



Because He Lives

Easter | Pastor Andrew Smith | 4-4-2021

Read Matt 28: 5-7

1. The following are retellings of the same incident in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Matt: 16:21-24, 17:9

Matt: 17:22-23

Matt: 20:17-19

Mark 8:31-34, 9:9

Mark 9:30-32

Mark 10:32-34

Luke 9:22

Luke 9:44,45

Luke 18: 31-34

2. There are details in each that are significant.

a. How did Peter react in the first incident?

b. What do the remaining incidents say about how the disciples reacted?

3. Look at Luke 9:30, 31. What were Moses, Elijah, and Jesus discussing?

4. Pastor explained the principle of “cognitive dissonance” as when a truth comes up against something we already have a belief about. (“Broccoli is yukky, but THIS broccoli tastes good.”)

a. How does this idea play into the account of the women at the tomb?

b. Read Matt 28:16,17 Mark 16: 8, 11, 12-14 Luke 24:9-12 John 20:9 (I’ll spare

Thomas.) Did the disciples immediately believe Jesus had risen from the grave?

c. Did you? Did you ever question how it could be true?

5. Read Matt 11:28.

a. What kind of rest is Jesus speaking of?

b. What “yoke” were the “regular people” under from the religious leaders then?

c. Is there a similar “yoke” today? Should there be?

d. What did Jesus’ “yoke” consist of?

e. How does the fact that God knows us by name help us rest in Him?

6. Read John 15:11

a. Whose joy is in us?

b. What is His joy? (Luke 10:17-21; John 17:13; Heb 12:2)

c. What joy can He give us in the midst of our current “things as they are?”

d. Read Nehemiah 8:10. Whose joy gives us strength? How? (Not part of the message.)

7. Read John 6:37

a. Pastor Andrew says this means we are _____ by the Lord.

b. When you heard the Gospel, did you think “that might work for some people, but not for me?” Why not you?

c. Pastor Andrew mentioned the concept that fear of rejection will cause us to “pre-fail.” What can this look like?

d. Not starting at all, or not trying at all, can be a way to “pre-fail.”

a. Have you ever not done something because you were afraid to fail?

b. Was it failure or the fear of disappointing someone that made you afraid?

8. Pastor Andrew asked us to consider: what ELSE has Jesus said that we don’t, can’t, or struggle to believe?

9. We can believe what Jesus says because of what Jesus did. Jesus lay down His life for us. But unlike anyone else in history, Jesus took it back up again. Jesus rose from the dead. If He can do that, what is there He can’t do for you?!