

Center City Church Easter Service - April 9th, 2023

G'Joe Joseph



Main passage: 1 Cor 16 For if the dead are not raised, then not even Christ has been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If our hope in Christ is for this life alone, we are to be pitied more than all men.

1. Everyone has a story - living in and out of a story big and small stories
2. Everyone's story is built on a larger story!
3. There is a turning point or significant event that defines our stories... HINGE!
4. We are always trying to make sense of (meaning) our lives through our stories
5. Our stories are future pathways to the good life

V.19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

We live like the cross happened but not the resurrection.

- When we put our hope in this life only.
- We think God can't save our friends or family...
- Guilt is the driving motivation NOT hope... (pull yourself up ... do better... work harder... do the work... if you don't (which you inevitably don't) guilt sets in!
 - Sin is more like misalignment vs. avoiding potholes
- We are so spiritual that there is no earthly good.

Costco Taster

Application

Release and Receive!

And because He lives
I can face tomorrow
Because He lives
All fear is gone
Because I know
He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives

What's your story? Do you know that the Easter story is your story ?

Jesus died and rose again so that we would be the most envied / most happy here on this side of heaven (not based on circumstances)