

Walking Dead? (#1 of 3) April 9, 2017

- 1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.
 - In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
 - How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God is asking us to lean into?
 - How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?
- 2) What resonated with you about this message? Do you have difficulty believing in the historical bodily resurrection of Jesus? Why or why not?
- 3) Read the quotes by Albert Einstein and Josephus. What strikes you about these comments, knowing that both individuals were not professing Christians?
- 4) Read Matthew 28:1-7. What do you find interesting about this account? How does this account as it is written, give us confidence that it is not a fabricated story?
- 5) Read 1 Cor. 15:3-8. How does this account from Paul give you confidence in the veracity of the resurrection of Jesus? What do you know about these followers and how they counted the cost to proclaim that Christ had risen?
- 6) Read Mark 16:9-11 and John 20:19. How is the resurrection of Jesus the best explanation for the spread of Christianity, in light of what we see in these passages?
- 7) Read 1 Cor. 15:17-23. Why is the resurrection important for us as believers? What is God saying to you in this regard. What is your next step?
- 8) How does the C.S. Lewis quote challenge and/or encourage you today?
- 9) Who would you like to share the good news of the resurrection with this week? Take time to pray for an opportunity to share with this person.

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SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message

Walking Dead? Can I Believe in the Resurrection?

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor

April 9, 2017 - Palm Sunday



"As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene.... No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life."

Albert Einstein (Nobel Prize winning Physicist)

"About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was [thought to be] the Messiah. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared." Josephus - Antiquities, 18.3.3.

Big Idea: The resurrection of Jesus is the best explanation for the empty tomb, the post-mortem appearances, and the spread of Christianity.

Fact # 1: The Empty Tomb:

Matthew 28:1-7

Fact # 2: The Appearances of Jesus after His Death:

1 Corinthians 15:3-8 I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

Fact #3: The Spread of Christianity:

Mark 16:9-11

John 20:19

What are the implications for us?

1 Corinthians 15:17-23

Because the tomb was empty my life can be full.

- Full of grace and forgiveness.
- Full of peace and love.
- Full of purpose and meaning.
- Full of hope and expectation.

John 10:10 (AMP) "The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows]."

"A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

C.S. Lewis

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation (NLT) and the Amplified Bible (AMP).