is all about faithfully following the Son of God, who loves me and gave Himself up for me. (Galatians 2:20)

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved. Only Jesus has the power to save! His name is the only one in all the world that can save anyone. (Acts 4:12; 16:31)

Following Jesus starts with a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus ... I believe that you alone are God and the only one who can save me from sin. I ask you to forgive me for my sin. I surrender my life to You and I ask You to be my Savior and God. Please help me to live this life faithfully following You and bring me home to Heaven when I die. Thank you, Jesus, for loving me like this ... Amen.

If you have placed your faith believed in Jesus today, NCFF wants you to know how happy we are to hear that. Please let one of our pastors, ushers or greeters know of your decision to follow Christ. NCFF has some free materials (including a Bible) that we'd like to give to you to help you in your first steps as a Christian.